

MEDIA RELEASE

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AMELIA EARHART IN PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

Prince Edward County, ON, (July 28, 2010): For the month of August, Prince Edward County is going to see a lot of Amelia Earhart. The Festival Players production of *Amelia: The Girl Who Wants to Fly* begins August 4th and runs through to August 28th. Eliza-Jane Scott stars as iconic aviatrix Amelia Earhart in this new musical, written by John Gray (who wrote the well-known *Billy Bishop Goes to War*). The show opens on **Wednesday August 4th at 6:30pm, playing under a grand tent in the fields behind the Waring House in Picton.**

In 1930's America the celebrity machine of the day created an idol whose image resonates even now, 70+ years after her death. Amelia Earhart...Why did she want to fly? Where did she come from and how did she become who she was? Gray's examination of this infamous figure is part biography, part romance, part comedy and part musical. We're taken along for the ride. And what a thrilling ride it is.

"What an honour, truly. The talent onstage and behind the scenes is immense. The play is a love letter to history, steeped in nostalgia of the period." says Artistic Director Sarah Phillips who heads this production. "Of course we all know the name, Amelia Earhart – but what do we know of her really? It's been fascinating bringing John Gray's version of this celebrity flier to life."

The group brought together to work on this show is brilliant: Eliza-Jane Scott (Festival Players, Stratford Festival, Stage West) plays the title role of Amelia Earhart, Karin Randoja (Buddies in Bad Times, Caravan Farm Theatre, National Arts Centre) plays her earth-bound sister Midge and Christopher Sawchyn (Canadian Stage, Citadel, Canadian Opera Company) her publicist turned husband. The trio is joined onstage by music director and pianist Michael Barber (Theatre Aquarius, Mirvish, Stratford Festival) and Sarah Phillips, Artistic Director of Festival Players, directs.

Amelia: The Girl Who Wants to Fly plays from August 4th – August 28th at the Waring House, Picton. Check the website for schedule details, www.festivalplayers.ca. Tickets can be purchased in person at Books & Company, 289 Main St, Picton, by phone at 613.471.1991, 1.866.584.1991 or online at www.countytix.ca. Seating is limited so it's best to purchase in advance.

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