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**FACTORY presents *The Naked Season 2015/16*  
CANADIAN CLASSICS REIMAGINED**

## **SALT-WATER MOON**

**Written by David French • Directed by Ravi Jain**

**February 23 – March 13, 2016**

Factory presents **SALT-WATER MOON** by David French, directed by Ravi Jain, starring Kawa Ada and Mayko Nguyen and featuring live music by Toronto singer-songwriter Ania Soul. Part of Factory's Naked Season, this beloved Canadian classic about love, loss, and reconciliation will be reimagined through Jain's bold staging in order to ask, "Can you ever truly return home?"

*"With just two actors and only a few physical elements, the audience will be transported to the place of David French's timeless tale; Newfoundland under a star-filled sky,"* explains director Ravi Jain.

It's 1926, the First World War is over, and every day the villages of Newfoundland are being abandoned by their young for a new life in the big city. But eighteen year-old Jacob Mercer has come home to Coley's Point, from Toronto, to win back his former sweetheart Mary Snow, who he abruptly left over a year ago. By the light of a moon-filled night, the former lovers meet to confront their past choices and contemplate a possible future together.

**SALT-WATER MOON** is David French's best known and most successful of the Mercer plays. It was an immediate hit when it premiered at Tarragon Theatre in 1984, and continues to be produced around the world. **SALT-WATER MOON** is the recipient of the 1985 Canadian Authors Association Literary Award for Drama, the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play, a Hollywood Drama-Logue Critics' Award, and was a finalist for both the Chalmers Awards and the Governor-General's Award for Drama.

**David French** (1939–2010) is one of Canada's most celebrated playwrights, and one of the first to write distinctly Canadian stories. Born in the outport of Coley's Point, Newfoundland, French was inducted into the Newfoundland Arts of Honour in 1981 and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2001. Among his works are the semi-autobiographical Mercer plays: *Leaving Home*, *Of The Fields*, *Lately*, *Salt-Water Moon*, *1949*, and *Soldier's Heart*. This quintet of plays has also touched audiences across Canada and in the U.S., Europe, South America, and Australia. French's other works include the smash-hit backstage comedy *Jitters*, the thriller *Silver Dagger*, and an adaptation of Strindberg's *Miss Julie*.

**Ravi Jain** is a multi-award-winning actor, director, producer, educator, arts-activist and Artistic Director of Why Not Theatre. Most recently, Why Not collaborated with The Theatre Centre to produce *The November Ticket*, a trilogy of award-winning controversial plays including *WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT . . .* by Jackie Sibblies Drury, which he directed. His acting credits include the Dora Award-winning *SPENT* (Theatre Smith-Gilmour/Why Not Theatre/TheatreRUN) and *A Brimful of*

*Asha* (Why Not Theatre/Tarragon). Select directing credits for Why Not include *The Prince Hamlet, I'm So Close, A Brimful of Asha, Greenland* (winner of NOW Audience Choice Award and Best Production SummerWorks '09), and *Iceland* (winner of NOW Audience Choice Award and Best New Play SummerWorks '12).

**SALT-WATER MOON** features performances by Dora Award-winner and star of Factory's critically acclaimed **BOMBAY BLACK**, **Kawa Ada** (*Accidental Death of an Anarchist*/Soulpepper Theatre; *Paper SERIES*/Cahoots Theatre; *Lilies, Wonderful Town*/Red Peppers/Shadowplay; *After the Dance, Sunday in the Park with George* /Shaw Festival; and *Bombay Dreams*/Broadway) as Jacob Mercer; and Gemini-nominated actress **Mayko Nguyen** (*Helen Lawrence*/Canadian Stage; *Passion Play*/Convergence Theatre/Sheep No Wool/Outside the March; *carried away on the crest of a wave*/Tarragon Theatre; and tv credits *Slasher*/Chiller TV, *Killjoys*/Space Channel, *Cracked* and *Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures*/CBC TV) as Mary Snow.

Stripped down to the most fundamental and striking elements, the Naked Season pares down theatre to a series of pure encounters between the audience, the actors, and the text. **SALT-WATER MOON** is presented as part of a seasonette that also includes: **A LINE IN THE SAND**, written by Guillermo Verdecchia and Marcus Youssef and directed by Nigel Shawn Williams, March 8 – 27 in the Studio Theatre; and **THE CRACKWALKER**, written and directed by Judith Thompson, March 22 – April 10 in the Mainspace Theatre.

*"Naked is about going to the roots of storytelling, it's imagining the story with limitless possibilities."*  
Ravi Jain

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**SALT-WATER MOON**

Written by David French, Directed by Ravi Jain  
FACTORY, 125 Bathurst Street (at Adelaide)  
Factory Mainspace Theatre

Starring Kawa Ada and Mayko Nguyen

**February 23 – March 13, 2016**

**Media Night: Thursday, February 25, 2016 @ 8pm**

**Opening Night: Friday, February 26, 2016 @ 8pm**

Tuesday - Saturday @ 8pm • Sundays @ 2pm

**\* New This Year – All Single Tickets \$35 – Preview Tickets \$25 \***

See all of the shows in the Naked Winter Seasonette with a 3-Play Pass for just \$99.

Tickets and 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)

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