

MEDIA RELEASE

Soulpepper's 2011 Season opens with David Mamet's *Oleanna* directed by Master Director László Marton

Toronto, ON – January 6th, 2011 – **Albert Schultz**, Founding Artistic Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company, today announced that the company's production of David Mamet's *Oleanna* opens the 2011 Season previewing on January 29th, 2011 at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts.

One of the most provocative plays of the twentieth-century, *Oleanna* by playwright David Mamet, examines gender politics and political correctness gone sour when an ordinary meeting between a professor and his student explodes into a debate on the abuses of power that threatens to turn the tables completely. When *Oleanna* debuted in 1992 at Mamet's Massachusetts-based Back Bay Theatre Company hot on the heels of the Clarence Thomas/Anita Bryant sexual harassment scandal, audience reaction was divided on Mamet's message but united in praise for his talent as a master playwright. Mamet's mastery of realistic dialogue and his uncanny ability to stir controversy is never more apparent than in this modern classic.

Master Hungarian director **László Marton** (*A Month in the Country*, *Window on Toronto*, *Platonov*, *Uncle Vanya*) directs Founding Member **Diego Matamoros** and Soulpepper Academy alumna **Sarah Wilson** in *Oleanna*.

Oleanna previews January 29, 2011 and opens February 3, 2011 at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, located at 55 Mill Street, Building 49, in the Distillery Historic District. Tickets range from \$28 - \$60 and are available by calling the Young Centre box office at 416.866.8666 or by visiting www.soulpepper.ca. \$22 tickets are available for 21-30 year-olds at www.stageplay.ca. StagePlay is sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group.

Oleanna is sponsored by Blackheath Fund Management Inc. 2011 Soulpepper Lead Sponsors are: Sun Life Financial, Scotiabank Group and TELUS. Soulpepper gratefully acknowledges annual operating support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Toronto Arts Council.

Soulpepper Theatre Company is an artist-founded, classical repertory theatre company with a three-tiered mandate: to present the world's greatest stories in vital Canadian interpretations; to train a new generation of theatre artists; and to inspire and enrich youth through mentorship and access programs.