

Local Actor Tackles Role of a Lifetime: A Son of a Nazi Confronts the Past

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2nd 2008, Calgary, AB – In the Western Canadian Premiere of Hannah Moscovitch’s “important and brave work” (Fresh Daily Theatre Review), local Calgary actor **Rylan Wilkie** takes on a role few could; the son of a Nazi who uncovers his father’s past.

Mr. Wilkie, well known to audiences of Alberta Theatre Projects after appearing in *The Blue Light*, *The December Man* (*L’homme de Décembre*) and a Betty Mitchell Award-winning turn as Vincent van Gogh in *Vincent in Brixton*, plays Rudi, a young man living in Paraguay who discovers his father’s role at Auschwitz during World War II. Also featuring **David Beazely** (last seen on stage at Alberta Theatre Projects in *Hippies and Bolsheviks*) and **Rebecca Auerbach** (Alberta Theatre Projects debut), *East of Berlin* tells the story of a young man forced to confront conflicting emotions about his father, who contributed to the greatest horror of the 20th Century.

Director **Bob White**, Artistic Director of Alberta Theatre Projects, calls *East of Berlin*’s examination of the imprint of the political on the personal “**extraordinary**” and “**a punch in the gut**”. Playwright **Hannah Moscovitch**, a classmate of Mr. Wilkie’s at the National Theatre School in Montreal, was called the “wunderkind of Canadian Theatre” by CBC Radio. *East of Berlin*, her first full-length play, debuted last year at the Tarragon Theatre in Toronto. This production of *East of Berlin*, the second show of the 2008/2009 Season at Alberta Theatre Projects, marks the first Western Canadian performance of this **staggering and sophisticated drama by one of Canada’s most important new voices**.

East of Berlin examines the relationship between father and son, between each generation, between victim and perpetrator; it asks the members of the audience to **reconsider their own moral assumptions and preconceived notions regarding the legacy of one of the darkest periods in human history**.

CAST

Rebecca Auerbach – Sarah
David Beazely – Hermann
Rylan Wilkie – Rudi

CREATIVE TEAM

Bob White – Director
Scott Reid – Set and Lighting Design
Juli Elkiw – Costume Design
Vicki Stroich – Production Dramaturg
Marcie Januska – Stage Manager
Heather Rycraft – Apprentice Stage Manager

East of Berlin runs from **October 21st through November 8th 2008**, with shows Tuesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 PM. All performances on the ConocoPhillips STAGE in the Martha Cohen Theatre, 215 – 8 Ave SE. For tickets, please call our **Ticket Office at (403) 294-7402**, Ticketmaster at (403) 299-8888 or visit www.ATPLive.com

Alberta Theatre Projects thanks our sponsors for their support of *East of Berlin*: **ConocoPhillips Canada** (Naming Sponsor of the ConocoPhillips STAGE), **Calgary Herald** (Season Sponsor), and **Rogers Communications** (Presenting Sponsor of the 2008/2009 Season)

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