

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 18th, 2013

Sweeney Todd Cast Ready To Impress

Musical Thriller Sweeney Todd opens this Thursday at Imperial Theatre

SAINT JOHN – This week Saint John audiences will be treated to a thrilling musical that will showcase some of the city’s top musical talent. Saint John Theatre Company will be presenting *Sweeney Todd* at Imperial Theatre which will open this Thursday evening and runs through until Saturday.

A musical thriller by Stephen Sondheim, *Sweeney Todd* is an award winning drama set in Victorian England. The story tells the infamous tale of an unjustly exiled barber who returns to 19th Century London seeking revenge. He teams up with a pie maker, Mrs. Lovett, and opens a barbershop in which he slits the throats of customers and has them baked into pies! This challenging and thought provoking piece of musical drama is designed to both entertain and challenge audiences.



Theresa Patterson: Mrs. Lovett- rehearsal

After a strong turnout of highly talented candidates a stellar cast was chosen. *“When we first committed to producing Sweeney Todd, I admit to being a bit apprehensive about our ability to cast the show. It is not only a brilliantly entertaining musical – but it also contains extremely difficult music requiring an experienced cast,”* notes Director, Stephen Tobias. *“In the end the challenge wasn’t finding enough talent. The challenge was deciding which of the many talented people we would put in the show.”*

The cast is anchored by Bertis Sutton as Sweeney and Theresa Patterson as Mrs. Lovett, two impressive performers. The rest of the 20 member cast includes a number of SJTC regulars such as Chad Humphries and Amber Arsenault but it also boasts a talented crew of newcomers as well. One third of the cast has never worked on a SJTC project before. Many of them professionally trained and seasoned.

Sweeney Todd is the second offering in the SJTC Main-Stage Series followed by a multi-media stage adaptation of George Orwell’s *1984*. There are still \$50.00 two-show passes available for *Sweeney Todd* and *1984*. For more information or to purchase tickets please call Imperial Theatre box office at 1-800-323-7469.

Please direct media inquiries to: Lise Driscoll, Marketing & Communications, Saint John Theatre Company, 652-7582 ext 226, lise.driscoll@saintjohntheatrecompany.com



Jillian Bonner & Joshua Britten rehearse