

IbsenFest

19th MASTER PLAYWRIGHT FESTIVAL CELEBRATES HENRIK IBSEN

January 29 – February 17

WINNIPEG, January 14, 2019 – Royal MTC has partnered with 16 local companies to honour dramatist and poet Henrik Ibsen, whose extensive body of work is celebrated at the **2019 MASTER PLAYWRIGHT FESTIVAL**.

Referred to as “the father of realism”, Henrik Ibsen’s prolific body of work includes approximately 300 poems in addition to 26 plays and literary works. His plays resonate to this day, as they explore themes around gender roles and relationships. As a result, his works are the most performed in the world, second only to Shakespeare. **IBSENFEST** takes a closer look at his career in theatre through stagings of full-length works, play readings, web-broadcasts and reimagined adaptations at venues throughout Winnipeg.

IBSENFEST kicks off January 29 at 7pm with the free event *Introducing Ibsen*, a lecture hosted by University of Manitoba Professor Emeritus Christopher Johnson, at the Carol Shields Auditorium, Millennium Library. There are also several other free events such as a directors’ panel facilitated by theatre director and educator Heidi Malazdrewich, featuring directors Krista Jackson, Frances Koncan and Brenda McLean. A film screening will feature *A Master Builder* in the Carol Shields Auditorium and a radio/web broadcast on 101.5 UMFM and umfm.com of *John Gabriel Borkman*.

Royal MTC will present Henrik Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House* at the Tom Hendry Warehouse; a riveting story about how far one woman will go to protect her family, and what action she eventually takes to control her own destiny. Lucas Hnath’s modern-speak follow-up to Ibsen’s famous story, *A Doll’s House, Part 2*, reintroduces audiences to *A Doll’s House* characters 15 years later and can be seen at the John Hirsch Mainstage.

Individual tickets start at \$12, however to maximize your festival experience, purchase an **IBSENPASS** for only \$90. A pass allows admission to each production, for a total savings of 50%. Buy your pass at the Royal MTC Box Office at 204 924 6537 (toll free at 1 877 446 4500) or visit us at 174 Market Ave. For more information on the productions or how to purchase tickets from participating companies, visit royalmtc.ca/mpf. A link to Program Updates is also available on this page.

The performing companies would like to thank **Canadian Heritage, Winnipeg Free Press, Relish New Brand Experience, Vantage Studios and Print Shop** and **Fairmont Winnipeg** for their generous support of the 2019 Master Playwright Festival.

About Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre’s Master Playwright Festival

In 2001, Royal MTC Chose to honour Samuel Beckett at the first Master Playwright Festival. The winter festival provides opportunities for both professional and emerging artists from a variety of organizations to produce work under the umbrella of a larger festival, while giving audiences an opportunity to thoroughly immerse themselves in the work of a playwright who may not have a regular home on Winnipeg stages.

For more information, please contact: Kathleen Cerrer, Publicist | 204 934 0302 | kcerrer@royalmtc.ca

IBSENFEST 2019 is proudly presented by:

