

## MEDIA RELEASE

### *Soulpepper presents Edward Albee's 20th Century masterpiece* **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?**

Toronto, ON – July 22, 2009 – **Albert Schultz**, Founding Artistic Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company, today announced that the company's production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* will run August 29 – October 24, 2009, at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts.

A late night of drinking for George and Martha erupts in a game of 'get the guests' in **Edward Albee's** savage and hilarious masterpiece. Truth and illusion collide in this groundbreaking play that swept the 1963 Tony Awards and is undisputedly one of the finest literary achievements of the 20th Century.

*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* premiered on Broadway at the Billy Rose Theater on October 13, 1962 and won the 1962-63 New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Play. The play was also selected for the 1963 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, but the award's advisory board objected to the play's then-controversial nature, and overruled the award's advisory committee, awarding no Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1963. A film adaptation of the play was released in 1966, starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton.

Soulpepper Founding Member **Diana Leblanc** directs Founding Members **Diego Matamoros** and **Nancy Palk** as George and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, with **Tim Campbell** as Nick, and **Diana Donnelly** as Honey.

Previewing August 29, 2009, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* opens September 10 and runs until October 24 at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, located at 55 Mill Street, Building 49, in the Distillery Historic District. Tickets range from \$28 – \$68 and are available by calling the Young Centre box office at 416.866.8666 or by visiting [www.soulpepper.ca](http://www.soulpepper.ca). \$20 tickets are available for 21-30 year-olds at [www.stageplay.ca](http://www.stageplay.ca). Stageplay is sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group.

2009 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.*