



For Immediate Release:

**FACTORY presents**  
**THE NAKED SEASON 2015-2016**  
**CANADIAN CLASSICS REIMAGINED**

Factory Artistic Director Nina Lee Aquino has invited five outstanding directors and champions of Canadian theatre to engage Toronto audiences with new, bold interpretations of six classic Canadian plays, stripped down to their most striking elements.

Text, actors, audience – these are the fundamental building blocks for each production that will showcase the directors’ visions for these Canadian classics, which should and must be experienced again.

Factory is proud to present THE NAKED SEASON 2015-2016:

- AGE OF AROUSAL written by Linda Griffiths, directed by Jennifer Brewin
- BANANA BOYS written by Leon Aureus, adapted from the novel by Terry Woo, directed by Nina Lee Aquino
- BOMBAY BLACK written by Anosh Irani, directed by Peter Hinton
- SALT-WATER MOON written by David French, directed by Ravi Jain
- A LINE IN THE SAND written by Guillermo Verdecchia & Marcus Youssef, directed by Nigel Shawn Williams
- THE CRACKWALKER written and directed by Judith Thompson

*“Factory’s Naked Season will be a series of pure theatrical encounters between the audience, the actor, the text, and the empty space that we all temporarily share,”* explains Nina Lee Aquino, Factory Artistic Director. *“This is our chance to honour our artistic history while examining what these works mean to us now, and ultimately ask, what makes a classic, classic?”*

Factory’s NAKED SEASON of raw and gritty Canadian plays will begin to answer that question with an experience unlike anything seen in Toronto before; an experience that will both delight and unsettle audiences. Naked can be so much more than clothed.

**Linda Griffiths’** lush genre-busting portrayal of feminine virtue versus feminism at the time of Victorian Suffrage continues to speak to the struggle of equality for women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. First produced and published in 2007, and winner of the Betty Mitchell Award (Calgary Theatre awards) for Outstanding New Play, **Jennifer Brewin** (Artistic Director Theatre Columbus/Common Boots) tackles the late great feminist playwright’s sexy, liberating and intelligent **AGE OF AROUSAL**.

**Nina Lee Aquino** revisits the seminal Asian-Canadian work **BANANA BOYS**, by **Leon Aureus** and adapted from the novel by **Terry Woo**, in a powerful new production that examines the deep challenges of being torn between culture, identity and feeling out of place in the world. In this wickedly funny play, five young men drawn together by the death of their friend explore the nature of growing up male and Asian in Canada.

Erotic and mysterious, **Anoshi Irani's** multiple Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning and Governor General's Award-nominated **BOMBAY BLACK**, set in present-day India, is a powerful story of vengeance, betrayal, and seduction. **Peter Hinton** helms this contemporary love story between a blind man and an exotic dancer, in an apartment by the sea.

One of Canada's most prolific playwrights, **David French's** **SALT-WATER MOON** was the third of five plays about the Mercer family of Newfoundland. Director **Ravi Jain** re-imagines this beloved Canadian classic about love, loss and reconciliation through an intercultural lens.

**Nigel Shawn Williams** directs **A LINE IN THE SAND**, the Chalmers Award-winning play set against the backdrop of Operation Desert Shield and first produced in 1995. The gripping story of an unlikely friendship between a Canadian soldier and a Palestinian teenager, written by Guillermo Verdecchia and Marcus Youssef, confronts Canadian peace-keeping myths and alleged brutal acts committed in a nation's name.

Renowned Canadian playwright **Judith Thompson** directs the play that launched her career 35 years ago, **THE CRACKWALKER**. The play is a disturbing and graphic exploration of discarded classes in Canada – people who live at the margins and are doomed to suffer a life of abuse and exploitation.

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***Age of Arousal***

Written by Linda Griffiths  
Directed by Jennifer Brewin  
October 20 – November 8, 2015  
Factory Mainspace Theatre

***Banana Boys***

Written by Leon Aureus  
Adapted from the novel by Terry Woo  
Directed by Nina Lee Aquino  
November 3 – 22, 2015  
Factory Studio Theatre

***Bombay Black***

Written by Anosh Irani  
Directed by Peter Hinton  
November 17 – December 6, 2015  
Factory Mainspace Theatre

***Salt-Water Moon***

Written by David French  
Directed by Ravi Jain  
February 23 – March 13, 2016  
Factory Mainspace Theatre

***A Line in the Sand***

Written by Guillermo Verdecchia and Marcus Youssef  
Directed by Nigel Shawn Williams  
March 8 – 27, 2016  
Factory Studio Theatre

***The Crackwalker***

Written and Directed by Judith Thompson  
March 22 – April 10, 2016  
Factory Mainspace Theatre

The NAKED SEASON Play Passes Now Available!

Prices range from \$99 for a 3-Play Pass to \$180 for the full 6-Play Pass

Passes can be purchased online at [www.factorytheatre.ca](http://www.factorytheatre.ca), by phone at 416.504.9971, or in person at  
Factory's Box Office, 125 Bathurst Street (at Adelaide)

Single tickets on sale beginning September 8, 2015

**\* New this year – all single tickets \$35.00 \***

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