



presents:

Age of Arousal **by Linda Griffiths**

Wildly inspired by George Gissing's *The Odd Women*
February 7–22, 2014 (preview performance on February 6)
at **The Gladstone Theatre**

For immediate release: January 21, 2014 - Ottawa, ON

Type, damn you. Type! It's the way to liberty!

Linda Griffiths's *Age of Arousal* blasts onto the stage at The Gladstone, opening February 7th!

It's 1885: a time of great passion, great confusion. In filthy, smoggy, turbulent London, ex-militant suffragette Mary Barfoot runs a school for secretaries with her lover and protégé Rhoda. The school's invasion by a trio of spinster sisters and a charismatic cad named Everard creates a catalyst for political, sexual, and emotional revolution, as each character confronts their own ideals and learns what it means to be a New Woman—or a New Man. Sexy, startling, and imaginative, *Age of Arousal* is a modern look at forbidden Victorian desires on the brink of explosion.

Award-winning playwright Linda Griffiths is one of Canada's originals. Her genre-busting, rule-bending, and ambitiously original script for *Age of Arousal* won a Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding New Play following its debut at Alberta Theatre Project's PlayRites Festival. With its cast of beautiful and complicated characters, *Age of Arousal* is sometimes wistfully sad, and sometimes laugh-out-loud hilarious.

Ottawa native Diana Fajrajsl, Capital Critic's Circle Award nominee for *Shadows* and director of Odyssey Theatre's *The Illusion* and *Bungsu and the Big Snake*, directs. The ensemble cast features Eleanor Crowder, known for her interpretation of Shakespeare (*As You Like It*) and freshly home from a cross-country tour of her new play, *Momma's Boy*; Margo MacDonald (winner or nominee of multiple Prix Rideau and Capital Critic's Circle awards, who recently appeared in *Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* at the GCTC); Rachel Eugster (*The Comedy of Errors, The Walk*); Anna Lewis (*Agnes of God, 'Tis Pity She's a Whore*); Tim Oberholzer (*Ethan Claymore, Taming of the Shrew*); and the now Edmonton-based Lisa Jeans (Prix Rideau Awards nominee, *The Ventriloquist*). *Age of Arousal* features lighting by David Magladry; set by Anna Lewis; costumes by Patrice-Ann Forbes; wigs, hair, and make-up consultation with Annie Lefebvre; and sound design by Diana Fajrajsl and Rachel Eugster, and is stage managed by Jane Osborn/Mary Davidson.

Performance Details:

February 7–22, 2014 (with a special preview performance on February 6)

Tuesday–Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m.

Adult: \$34 / Senior (65+): \$30 / Student/Artist/Unwaged: \$20 / Preview (all): \$18



Box Office: 613-233-4523 / boxoffice@thegladstone.ca / www.thegladstone.ca

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