



MEDIA RELEASE

Patriarchy, Sexual Politics and Women’s Rights Intertwine in *The Last Wife*

WINNIPEG, March 18, 2026 – A contemporary and witty reimagining of history unfolds onstage in Royal MTC’s insightful and entertaining production of *The Last Wife*.

“*The Last Wife* with its rich language and fierce wit is as dangerous as it is delicious,” said Kelly Thornton, Artistic Director. “This provocative play wrestles with women, power and the patriarchy, and does so through a refreshingly contemporary lens that resonates through time.”

Written by Canadian playwright Kate Hennig, *The Last Wife* tells the story of the volatile relationship between Henry VIII and his last wife, Katherine Parr, through her eyes. The play explores her obligatory marriage, and the risks Parr will take to fight for equal rights for Henry’s daughters.

"She was beautiful, fashionable, and 31; and she had a huge and tangible influence on the rise to power of the first and second reigning queens of England," said Hennig.

The Last Wife stars **Blake Beachell** as Eddie, **Sébastien Heins** as Thom, **Julie Lumsden** as Mary, **Amelia Sargisson** as Kate, **Katie Welham** as Bess and **Cory Wojcik** as Henry.

The creative team includes Director **Cherissa Richards**, Set Designer **Brian Perchaluk**, Costume Designer **Joseph Abetria**, Lighting Designer **Hugh Conacher**, Sound Designer & Composer **Torquil Campbell**, Intimacy Director **Aria Evans**, Fight Director **Jacque Loewen**, Assistant Director **Alissa Watson**, Apprentice Director **Montana Lehmann**, Apprentice Costume Designer **Raphael Estillore**, Stage Manager **Karyn Kumhyr**, Assistant Stage Manager **Jazz Marcelino**, Apprentice Stage Manager **Keira Jordan**, Child Supervisor **Bailey Chin** and Research Dramaturg **Emma Welham**.

The Last Wife runs from March 25 – April 18, 2026, at the John Hirsch Mainstage. Showtimes and ticket information are available at by visiting the [Royal MTC website](#) or by calling Royal MTC Box Office at 204-942-6537.

About Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre produces 10 plays on two stages, a regional tour, a wide range of youth programming and two festivals: Pimootayowin: A Festival of New Work and North America's second-largest Fringe, the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kelly Thornton and Executive Director Evan Klassen, Royal MTC remains Manitoba's flagship theatre.

For more information or to set up an interview, please contact:

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