

S O C R A T I C  
THEATRE COLLECTIVE

*Theatre that creates a dialogue*

**Liz Bragg**

Artistic Director  
info@socratictheatre.com  
416 998 9772

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 May 2012



*"...You neglect the duty, you make ripples in reality that will take a century to heal...  
All in all, boy, not a good start to your first job."*

Socratic Theatre Collective presents  
**TERRY PRATCHETT'S MORT**  
Adapted by Stephen Briggs  
Directed by Ruth Pe Palileo  
Performing at the Toronto Fringe Festival

**Socratic Theatre Collective** is proud to conclude its second season with a site-specific production of *Terry Pratchett's Mort*, adapted by **Stephen Briggs**, presented at the 2012 Toronto Fringe Festival.

*Terry Pratchett's Mort* is a stage adaptation of the fourth novel in Pratchett's award-winning Discworld series. It tells the story of the anthropomorphic personification of Death and his hapless apprentice Mort, and how both are caught between duty and the appeal of human connection; Death is lured away from his work by the joys of an extended holiday, while Mort threatens the balance of the universe through a misguided (well, hormone-guided) attempt to save the life of a beautiful princess.

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As part of the Site-Specific program at the Toronto Fringe, the production will take place in the University College Quadrangle on the University of Toronto's St. George campus. This unique and eclectic setting provides the perfect venue for *Terry Pratchett's Mort*; according to director Ruth Pe Palileo, "we will create a living version of the Discworld by highlighting the unique architectural character of the University College Quadrangle. The audience will move through different areas, thereby creating the sense that they are journeying with us through the Discworld. This particular play is very much about the journey that the main character makes around the Discworld, and by giving the audience the experience of movement, we will enrich their understanding of his journey."

It is Pe Palileo's hope, along with Socratic's Artistic Director Liz Bragg, that the production will fill a void in the theatre landscape by bringing unapologetic fantasy to the stage. Bragg says, "When we went to Toronto Comic-Con to promote *Mort*, someone came up to us and said 'They never do stuff like that here!' And that's exactly how Ruth and I had been feeling, so we decided to do something about it."

**Ruth Pe Palileo** is the first guest director to work with Socratic Theatre Collective. Based in Las Vegas, she has recently directed Ionesco's *The Chairs* (Best Production of 2011, *Las Vegas Citylife*) and a sold-out production of Sarah Ruhl's *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. She is a writer/director with Centre for Immigrant Resources and Community Arts (CIRCA)/Pintig in Chicago.

The production features returning Socratic Theatre Collective members **Dave Heppenstall** (Tom in *Wrong Number*) as Mort, **Vanessa Graymason** (Laertes in *Hamlet*) as Princess Keli, **Erin Hamilton** (Ismene in *Ismene*) as Goodie Hamstring and others, **S.R. Kriger** (Guildenstern and others in *Hamlet*) as King Olerve and others, and **Amanda O'Halloran** (Sadie in *Wrong Number*) as the Duchess of Sto Helit and others. It also features the Socratic Theatre Collective debut of Artistic Director **Liz Bragg** as Ysabell. The cast welcomes new members **Basel Daoud** (Robert Damien in Evil Genius' upcoming film *Shelter*) as Death, **Richard Malouin** (Theatre of Change's *Literary Café*) as Albert, and **Lorne Mandelzys** (The Phoenix Wright Musical Project's *Turnabout Musical*) as Cutwell.

Socratic Theatre Collective is a non-professional company dedicated to producing "theatre that creates a dialogue." The 2011/2012 season is the second produced by the company. Entitled "Don't Fear the Reaper", it included the world premiere of S.R. Kriger's *The Dark Room* and the short play *Wrong Number*, which won the Fresh Spice Award at the 2012 What Are You Doing BACK There?! Festival. The first season was "Women, Power and Tragedy", featuring William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, *Princess of Denmark* and Jeremy Menekseoglu's *Ismene*.

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<b>The Details - TERRY PRATCHETT'S MORT</b>	
Running Time:	Approximately 90 minutes, no intermission
Opening Night:	Saturday, July 7
Performance Dates:	Saturday, July 7 Sunday, July 8 Friday, July 13 Saturday, July 14 Sunday, July 15
Schedule:	Friday-Saturday 7:00pm Sunday 2:00pm <i>Please be advised that in accordance to Toronto Fringe Festival policy, no latecomers will be admitted.</i>
Tickets:	\$10 at the door \$9 in advance (\$2 service charge applied) <i>The Toronto Fringe Festival also offers Value Packs available online or by telephone from June 1 or in person from July 4.</i>
Location:	University College Quadrangle 15 Kings College Circle University of Toronto St. George Campus. Entrance gate is at the north-west corner of the building, opposite the Tower Road soccer field. <i>Due to the outdoor nature of the venue, our rain policy is to proceed as long as the performers' safety is not impaired. Cancellation due to rain will be announced 15 minutes before any performance in question.</i>
Advance Box Office:	<i>Online:</i> <a href="http://www.fringetoronto.com">www.fringetoronto.com</a> Available June 15-July 15 Payment options: Visa and Mastercard  <i>Telephone:</i> 416-966-1062 x1 Available June 15-July 15 Opening hours: June 15-30 - 10:00am-5:00pm July 1-15 - 9:30am-6:30pm Payment options: Visa and Mastercard  <i>In Person:</i> Festival Box Office Parking lot behind Honest Ed's at 581 Bloor Street West

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	Available July 4-15 Opening Hours: 12:00pm-10:00pm Payment options: Cash, Visa, and Mastercard
Venue Box Office:	The venue box office is located at the entrance to the University College Quadrangle, and will open 1 hour before each performance. Only cash is accepted at the venue box office.

For more information, please contact Liz Bragg at 416-998-9772 or  
info@socratictheatre.com.

Please visit our website at [www.socratictheatre.com](http://www.socratictheatre.com), or visit us on Facebook under  
Socratic Theatre.

**THE TORONTO  
FRINGE**  
FRINGE FESTIVAL • NEXT STAGE • CREATION LAB

To contact the Toronto Fringe Festival, please contact the Fringe Publicist Heather  
Ervin at 416-966-1062 x6 or media@fringetoronto.com.