



## MEDIA RELEASE

### SOULPEPPER BRINGS CLASSIC FAVOURITES, AN EXCLUSIVE WORLD PREMIERE AND MUSICAL MARVELS TO THE STAGE THIS SUMMER

**Toronto, ON – March 27, 2018:** Soulpepper Theatre Company today announced programming details for the 2018 summer season line-up which includes three plays as well as an exciting concert series.

Beginning in July, the season features the World Premiere of **Rosamund Small's** *Sisters*, based on Edith Wharton's pioneering novella; the Canadian Premiere of Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of Virginia Woolf's masterpiece *Orlando*; and Mark Crawford's sweet summer comedy *Bed and Breakfast*.

The popular Soulpepper Concerts Series returns with a new, original concert *The 27 Club*, delving into the intriguing mythology around famous artists such as Amy Winehouse who passed away at age twenty-seven. Audience favourites *The Secret Chord: A Leonard Cohen Experience* and *A Moveable Feast: Paris in the '20s* will return. All with musical direction from Slight Family Director of Music, **Mike Ross**.

"This season is a perfect summer-long microcosm of what Soulpepper does best. A new generation of artists is reinterpreting great masters, with a line-up of plays and concerts that are collaborations between new and familiar faces. The resulting programming asks riveting questions, stirs the soul, and is, of course, lots of fun. Alongside our great spring programming, we're inviting audiences to join us on an important journey at Soulpepper." said **Alan Dilworth**, Acting Artistic Director.

"I fell in love with the story of *Orlando* quickly. Virginia Woolf's prismatic imagination and Sarah Ruhl's ability in honouring that magic make it a mind-bending study of life and desire. The piece bravely looks at how we choose to live, and whether or not that choice is in line with our truth. If time and gender are freed from their definitions, what might we become?" said Director **Katrina Darychuk** on her connection to the play.

"I find myself reading into the story of the Bunner Sisters a sense of frustration with the institution of marriage, with the power of men, with the general dreariness of the characters' day to day lives. All these women live in a domestic world that's too small and too limited, and there's a pulsing, urgent undertone of desire to be free." Playwright **Rosamund Small** shares the inspiration for her adaptation *Sisters*.

Previously announced Spring programming includes: *Innocence Lost: A Play About Steven Truscott* by Beverley Cooper, directed by **Jackie Maxwell**; August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, directed by **Mumbi Tindyebwa Otu**; *La Bête* by David Hirson, directed by **Tanja Jacobs**; and *After The Blackout*, written and directed by **Judith Thompson**, in partnership with RARE Theatre Company. Soulpepper will be announcing its 2018-2019 season in the coming months.

Exclusive ticket access for subscribers is available as of March 27. Single tickets go on sale May 1. For more details, visit [soulpepper.ca](http://soulpepper.ca) or call the Young Centre Box Office at 416.866.8666.

### JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2018: MAINSTAGE PROGRAMMING

#### *Orlando*

Virginia Woolf

Adapted by Sarah Ruhl

Directed by Katrina Darychuk



How many lifetimes does it take to find love? Destined to never age, Orlando's fantastical journey crosses continents, centuries, and genders to find true happiness in this new adaptation of Virginia Woolf's timeless masterpiece by one of today's most celebrated playwrights.

**The Canadian Premiere of *Orlando* runs from July 6 to 29, 2018. Opening night is July 11, 2018.**

### ***Bed and Breakfast***

**Mark Crawford**

**Directed by Ann-Marie Kerr**

When Brett inherits the family home, he and Drew move out of fast-paced Toronto to set up a B&B in a picturesque tourist town. But will these big city boys face friction in their new community? With dozens of hilarious characters, all portrayed by two actors, *Bed and Breakfast* is a heartwarming comedy about "being out" in small town Ontario, family skeletons in the closet, and finding a place to call home.

***Bed and Breakfast* runs from August 11 to September 2, 2018. Opening night is August 16, 2018.**

### ***Sisters***

**Rosamund Small**

**Based on the Edith Wharton novel *Bunner Sisters***

**Directed by Peter Pasyk**

It's the turn of the century and Anne and Eveline have created a little corner for themselves in New York. When a handsome clockmaker comes to call, the powerful bonds of sisterhood are put to the test. Inspired by Pulitzer Prize- winner Edith Wharton's pioneering novella, *Sisters* shows us hidden heroism in everyday life.

**The World Premiere of *Sisters* runs from August 23 to September 16, 2018. Opening night is August 29, 2018.**

## **JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2018: SOULPEPPER CONCERTS**

Each original Soulpepper Concert revolves around a time, place, or artist crafted by a team of incomparable performers. The Concert Series is led by Slight Family Director of Music Mike Ross.

### ***The Secret Chord: A Leonard Cohen Experience***

**Music Directed by Mike Ross**

One of Soulpepper's most popular productions returns celebrating the legacy of Leonard Cohen. An extraordinary line-up of Toronto musicians brings his timeless words and music to life in a way you've never heard them before.

***The Secret Chord: A Leonard Cohen Experience* runs from July 7 to 29, 2018.**

### ***The 27 Club***

**Music Directed by Mike Ross**

From Janis Joplin to Jimi Hendrix, Kurt Cobain to Amy Winehouse - the list of great musicians who have tragically left us at the young age of 27 is staggering - and unsettling. Mike Ross leads a group of artists to explore their music, stories and legacies.



*The 27 Club* runs from July 14 to 28, 2018.

***A Moveable Feast: Paris in the '20s***

Music Directed by Mike Ross

Soulpepper's sold-out concert returns. You're invited to post-war Paris, the global capital of art, music, literature, and Bacchanalia! Artists like Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Picasso, and Josephine Baker shaped a new era of modernity, and set the stage for the Lost Generations of musicians who followed.

***A Moveable Feast: Paris in the '20s* runs from September 14 to 23, 2018.**



Located in its multi-venue home, the Young Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto's Distillery Historic District, Soulpepper is Toronto's largest not-for-profit theatre company. Founded and guided by artists, Soulpepper has an integrated mission which includes: industry-leading youth and community outreach initiatives; artist training and mentorship programs; and a year-round diverse repertory season which is grounded in the classics and committed to the creation of new works, new forms, and innovative practices. Tickets to Soulpepper productions are available by calling the Young Centre Box Office at 416.866.8666 or by visiting [soulpepper.ca](http://soulpepper.ca).

The artists and staff of Soulpepper and the Young Centre for the Performing Arts acknowledge the original caretakers and storytellers of this land - the Mississaugas of the New Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe, and the Wendat First Nations. We commit to honouring and celebrating their past, present and future.

Soulpepper believes all people have a right to express their individuality, to experience creative freedom, to feel safe at all times, and to be treated with dignity and respect.

Tickets for Soulpepper productions start at \$35. Tickets for Soulpepper Concerts start at \$25. \$20 tickets for Soulpepper productions are available for arts workers. \$20 StagePlay tickets for under-30 year-olds are available at [soulpepper.ca/stageplay](http://soulpepper.ca/stageplay), sponsored by TD Bank Group. Youth 21 years old and under can access free tickets online via the MyPlay Program presented by Sun Life Financial: visit [soulpepper.ca/myplay](http://soulpepper.ca/myplay) for more details. Rush tickets are often available, call the Box Office for more details. are offered one hour before most performances (in person), subject to availability. All ticket prices include a Young Centre facility fee, service charge and HST. Pricing is subject to change.

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CIBC – Soulpepper Family Festival



TD Bank – StagePlay + ASL Interpretation  
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