

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A Powerful Message Without Words

937- The Voyage of the St. Louis transports us to a time in history we must never forget

SAINT JOHN - The Saint John Theatre Company is proud to welcome Nova Scotia based Two Planks And A Passion Theatre Company to the BMO Studio this April. The touring company will present the unique and moving production titled 937.

937 tells the powerful story of the voyage of the St. Louis on its journey from Hamburg Germany in 1939. The story reflects on the lives of the 937 Jewish passengers and their journey to escape persecution only to be forced to return home to Nazi occupied Germany after many nations, including Canada, refused their entry.

Opening on stage in an attic, the performers of 937 discover artifacts covered in dust, and as they touch and examine the items, the story comes to life. *"937 tells a story in a very unique way- through animating period objects. In this way, the piece brings us closer to history even though the performance has no language,"* adds Ken Schwartz, Artistic Director of Two Planks and A Passion Theatre Company. *"We were inspired by the artifacts left behind by victims of the Holocaust- both the enormous number of them and the fact that each one represents a life. We then asked ourselves, what if these objects could tell the story of their owner?"*



As part of the Canadian Stages Professional Series line-up, 937 was chosen because of its powerful story and relevant message. *"The Canadian Stages Series was developed to showcase works that will expand the range of theatre experiences for local audiences, including our youth,"* notes Stephen Tobias, Executive Director, SJTC. *"937 is a great fit for this series. It's a story we want to help share because of its historical relevance, it is a piece that people need to take in and reflect upon."*

The Saint John Theatre Company has partnered with the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum, UNBSJ and the Anglophone South School District (ASD) to ensure that this piece is accessible to students and to develop relevant student collateral including study guides, pre-show teaching aids, and post show discussions. 937 will tour to several schools throughout New Brunswick free of charge.

Two public performances will be held at the BMO Studio Theatre on April 18 at 2:00pm & 7:30pm. To purchase tickets please call 1-888-311-9090 or visit: www.ticketpro.ca

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