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**A Musical Thriller, A Comedy of Manners, and A World Beyond Our Imagination...
*Saint John Theatre Company Announces its 2012-2013 Main Stage Season Line Up***

SAINT JOHN - Saint John Theatre Company is proud to announce its 2012-2013 main stage season line-up. This year's line-up has a little bit of everything – a musical thriller, a comedy about manners and a literary legend that sets the imagination running.

As the current season gets ready to draw to a dramatic close with the modern day – New Brunswick based version of *Romeo & Juliet* this month, three crowd-pleasing shows have been selected for next year's Main Stage line-up. "As we move into our 23rd season we continue to seek out shows that are well-rounded and will appeal to many of our regular theatre-goers while drawing in some who may have never seen a SJTC production in the past." – adds Stephen Tobias, Artistic Director, Saint John Theatre Company. "There is always a balance between offering what is well-known and popular while incorporating something unique and off the beaten path."

The 2012-2013 Main Stage season will open in November with the amazing musical thriller *Sweeney Todd*. The Tony award-winning musical recently made into a movie featuring Johnny Depp in 2007 tells the urban legend of a disgruntled barber who seeks revenge on the world. He teams up with a pie maker and opens a barbershop in which he slits the throats of customers and has them baked into pies. This Victorian melodrama has engaged audience members for decades and has been adapted into film, radio and television productions. "I'm excited to bring *Sweeney Todd* to life on our stage. This show has some of the most amazing music ever written for a musical," adds Tobias. "I am a huge fan of this show. It has been on my hit-list for many years!" *Sweeney Todd* will be staged at Imperial Theatre - November 22-24, 2012.

The mid March production will be *God of Carnage* a hilarious comedy about the similarities between adults and children. Often coined as a "comedy of manners without the manners" – this funny yet serious play tells the story of a playground fight between two boys which brings the parents together to "rationally" discuss the issue. The tables are turned when the parents find themselves confronting one another showing that adults may have a much larger playground but just as many fights. *God of Carnage* was written by Yasmina Reza. The play was a success in its original language, French, and has been equally acclaimed in its English-translated productions in both London and New York. This will be the Provincial premiere of this over the top hilarious production. "*God of Carnage* is one of the most produced plays in North America. It is amazingly funny and oddly true-to-life at the same time," notes Tobias. *God of Carnage* will run at Imperial Theatre March 21-23, 2013.

The Main Stage season rounds out with a new high-tech version of the legendary *1984*. Based on the novel by George Orwell, *1984* has evolved into one of the most renowned novels of all time. The play presents the world in the year 1984, after a global atomic war through the eyes of Winston Smith. Living in one of the world's three super-states, Oceania, Smith is in turmoil with the current government and suffers imprisonment, torture, and re-education. "Saint John is home to some of the leading IT companies in our region – in fact our city was named one of the Top 7 Intelligent Communities in the world by the international Intelligent Communities Forum. I'm looking forward to the ongoing dialogue that we will be having with our IT sector as we discuss the world of 1984." *1984* will play at Imperial Theatre May 16-18, 2013.

More details to come on Saint John Theatre Company's 2012-2013 in house productions including the Studio Series which features cutting-edge works by local performers as well as the Presentation Series which welcomes guest artists into the Princess St. facility to perform.

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