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THEATRE BY THE BAY REVEALS 2023 SEASON

World premieres by local and nationally acclaimed artists

BARRIE, ON. Headlining Theatre by the Bay's 2023 season are two world premieres based on compelling local stories from Barrie's history. The company's 21st season sees the return of the popular Simcoe County Theatre Festival, the growth of its educational programming and a feature-length documentary film.

Bobbie, by local playwright Trudee Romanek, is the uplifting story of a true Canadian sports icon, Fanny "Bobbie" Rosenfeld. It chronicles her family's journey as they fled from the violence and turmoil of Russia to the safety of Barrie. It was here that she developed the passion for sport and began her incredible journey to become an Olympic champion. A powerful story of perseverance, passion and triumph in the face of personal and professional adversity. Running from August 30 to September 10.

Icemen, the newest play by Governor General's Award-winning playwright, Vern Thiessen, is a gritty, edge of your seat, thriller. It's the height of the Great Depression and two desperate brothers commit an act of vengeance and defiance against their employer who threatens to take away an important part of their livelihood - harvesting ice on Kempenfelt Bay. On stage November 1 to 12.

The Simcoe County Theatre Festival returns with six new productions written, directed, and performed by local artists. A play for every taste, including a stoner comedy, dramas, and even an opera. Put July 12 to 23 in your calendars.

The Spark Development Series is TBTB's new script development program. It will provide local playwrights with workshops and mentorship under the guidance of program coordinator, Leah Holder.

Twenty Years by the Bay, a feature length documentary, marks Theatre by the Bay's 20th season. The film chronicles the company's history, evolution, and its vision for the future. Directed by Khaleel Gandhi, it features over 20 interviews from company artists, staff members, and community members. It is a touching story about the challenges, triumphs, and heartbreaks that can come with making theatre in regional communities.

"The theme that emerged for this season is around 'shattering ceilings,'" says Artistic Director, Iain Moggach. "To me, this theme is not just present in our shows, but Theatre by the Bay in general. We are continuing to punch above our weight and defy expectations and people are taking notice."

For tickets and general information, please visit www.theatrebythebay.com/2023. For interviews and promotional material, please contact Khaleel Gandhi.

Theatre by the Bay's 2023 season would not be possible without support from the City of Barrie, the Canada Council for the Arts, Rhubarb Media, Siva Creative, and generous sponsors, members, and donors.

THEATRE BY THE BAY

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