

MEDIA RELEASE

Soulpepper's Lab Series presents *Window on Toronto*

Toronto, ON – July 20, 2010 – **Albert Schultz**, Founding Artistic Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company, today announced the third and final offering of the company's Lab Series – *Window on Toronto*. Soulpepper's Lab Series provides the company's artists and audience an opportunity to share in the creative process by experiencing together various approaches to theatrical storytelling.

The artists of the Soulpepper Academy, **Ins Choi, Tatjana Cornij, Raquel Duffy, Ken MacKenzie, Gregory Prest, Karen Rae, Jason Patrick Rothery** and **Brendan Wall**, as well as guest artist **Ryan Field**, under the leadership of master director **László Marton**, shine a theatrical light on our city through the window of a hot-dog vendor.

Window on Toronto is a poem to the city of Toronto – a lyrical, complex and funny piece – much like the city itself. The Academy members shift from character to character, playing over 100 roles reflecting the people and rhythm of Toronto in a new theatrical form – a mix of improvisation and documentary theatre.

Window on Toronto runs August 20 – 28 at the Young Centre for the Performing Arts, located at 55 Mill Street, Building 49, in the Distillery Historic District. Tickets are \$20 plus HST and are available by visiting www.soulpepper.ca or by calling the Young Centre box office at 416.866.8666.

Window on Toronto is sponsored by Middlefield Resource Funds.

The Soulpepper Lab Series is supported by the Garland Schultz Artistic Development Fund, with additional 2010 support from the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund. 2010 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.

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BACKGROUND NOTES BY DIRECTOR LÁSZLÓ MARTON

A hot dog stand. Somewhere in the heart of the city. Through the window of this stand we see people passing by, appearing and disappearing, like a virtual, colorful merry-go-round. Like a magical theatre. The people who show up at the window are characters of a play that hasn't been written yet. The costumes are incredibly rich in shape and color, sometimes so surprising, as if the designer's fantasy didn't have a limit.

They all speak with different accents, they eat, drink, behave differently, because they came from different countries, and they represent a different heritage, a different culture. They are walking, talking, living, loving, shopping, running, begging, jogging, worshipping and dreaming here, and they all belong to this city that mysteriously made all of them Torontonians. They are the characters of this evening of theatre. I love Toronto.

This show was created through improvisation, with the enthusiastic and talented participation of this young group of actors.