



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 28 to May 6, 2006

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Molière's L'AVARE (THE MISER) to close TfT'S 2005-2006 season

In culmination of its 2005-2006 season, Théâtre français de Toronto is pleased to present one of the greatest comedies of all times, Molière's *L'Avare (The Miser)*, directed by **Jean-Stéphane Roy**. This production will have surtitled performances so that anglophone theatre-lovers may join in the fun. The play will be presented at Berkeley Street Theatre April 19 to May 6, 2006.

Harpagon is a wealthy merchant who loans money at usurers' fees. His obsession for material gain obscures his duties as a father. He is planning arranged marriages for his children, Cléante and Élise, with unsuitable but rich partners, while he is determined to take the young and beautiful Marianne as a wife for himself. Unfortunately, Cléante is in love with the young woman, while Élise is secretly betrothed to Valère, who is posturing as the household's superintendent. The children refuse to obey their father. The conflict comes to a head when Harpagon's dearest possession, his moneybox full of gold, gets stolen in an attempt to force him to abandon his plans. Which will prevail, his lust or his love of gold?

This new production of a Molière play is a continuation in a series of major successes for TfT : *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* in 2005, *Les Femmes savantes* in 2003, *La Critique de l'École des Femmes* and *Le Mariage forcé* in 2002 in a much lauded staging by Jean-Stéphane Roy.

Starring **Guy Mignault** as Harpagon, with **Martin Albert, Mélanie Beauchamp, Sébastien Bertrand, Olivier L'Écuyer, Julie LeGal, Patricia Marceau, Michel Séguin** and **Manuel Verreydt**.

Set and lighting design: **Glen Charles Landry**; Costumes: **Nina Okens**; Stage Manager: **Emanuelle Langelier**.

L'Avare (The Miser) by Molière

Directed by Jean-Stéphane Roy

April 19 – May 6, 2006

Théâtre français de Toronto

Berkeley Street Theatre, 26 Berkeley Street, "Upstairs"

Opening: Friday, April 21 @ 8:00 PM

Previews: April 19 and 20 @ 8:00 PM

Evening shows: Wednesday to Saturday @ 8:00 PM

Saturday matinées: April 29 & May 6 @ 3:30 PM

Sunday matinées: April 23 & 30 @ 2:30 PM

Surtitled performances: April 27, May 3 and 5 at 8 pm and May 6 at 3:30 PM

Tickets: \$28 to \$36 / Students, seniors and groups: \$23 to \$31

Box Office: (416) 534-6604 or 1-800-819-4981 | www.theatrefrancais.com