

TARRAGON THEATRE

2008-2009 SEASON

Press release # 7

For immediate release

RICHARD ROSE DIRECTS A CAST OF 13 ACTORS IN ACCLAIMED MEXICAN PLAYWRIGHT SABINA BERMAN'S MOLIÈRE

Molière by Sabina Berman
translated by Shelley Tepperman

Toronto Premiere

Starring: Richard Binsley, Tim Campbell, Colin Heath, Kyle Horton, Richard McMillan, Jack Nichol森, Nancy Palk, Melanie Phillipson, Cara Pifko, Gregory Prest, Julian Richings, Rick Roberts, Mike Ross

Director: Richard Rose
Set and Costumes Designer: Charlotte Dean
Lighting Designer: Rebecca Picherack
Sound Designer and Musical Director: Mike Ross
Choreography: Jeannette Lajeunesse-Zingg
Stage Manager: Kinnon Elliott

Supported by: Richard Rooney & Laura Dinner

Molière opens in the Mainspace on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at 8:00 pm.
Previews from Wednesday, November 26, 2008.

Moments after the curtain comes down on one of Molière's rollicking comedies, the Archbishop of France (**Julian Richings**) makes a provocative wager: he bets King Louis XIV (**Kyle Horton**) that if Molière (**Richard McMillan**) were no longer able to taste life's pleasures, his happiness would vanish and, along with it, his comedy. This is music to tragedian Jean Racine's (**Rick Roberts**) ears! The hungry young upstart is eager to shake up the establishment – that is, Molière – whose base comedies, according to Racine, corrupt the public, and detract from more high-minded pursuits – like tragedy. Together, Racine and the Archbishop wage a clandestine war against Molière, attacking him personally and professionally in an effort to quash his happiness and his theatre.

The court of Louis XIV provides a delicious backdrop for drama, swirling with celebrity, sex, religion and politics. Playwright **Sabina Berman's** rendition of this infamous rivalry sparkles, cementing her status as one of Mexico's most prolific and celebrated theatre artists. The respected Mexican newspaper *La Plaza* referred to Molière as "one of the best Mexican plays of all time. Perhaps the best".

An outstanding cast has been brought together in one of the largest productions ever staged in Tarragon's Mainspace. The roles of Molière and Racine will be brought to life by **Richard McMillan** (*Well*) and **Rick Roberts** (*John and Beatrice*) respectively. They will be joined by **Richard Binsley** (*Democracy*), **Tim Campbell** (Tarragon debut), **Colin Heath** (*Benevolence*), **Kyle Horton** (*Remnants*), **Jack Nichol森** (*Goodness*), **Nancy Palk** (*Alice's Affair*), **Melanie Phillipson** (Tarragon debut), **Cara Pifko** (*Léo*), **Gregory Prest** (Tarragon debut), **Julian Richings** (*Lion in the Streets*), and **Mike Ross** (*No Great Mischief*). The production is directed by **Richard Rose**. The designers are **Charlotte Dean** (set and costume), **Rebecca Picherack** (lighting), **Mike Ross** (sound and music direction) and **Jeannette Lajeunesse-Zingg** will provide the choreography. **Kinnon Elliott** is the stage manager.

Molière previews in Tarragon's Mainspace on Wednesday, November 26, opens December 3 and runs until Sunday, December 28, 2008. There will be no performances December 24, 25 and 26.

Preview tickets:	Nov. 26 – Dec. 2	\$19
Regular run:	Tuesday through Saturday at 8 pm	\$32 - \$38
	Saturday & Sunday matinee at 2:30 pm	\$32
	Friday Night Rush	\$10

Seniors' and students' prices for regular performances, except Saturday night: \$20 - \$27

Tickets for ***Molière*** are available online tickets.tarragontheatre.com.

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November 3, 2008