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4th Line Theatre announces casting for both 2009 world premieres!

MILLBROOK, ON – 4th Line Theatre is proud to announce the casting for its 2009 summer season on the outdoor stages of Winslow Farm. Some of the major highlights include the return to the stage of artistic director **Robert Winslow** starring in the world premiere of his play *Welcome Death*, alongside Second City and Mirvish alumni **Paul O’Sullivan**.

The much anticipated world premiere of *The Right Road to Pontypool* stars renowned Canadian actors **Ellen-Ray Hennessy**, **Allan Price** and **Dov Mickelson** alongside a cast of 37 others.

The season will include turns by some 4th Line Theatre favourites including **Mark Hiscox** (*The Last Green Hill*), **Jordan Kanner** (*The Art of Silent Killing*), **Caitlin Driscoll** (*That Summer*), **Marsala Lukianchuk** (*The Last Green Hill*) and **Matt Gilbert** (*Dr. Barnardo’s Children*).

“I am very excited about all the excellent artists, new and returning, who will bring the worlds of these plays to life this summer. 4th Line is blessed with talented performers, directors, designers, musicians, and production personnel year after year,” says artistic director **Robert Winslow**.

Opening the 2009 season on July 2nd will be *The Right Road to Pontypool* by **Alex Poch-Goldin**, and directed by the sure hand of 4th Line veteran, **Kim Blackwell**.

On August 12th *Welcome Death* will open at the intimate and compelling Meadow Stage. *Welcome Death* is written and directed by 4th Line’s artistic director, **Robert Winslow**.

CASTING DETAILS:

The Right Road to Pontypool

The Right Road to Pontypool, with a cast of 40, features **Ellen-Ray Hennessy** (Nightwood Theatre: *The Age of Arousal*; Vancouver Playhouse: *The Edible Woman*) as present day Doris, **Dov Mickelson** (CanStage/Citadel: *Amadeus*; Catalyst Theatre: *The House of Pootsie Plunket*) as Moishe Yukle Bernstein, **Allan Price** (Theatre Collingwood: *Fiddler on the Roof*; Tribal Productions: *Death of a Salesman*) as

Harold, **Caitlin Driscoll** as young Doris, **Matt Gilbert** (4th Line: *1837: The Farmer's Revolt*) as Bernie the Schohet, **Mark Hiscox** (4th Line: *Schoolhouse*) as Mr. Henley, **Justin Hiscox** (4th Line: *The Last Green Hill, Schoolhouse*) as Rudy, **Marie Jones** (Theatre Passe Muraille: *The Crackwalker*; Gairbraid Theatre Co.: *Romeo and Juliet*) as Annie Manetta, **Jordan Kanner** (Stratford Festival: *The Count of Monte Cristo*) as Sam Manetta, **Marsala Lukianchuk** as Rifka Bernstein, **Bridget Norris** (Fringe Festival: *The Bacchae*; Gairbraid Theatre Co.: *Much Ado About Nothing*) as Rita and **Peter Pasyk** (*Way of the Tossler, Gravy Train*) as Jackie Miller.

The balance of this cast will be filled by local community members including **Christina Adams, Ray Barker, Shawna Blackwood, Françoise Bouchard, Graeme Browning, Griffin Clark, Linda Driscoll, Rae Fleming, Annie Gleason, Stuart Hanmore, Anne Lukaszewicz, Nancy Lynch, Cody McMahon, Lauren Murphy, Drew Mills, Lee Oliver, Meg O'Sullivan, Anika Spasov, Emilie Spasov, Hannah Spasov, Peter Spasov, Renate Spasov** and **Maura Wingle-Land**. Kim Blackwell will be assisted in the direction of the play by **Peter Pasyk**.

