



Media Release

TROUBLE COMES TO TOWN SATURDAY... MACBETH TO FOLLOW

Prescott, July 6, 2010:

The company of professional actors is well rehearsed; an original play commemorating the town's 200th anniversary has been fine tuned; even the waterfront outdoor stage has been spruced up.

It's time for opening night of Prescott's St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival, now in its eighth season and becoming recognized as one of Canada's premier stages for presenting the Bard's creations.

In honour of the 200th, noted Canadian playwright John Lazarus has crafted a comedy loosely based on *The Merry Wives of Windsor* called *Trouble on Dibble Street*. It depicts imagined shenanigans along one of Prescott's main thoroughfares 100 years ago.

"*'Trouble'* is a living, breathing creature," said Festival Artistic Director Ian Farthing. "John was tweaking it right up until last week as he saw ways of making it better while attending rehearsals."

The 2010 season kicks off Saturday night (July 10), 7 pm, at the Kinsmen Amphitheatre with *Trouble on Dibble Street*. The play will preview Friday night when tickets are \$12 compared to the full Festival rate of \$25 per adult.

This season's second play is the famed Shakespearean tragedy *Macbeth* which opens July 14; *Macbeth* and *Trouble* will alternate until the festival closes Aug. 14.

"The new season is shaping up very well," Farthing said. "Advance ticket sales are about double what they were this time last year. The buzz on the street is terrific with area residents looking forward to both an original production and to what many feel is Shakespeare's greatest play."

Farthing said he's proud of how the Festival has become part of the social and cultural fabric of Prescott and surrounding area since it was launched in 2003.

"It's a major event when our actors arrive in town for the new season. More and more, they're being asked to take part in other community activities such as the Canada Day parade."

The St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival's 2010 season featuring ***Trouble on Dibble Street*** and ***Macbeth*** runs July 10 to August 14 at the Kinsmen Amphitheatre at Sandra S. Lawn Harbour in Prescott. The Festival also boasts the ever-popular Sunday Series and the Young Artists Training Program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK TICKETS:
Call 613-925-5788 or visit www.stlawrenceshakespeare.ca

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