

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**Frankenstein. Nevermore.. And other creations...**  
**CATALYST THEATRE**  
**April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011**

Edmonton – At a special media event today, **Artistic Director Jonathan Christenson** and **Managing Producer Eva Cairns** revealed upcoming touring plans and exciting new phases in the development of Edmonton's **Catalyst Theatre**.

*"For many years our artistic and administrative energies have been guided by the belief that it is possible to be local, national and international in our scope, presence and partnerships; that Edmonton artists can compete in any market given the right resources and opportunities and that every project and every production is a step toward a long term goal,"* says Jonathan Christenson. *"It is an exciting year for Catalyst! A year when we start to see the results of the hard work and big dreams of many years. We have great partnerships and great opportunities and it feels good to know that we have such a strong base in Edmonton from which to launch all of these projects."*

A quirky, beautiful and often ghoulishly humorous take on a familiar and consistently relevant story opens Catalyst's season with **Frankenstein's** return to **Edmonton**. The production, running **April 13 to 18, 2010** at the Timms Centre for the Arts, enjoys its fourth season run and features the original cast and crew. A lyrical adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic gothic novel, *Frankenstein* integrates poetic text, bold contemporary visuals, compelling music, complex sound design and stylized movement. Considered the "must see" theatre event since its inception in 2007, **Frankenstein** has won eight Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards and 25,000 audience members have enjoyed sold out performances throughout Western Canada.

Following this local run, **Frankenstein** takes the stage at the **Bluma Appel Theatre** in **Toronto** for 34 performances from **April 29 to May 29, 2010**. This run is presented by the **Canadian Stage Company**, one of Canada's largest non-profit theatre companies.

Delightfully dark and brutally comic, **Nevermore** is a whimsical and chilling fairy tale for adults. After touring to major theatres in Canada and winning seven Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards, **Nevermore's** creative team brings its quirky, stylish tale about the lamentable life and fantastical inspirations of Edgar Allan Poe to **London, England's Barbican Centre** for six performances in the Barbican Theatre as part of Barbican International Theatre Events (**BITE**) and London International Festival of Theatre (**LIFT**) the week of **July 5, 2010**. *"It is a special opportunity,"* says Eva Cairns. *"We are very proud to bring our work and an all-Edmonton production to London, presented in one of its major venues by two highly respected presenting partners."*

Following the London run, Catalyst takes **Nevermore** to **New York City** from **October 25 to November 7, 2010** for performances at **The New Victory Theater** on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street – New York City’s premiere theater for kids and families. “*The New Victory is delighted to be presenting this thrilling, innovative and beautiful production to our audiences,*” said Mary Rose Lloyd, Director of Programming at The New Victory. “*Catalyst’s Nevermore is a wonderful addition to our season, and we’re very excited for October.*” **The New Victory Theater** presents a total of 13 performances of **Nevermore** of which five will be specifically geared to teenaged school audiences and the remaining eight to the general public.

**Nevermore** was commissioned by the **Magnetic North Theatre Festival**, co-commissioned by **Luminato** and developed with the support of **Keyano Theatre** in Fort McMurray and **The Banff Centre for the Arts**.

From **January 6 to February 11, 2011** **Nevermore** returns to **Calgary** for five weeks at **The Vertigo Theatre Centre**, co-presented by **Vertigo Mystery Theatre** and the **2011 High Performance Rodeo**. While in Calgary, the production celebrates its 100th performance.

Finally, Catalyst is very pleased to confirm that **Bretta Gerecke**, **Laura Krewski**, and **Wade Staples** once again join **Jonathan Christenson** as the creative team behind a new **Catalyst** production for 2011: an adaptation of Victor Hugo’s classic **The Hunchback of Notre Dame**, commissioned by **The Citadel Theatre**.

**Keyano Theatre** in Fort McMurray will host a 16-day residency and present nine performances of **Hunchback February 10 to 20, 2011**. The Production receives its world premiere at **The Shoctor Theatre** on **March 5 to March 27, 2011** as part of **The Citadel Theatre’s 2010-11 Mainstage Series**. This darkly romantic musical set amid the buttresses and shadows of Notre Dame Cathedral, tells the tale of a tormented priest, a beautiful dancer and the deformed bell ringer Quasimodo, swept up in a vortex of lust, fear and the desire to control a destiny that will ultimately destroy them all.

For more information on **Catalyst Theatre** please visit [www.catalysttheatre.ca](http://www.catalysttheatre.ca) or call **780.431.1750**.

**Catalyst Theatre operates with the support of:  
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Edmonton; Edmonton Arts Council; Edmonton Community Foundation;  
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