Welcome Death

Artistic Director **Robert Winslow** stars as Coroner Robert Maxwell, **Paul O'Sullivan** (4th Line: *The Last Green Hill*; Mirvish Production: *The Producers - The New Mel Brooks Musical*) returns this season as James Deyell, ill-fated heroine Elizabeth Deyell will be played by **Rachel Brittain** (Knightflight Productions: *I Decide and Shift*; Mixed Company Theatre: *Wishworld and 10% Reality*), **Brandon Coffey** (2008 Summerworks Festival: *dust*) as Ethan, **Wyatt Lamoureux** (Teatr Korzenie: *Short History of Night*) as Sowden, **Tracy Rankin** (*The Vagina Monologues*; Toronto Fringe Festival: *Knock it off!*) as Mrs. Johnston and returning 4th Liners **Marsala Lukianchuk** as Madame Eugenia, **Nora Hickey** (*Dr. Barnardo's Children, Schoolhouse*) as Polly, **Mark Hiscox** as Wellington and **Jake Vanderham** (*Dr. Barnardo's Children, Schoolhouse*) as Willy.

The remaining cast of *Welcome Death* includes: **Andy Gryg** as Nugent, **Meaghan Harknett** as Jemima, **Gillian Harknett** as Isobel, **Rowan Lamoureux** as John Jacobs, **Deb Luchuk** as Mrs. Etcher, **Gabriel McKay-Robertson** as Sam Deyell, **Phil Stott** as the Foreman, **William Whit** as Mr. Etcher.

Director **Robert Winslow** will be assisted by artistic and producing associate **Kim Blackwell**.

4th Line welcomes new theatre artists to 'the Farm' and is proud to have attracted some of the most impressive creative team members in Canadian theatre: **Anne Redish** joins the company this summer as costume designer for *The Right Road to Pontypool* assisted by **Ruth Weaver**. They are joined by **Elizabeth Nutting** as set designer and **Lauren Page-Russell** as props builder. The stage management team includes **Whitney Wakefield** and **Emilie Spasov**, and is lead by Stage Manager, **Laura Cournoyea**.

4th Line is excited to welcome back the talents of **Justin Hiscox** who renews his role as the musical director and composer of original scores for both world premiere productions.

Janette Winslow, executive producer and 4th Line Theatre's resident choreographer, will be creating original choreography for *Welcome Death*. Also returning to 4th Line is costume designer **Angela Thomas** (4th Line: *The Last Green Hill, Schoolhouse*) who will be assisted by **Deborah Lount** for the production of *Welcome Death* with **Helen Musgrave** (4th Line: *The Last Green Hill*) as props builder. The stage management team for *Welcome Death* includes **Tyler Dowey** as the stage manager and **Whitney Wakefield** as the assistant stage manager

2009's summer production team includes **Patricia Thorne, Trevor Haldane, and Wade Noble. Edward Bélanger** fight director returns for his sixth season at 4th Line Theatre for *Welcome Death*.

The Right Road to Pontypool

By Alex Poch-Goldin

Directed by Kim Blackwell

July 2 – August 1

Previews: June 30, July 1

Opening Night: Thursday, July 2

Tuesday to Saturday at 6pm (5 shows per week)

With an added performance on Monday, July 27th

Welcome Death

By Robert Winslow

Directed by Robert Winslow

August 12 - 29

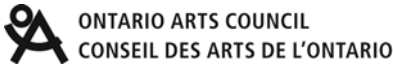
Previews: August 10, 11

Opening Night: Wednesday, August 12

MONDAY to Saturday at 6pm (6 shows per week)

4th Line Theatre, Canada's premiere outdoor theatre company brings history to life on the barnyard stages of the picturesque 5th generation Winslow farm in Millbrook, Ontario. The theatre company is committed to preserving and promoting our Canadian cultural heritage through the development and presentation of regionally based, environmentally staged historical drama.

The 2009 season is generously sponsored by the Nexicom Group.



The Ontario Arts Council is an agency of the Government of Ontario

For tickets call 1-800-814-0055 or 705-932-4445 or visit www.4thlinetheatre.on.ca

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