



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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GETTING TO THE HEART OF LOVE AND MURDER

Psychological drama of 1958 killing spree “rocks” new musical

2011/2012 Season

1 SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI: LOVE KILLS

October 13–22, 2011

By Kyle Jarrow

Produced by Theatre Inconnu

Directed by Clayton Jevne

Music Director Donna Williams

Lighting Design by Bryan Kenny

Stage Manager Courtney Butler

How far would you go for love? Facts blur and loyalties shift when two teenage lovers are pressured to confess to murder before dawn in this rock musical, psychological drama.

Advisory: Partial nudity, mature subject matter and strong language.

“Art and Violence” Free PreShow Lecture:

October 14 at 7pm

with Alan Hughes, Department of Theatre Professor Emeritus

2 ROOKERY NOOK

November 3 – 19, 2011

By Ben Travers

Directed by Bindon Kinghorn

A suave and stylish 1920s farce set on the English seaside.

3 EURYDICE

February 16 – 25, 2012

By Sarah Ruhl.

Directed by Jeffrey Pufahl, MFA Candidate

A quirky, contemporary retelling of the Orpheus and the Underworld myth through Eurydice's eyes

4 THE MAROWITZ HAMLET

March 15 – 24, 2012

By William Shakespeare & Charles Marowitz

Guest directed by Charles Marowitz

Marowitz rethinks Shakespeare's masterpiece by cutting it up and piecing it back together again!

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Caught between the wholesome morality of the early 1950s and the social and political upheaval of the 1960s was a generation of teenagers beginning to question their parents and society. In cinema, new heroes like James Dean in *Rebel Without a Cause* (1956) and Marlon Brando in *The Wild One* (1953) were influencing their music, clothes and attitudes. And in 1958 in the quiet town of Lincoln Nebraska, these pressures came to a head, striking all of America to its moral core, when the seemingly-innocent, but troubled teenage lovers – 19 year-old Charlie Starkweather and his 14 year-old girlfriend Caril Ann Fugate – went on a murder spree, killing eleven innocent victims.

OBIE Award-winning, New York playwright Kyle Jarrow's critically acclaimed rock musical *Love Kills* revisits the aftermath of this tragic story, bringing us inside the jail and inside the heads of the two teen lovers, the sheriff who detains them and his wife. The Phoenix Theatre opens its 2011/12 season with this moving psychological drama and rock musical, produced by Theatre Inconnu and directed by alumnus Clayton Jevne, on October 13 – 22, 2011 at the University of Victoria.

Leaving the horrors of the killing spree to our imagination, Jarrow's script follows the psychological intrigue of the investigation. Over the period of one night with the pressure to gain a confession before lawyers arrive at dawn, we begin to understand the pressures on each of these four characters, as each must decide how far they will go for love. As facts blur and loyalties shift, audience members are asked to examine the forces that effect love, murder and our legal system. In this “*compelling and entertaining production*”, critics point out that the playwright “. . . *merely advocates for humaneness and open-mindedness*” (*Times Colonist*).

Set at the time of the beginnings of rock and roll, this rock musical blends Jarrow's thought provoking script with the heightened emotions of this intense drama, backed up by the live performance of local Victoria band The Party on High Street.

The story that shook America in 1958 has become the fascination of a new generation, inspiring books, movies, and songs including Bruce Springsteen's song “Nebraska,” and films like Oliver Stone's *Natural Born Killers*, Terence Malick's *Badlands*, Dominec Sena's *Kalifornia*, David Lynch's *Wild at Heart* and Tony Scott's *True Romance* (written by Quentin Tarantino). Theatre Professor Emeritus, Alan Hughes will discuss the fascination our culture has with art inspired by stories of violence in our society at a **FREE preshow lecture** titled “Art and Violence,” **on Friday, October 14 at 7pm**. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Phoenix Theatre welcomes Theatre Inconnu's production of *Love Kills* for its **Spotlight on Alumni** presentation. This annual program invites alumni from the UVic Department of Theatre to submit productions that feature Theatre graduates. *Love Kills* includes several alumni; three-time graduate, director and founder of Theatre Inconnu, Clayton Jevne (BFA '85, MFA '87 and PhD '03), performer Marina Lagacé as Caril Ann (BFA '10) and Cam Culham (MFA '03) as the sheriff, as well as previous student Brendan Bailey, and current students, lighting designer Bryan Kenney (MFA Candidate) and stage manager Courtney Butler (4th year). This production is a remount of the 2010 presentation that garnered Theatre Inconnu a Monday Magazine “Top Pick” and was nominated for M Award for Best Musical.

Information is available online at phoenixtheatres.ca or by calling **250-721-8000**.

The performance schedule for *Love Kills* is as follows:

Public Preview Performances 8pm: October 11 & 12

Evening Performances 8pm: October 13 (Opening Night), 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

Matinee Performances 2pm: Saturday, October 22

Single Tickets: \$13 Student / \$18 Senior / \$22 Adult / \$24 Weekends @ 8pm (Previews \$7.00, available after 5pm)

Season Subscriptions: \$36 for 3 plays or \$48 for 4 plays.

Phoenix Box Office opens October 4 in person or by calling: **(250) 721-8000**.