

# DVxT Theatre Company

DVxT has been a dynamic part of Toronto's theatre community for over ten years. In the equation that inspires our artistic practice, time is the most important variable. By affording our creative team extended periods of time to develop and rehearse each work, we allow the company to travel artistically at the right speed, resulting in award-winning, stylish and entertaining theatre.

DVxT has garnered 19 Dora Award Nominations and 12 Dora Awards for their memorable work. We have developed 5 new Canadian scripts and presented classics from the restoration, to Ibsen to Beckett. We portray stories that are relevant to a modern audience, exploring themes of personal and political identity.

## Current Project

### **In Development for 2012-2013: *Under the Influence* (working title) by John Murrell**

DVxT recently commissioned the acclaimed Canadian playwright John Murrell (*Waiting for the Parade, Democracy*) to write a new play for actors Brian Dennehy, Bruce Godfree and Daniela Vlaskalic.

We workshopped the first draft last summer at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival and this spring we travelled to the Goodman Theatre in Chicago to read the final draft. We are in discussion with the Goodman and several Canadian producers to plan a Canadian-American premiere of the play in 2012-13.

Envisioning the project, Brian led by talking about how he was always trying to get to the heart of the Canadian-American relationship with his Canadian colleagues, but to no avail. We mused that possibly Canadians were too self-effacing and polite to actually get to the truth of it with our American friends, but that indeed, it was a discussion worth having; and worth having onstage.

We talked about two main characters – a cynical, fading American writer and a younger, shrewd Canadian professor – and the kind of circumstances that would bring them together. John percolated and Dennehy's "Niall" and Vlaskalic's "Giovanna" were born: two characters who stand on either sides of national, political, professional and generational borders. A foil to "Niall", a young British teaching assistant, "Geoff" rounds out the cast.

DVxT looks forward to bringing you more information about *Under the Influence* as we prepare to read the final draft at the Goodman Theatre this spring.

## Sponsorship

**d**istance = **v**elocity **x** **t**ime

DVxT is a dynamic theatre company presenting award-winning theatre to discriminating audiences hungry for thought-provoking performances.

DVxT has been supported by the corporate community since our inception in 1997 and continues to offer excellent benefits in return for corporate investment.

Becoming a sponsor of DVxT Theatre allows your company to communicate important messages, letting clients and the public know that you:

- support the development of Canadian theatre
- support the development of youth through the arts
- understand the value of arts in the community

Associating your company with DVxT Theatre Company has numerous benefits:

- building business relationships through hosting and networking opportunities at our performances and events
- increasing city-wide corporate exposure with a key urban target audience
- opportunities to reward employees with theatre tickets and discounts

DVxT Theatre Company is a registered federal charity based in the city of Toronto. Charitable registration number: 869966689RR0001

## Playing a Leading Role

The arts are society's driving engine; the key to its creativity, its diversity, its imagination and its growth.

A company that supports the arts is not engaging in philanthropic activity as much as it is ensuring a flourishing future for our community.

Ticket sales cover less than half of the cost of mounting a production or underwriting our youth outreach programme.

Corporate donors are vital to filling the gap.

# The Investment

We invite your company to play a leading role in DVxT's success.

Our commitment extends beyond our imaginative designs and interpretations of great plays. It includes the development of new work, youth outreach initiatives and our reputation for taking care of our ensemble, our company, our patrons and donors.

# Our Corporate Partners

Corporations who have supported DVxT include:



ADVISORS



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vertical



## Arts Literacy Education

DVxT Theatre Company continues to inspire and enrich our community's youth through our Arts Literacy Education programme. Since our inception, we have fostered relationships with educators and students across the GTA.

For three previous productions (*The Doll House*, *St. Christopher* and *The Turn of the Screw*) we created a study guide to help teachers and students prepare for the performance. Our student programme is always a huge success; teachers used our guides in their classrooms, we sell-out our student matinées and enjoy illuminating dialogues between students, teachers and artists during our talkback sessions following each performance.

DVxT believes arts programs for students are essential tools for learning. In today's age of multimedia and technology students often face challenges in learning how to communicate clearly and articulate their thoughts.

To succeed in today's economy of ideas, students must attain competency by using words, images, sounds and motion to communicate.

Research in Canada and the United States proves that students who receive a high quality arts education develop higher-level skills to solve problems; they show a great capacity to use reason, language and math skills.

Students who receive arts education are also more creative, more self-disciplined, more tolerant and better able to think critically and communicate. Active participation and learning in the arts improves overall academic achievement.

Our Arts Literacy Education programmes for full productions include:

- matinée performances offered at a discounted rate for schools
- free professional on-line study guides for teachers
- post-performance talkbacks that allow students to meet the cast and director
- open rehearsals for students to attend in advance of the performance
- optional in-class workshops with cast and director

## Board of Directors

To complement our artistic team with responsible administrative guidance, DVxT has assembled an accomplished advisory drawn from Canada's leading financial, creative and not-for-profit organizations.

The experienced leadership of our Board ensures that we are well equipped to manage our resources and plan for future projects in an increasingly challenging cultural economy.

J. Kerry Young, President  
Production & Business Affairs Coordinator, CFC Films

David Kaiser, Treasurer  
Director, Kaiser Lachance Communications

Kathryn Westoll, Secretary  
Managing Director, Toronto Fringe Festival

Lara Azzopardi Robinson, Director  
Independent Screenwriter and Film Director

Andrew Fenton, Director  
Director of Sales, Cogeco Data Services

## For More Information

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