



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 21, 2008

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INFAMOUS COMMONWEALTH THEATRE OPENS 2008-2009 'NATURE' SEASON WITH THE WORLD PREMIERE OF NATIONAL ECODRAMA AWARD WINNER *ODIN'S HORSE* BY ROBERT KOON, DIRECTED BY ANNA C. BAHOW

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays 8:30pm & Sundays 3:30pm Sept. 20 - Oct. 19 on Raven Theater's West Stage at 6157 N. Clark St. All Tickets \$20. Call 312.458.9780 or Email info@infamouscommonwealth.org for reservations.

***Press are invited to attend the Saturday, September 20, 8:30pm performance.
Please RSVP directly to Jennifer Mathews at 773.209.3889 or jmathews@infamouscommonwealth.org.***

CHICAGO - Infamous Commonwealth Theatre opens their 2008-09 season dedicated to the topic Nature with the riveting drama *ODIN'S HORSE*, written by Chicago Dramatists Resident Playwright Robert Koon and directed by Chicago Dramatists Associate Artist Anna C. Bahow.

NA-TURE (*noun*): the sum total of the forces at work throughout the universe

Arman, a writer blocked by the pressures of unexpected success, follows his girlfriend to the redwood forests of northern California. In this isolated landscape, he develops a friendship with an enigmatic treesitter and is soon caught in the struggle between those who make their living cutting timber and those who risk their lives to preserve nature. Torn between conflicting information and expectations, Arman must reach into his past for the key that will allow him to determine exactly where—and with whom—he stands. *ODIN'S HORSE* is the winner of the national EcoDrama Award from the EcoDrama Playwrights Festival and makes its professional World Premiere in this Infamous Commonwealth Theatre production.

ODIN'S HORSE playwright Robert Koon is a Resident Playwright at Chicago Dramatists and has served as the director of their affiliated writers program, The Playwrights Network, for the past seven years. His play *Vintage Red and the Dust of the Road* received a Joseph Jefferson Citation for New Work and a nomination for the American Theatre Critics Association's Steinberg Award. Mr. Koon's other work includes *St. Colm's Inch*, *Inpainting*, *The Leverage of Affection*, *Changing Attire*, *The Point of Honor*, *Looking West from Firá* and *Menorca*. His work has been staged at venues as diverse as Chicago Dramatists, the Ashland New Plays Festival in Oregon, the Lark Theatre in New York, the Dayton Playhouse, Mirror Stage in Seattle, and Estrogen Fest in Chicago. Mr. Koon also teaches playwriting through the Chicago Dramatists Playwrights Studio and was a Fall 2007 Playwright Resident at the William Inge Center for the Arts in Independence, Kansas. He has been a featured presenter for the Indiana Theatre Association and the William Inge Theatre Festival, guest resident instructor for the Timber Lake Playhouse Writers Colony, and host playwright for the Ashland New Plays Festival. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America and lives in Chicago.

ODIN'S HORSE director Anna C. Bahow is an Associate Artist at Chicago Dramatists, Premiere Theatre and Performance, and the side project. Directing credits include the critically acclaimed production of *New Orleans* for the side project, Martin Furey's Jeff Recommended *Shot* at Timeline Theatre, *Gray City* at Premiere Theatre and Performance, *Vintage Red and the Dust of the Road* (Jeff Citation Best New Play, American Theatre Critics nominee Best New Play produced outside of NY) at Visions and Voices, *St. Colm's Inch* for Chicago Dramatists, and *Chameleon with a Stigmata* and *Drive* for Rhinoceros Fest. Committed to the development of new plays, Ms. Bahow has worked with Victory Gardens, Silk Road, Stage Left, ATC, and is a past director of the WTA New Play Development Workshop.

ODIN'S HORSE features the acting talents of ICT company member Stephen Dunn, as well as Cat Dean, Larry Wiley, Jeremy Fisher and Sarah Dennison. *ODIN'S HORSE* production team consists of Deanna Keefe (dramaturg/assistant director), Kathy Arfken (scenic designer), Tramon Crofford (props designer), Rachel M. Sypniewski (costume designer), Mac Vaughey (lighting designer), Christopher Kriz (sound designer), and Sheena L. Young (stage manager).

ODIN'S HORSE runs Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays at 8:30pm & Sundays at 3:30pm Sept. 20 - Oct. 19 at the West Stage of the Raven Theatre Complex at 6157 N. Clark St. Tickets are \$20 per person. \$15 senior/student/industry tickets are available for every performance (subject to availability) with proper ID. To reserve tickets, please call 312.458.9780 or email info@infamouscommonwealth.org.

Founded in 2001, ICT's unique mission is to illuminate diverse perspectives around one centralized topic per season. ICT has received six After Dark Awards and four Joseph Jefferson Citations since its inception. For more information on ICT, please visit www.infamouscommonwealth.org.