

TARRAGON

Tarragon Theatre Announces Return Engagement for Hit Show *Lungs*

Tickets on sale today!

TORONTO, April 11, 2014 - Tarragon Theatre's hit show *Lungs* by the award-winning British playwright **Duncan Macmillan**, directed by **Weyni Mengesha** and starring **Brendan Gall** and **Lesley Faulkner**, received nothing but raves during its five week run in Tarragon's Extraspace.

Tarragon's Artistic Director **Richard Rose** announced that, due to popular demand, the theatre will bring back the crowd-pleasing, critically acclaimed production **next season** when it will run **December 31, 2014-January 25, 2015** in Tarragon's Extraspace. Tickets for the remount of this startlingly raw love story **go on sale today** and range from \$31-\$50 (inclusive of HST) and are available by calling Patron Services at 416.531.1827 or by visiting www.tarragontheatre.com.

In announcing the news, Rose noted: "When a play like *Lungs* comes along that speaks to and resonates with so many people and garners such an astounding reaction from audiences, it is both an honour and a pleasure to remount it for an even wider audience."

A bare stage, a man, a woman, a conversation and – infinite possibility. *Lungs* gives us a no-holds-barred look at a lifetime of love in a time of global anxiety and political unrest. Of the Tarragon production, Toronto critics opined:

"exhilarating to watch, requiring a constantly engaged level of performance that is near-Olympian. Both actors rise to (the) challenge... the pacing and tone is perfectly pitched throughout. Indeed, the play is so well-directed, you won't even think it has been directed."

– Kelly Nestruck, *The Globe and Mail*

"a beautifully crafted love story that is not only intensely personal but also poignantly universal... The pace and pitch are perfection... It's brilliant, Dora-worthy work... *Lungs* has heart. And it never misses a beat."

– Robert Crew, *Toronto Star*

"a terrific evening: a script crammed with wit and surprise, delivered here by performers whose own lungs, not to mention their hearts and brains, are up to the fearsome demands made upon them... I was in tears."

– Robert Cushman, *National Post*

Duncan Macmillan is an award-winning British writer and director whose work has been produced in the U.K. and abroad to critical acclaim. *Lungs* was first produced in a rolling world premiere with Studio Theatre, Washington DC and the Paines Plough/Sheffield Theatres (U.K.) in 2011 and subsequently presented by the National Theatre in 2012 in London where it won Best New Play at the Offies. He is currently writing new plays for the National Theatre, Paines Plough and BBC Radio. His co-adaptation of George Orwell's *1984* with Rob Icke for Headlong/Nottingham Playhouse just concluded a UK tour and will produced at the Almeida Theatre this Spring.

Award-winning director and dramaturge **Weyni Mengesha** started her career directing trey anthony's *da Kink in my hair* across North America and in London; and composing its Dora-nominated score. She directed *Kim's Convenience* for Soulpepper which has since gone on to play across Canada and is in negotiations to tour internationally. For Tarragon, she directed *The Small Room at the Top of the Stairs* which won her a 2012 Toronto Critics Award for Best Director.

Set and costume design is by **Ken Mackenzie**, lighting design by **Kimberly Purtell** and sound design by **Thomas Ryder Payne**.

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Tarragon Theatre proudly presents the Toronto premiere of
Lungs

By **Duncan Macmillan**

Directed by **Weyni Mengesha**

Starring **Brendan Gall** and **Lesley Faulkner**

Set and Costume Design by **Ken Mackenzie**

Lighting Design by **Kimberly Purtell**

Sound Design by **Thomas Ryder Payne**

REMOUNT: December 31, 2014-January 25, 2015 - Tickets \$31-\$50.

(As per Tarragon's new *Cheap Seats* policy for its 2014-15 season,
10% of every show will be held for \$15 in person, day of sales - on sale 6pm on weekdays, 1pm for matinees)

Tarragon Theatre's Extraspace, 30 Bridgman Avenue, Toronto

Tuesday-Saturday at 8pm, Sunday at 2:30pm

For tickets, call Patron Services at **416.531.1827** or visit www.tarragontheatre.com

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Tarragon Theatre's 2013/2014 Season Sponsor is **BMO Financial Group**. *Lungs* is supported by **The John McKellar Charitable Foundation**.

Tarragon Theatre gratefully acknowledges annual operating support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Toronto Arts Council.

ABOUT TARRAGON THEATRE

Tarragon Theatre is one of Canada's most important arts institutions. For more than 40 years, it has worked tirelessly to develop home-grown artists and contribute to Canadian culture. Tarragon's mission is to create, develop and produce new plays, and to provide the conditions for new work to thrive. Since its founding, over 190 works have premiered at Tarragon and over 500 scripts have been created and workshopped, receiving 33 nominations and 11 wins for the Governor General's Literary Award. Tarragon received the 2012 Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts in recognition of producing and developing leading edge and thought-provoking Canadian Theatre, both nationally and on the world stage. Richard Rose has been the Artistic Director since 2002. For more information visit, www.tarragontheatre.com.

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