

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 19 to December 2, 2007

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**A TORONTO FRENCH-LANGUAGE PREMIERE:
Avaler la mer et les poissons (Swallowing the Sea and the Fish)
by Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent**

THE TRICKS LIFE PLAYS ON US!

Toronto, July 19, 2007 –Théâtre français de Toronto is proud to welcome Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent in a remarkable production by Montréal's Théâtre de La Manufacture. *Avaler la mer et les poissons*, a beautifully-crafted story about the bonds of friendship, will be presented in French at Berkeley Street Theatre November 28 to December 2.

This first script, by the team of Drapeau and Vincent, looks at two long-time friends, Ariel and Kiki, each with a very different outlook on life. Ariel is married with two children and lives comfortably, whereas Kiki works as a server in a café while pursuing her dream of being a painter. It is love at first sight for Kiki and George, Ariel's lover, when they meet at Kiki's studio after one of his and Ariel's secret trysts. When Ariel finds out about the love affair, the two women's friendship turns upside-down. Ariel feels betrayed, and when her husband disappears in an accident at sea, she finds herself alone. Can the friendship be saved?

This elegant script juxtaposes two lifestyles, two women whose destinies intermingle over a perceived betrayal. It delves into the reality of the imagination, and into public life as the solitary inspiration of the artist, through scenes that are sometimes moving, sometimes funny. *Avaler la mer et les poissons* gives Tft the opportunity to present a new work and welcome Théâtre de La Manufacture for the first time. The writers are two brilliant performers that the Toronto public rarely get to see in person. Sylvie Drapeau last played with Tft in *Elvire Jouvett 40*, presented in 1991, and Isabelle Vincent appeared at Tft in *La Camisole* in 1988.

Directed by **Martine Beaulne**. With **Sylvie Drapeau, Isabelle Vincent, Daniel Gadouas** and **Denis Bernard**. A Théâtre de La Manufacture production. Tft thanks this production's sponsor, The National Bank of Canada.

Avaler la mer et les poissons (Swallowing the Sea and the Fish)
by **Sylvie Drapeau** and **Isabelle Vincent** | Directed by **Martine Beaulne**
November 28 to December 2

Théâtre français de Toronto | Berkeley Street Theatre Upstairs - 26 Berkeley Street
Evening performances: Wednesday to Saturday at 8PM
Saturday matinee: December 1 at 3:30PM | **Sunday matinee:** December 2 at 2:30PM
Tickets: \$29 TO \$46/ Students, seniors and groups: \$24 to \$32
Box office: 416.534.6604 OR 1.800.819.4981 | www.theatrefrancais.com

What the press said:

«We devour everything in this first-time text, co-written by the luminous actresses Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent: the sea and the fish of the titles, the intelligence of the text, the beauty of the words and the generosity of its performers.»

Dominique Lachance, *Journal de Montréal*

«A feel-good comedy», Marie Labrecque, *Le Devoir*

«With *Avaler la mer et les poissons*, Sylvie Drapeau and Isabelle Vincent are at the height of their talent in two tailor-made two roles.»
Lili Martin, *Radio-Canada*

About Tft: The 07-08 season marks Tft's 40 years. Founded in 1967, Tft is one of the most important francophone theatre companies in Canada and the only one in Southern Ontario offering a full season of diverse productions for audiences of all ages. While appealing to all lovers of French-language theatre, Tft contributes to the cultural and educational development of Toronto's francophone community. It sells 11,500 tickets annually and has about 950 subscribers. Since April 2005, Tft has offered performances with English surtitles™, which provide a wider choice of entertainment for Ontarians and enable Tft patrons to bring their friends and family who do not necessarily speak French.