

For Immediate Release
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Three Tubs, Three Victims...Three Stories To Be Told

Saint John Theatre Company proudly presents The Drowning Girls as part of its in house Studio Series



SAINT JOHN – The SJTC Studio Series is quickly becoming known for its cutting edge content and intimate atmosphere. *The Drowning Girls*, the latest Studio production, is no exception. The play will be staged at 112 Princess Street, home of the SJTC from April 5-7. The play promises to enthrall audiences with the tale of three young woman all murdered by the same man.

The story sets out to answer the questions: who are these girls & why did they drown? The play is based on actual events in the early 1900's, where a man lured women through the promises of love, trust, and marriage, only to murder them and cash in their newly purchased life insurance policies. *"Visually, this play will be stunning – the image of 3 women, soaking wet, in their wedding dresses, rising like a second birth out of claw-foot tubs is entrancing and horrifying at once,"* adds Kizzy Kaye, long time theatre company member and Director of *The Drowning Girls*. *"The use of water throughout the play is at times startling and at others soothing. I have the sense that the audience will almost be able to feel the dampness and it will bring them even closer to the story."*

The unique perspective of this play makes it truly gripping; the victims themselves are retelling the story of their seduction, marriage, and subsequent murder by George Joseph Smith. The women are just as anxious to find out how they fell for such enormous deceptions as the audience is; a point of view that audience members don't often have the chance to see.

The cast is made up of Kristi Stuart who will play *Bessie*, Lesley Dickson who plays *Alice*, and Christina Isbill who plays *Margaret*. All three ladies have suffered a similar fate; however their stories are very unique. As rehearsals draw to an end the cast members feel a bond with the women they are portraying. *"The raw emotion behind so many of the scenes - ones of gaiety and heartbreak. It's easy to get lost in the characters but you also have to remember the real women behind them. You want to portray them in the manner their memory deserves,"* notes Lesley Dickson – who plays Alice.

The Drowning Girls will run April 5th and 6th at 7:30pm and April 7th at 2pm and 7:30pm. For tickets please call 652-7582 or visit www.ticketpro.ca.

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