PRESS RELEASE: OCTOBER 29th, 2007

Single Thread Theatre Company proudly presents its twelfth show:
Tom Murphy's *Famine*

Famine. Desperation. Exodus. These are the themes that permeate Tom Murphy's play about the suffering of a small community as a result of the 1840s Great Irish Potato Famine. The play is told from the perspective of John Connor, a patriarchal figure in a small village that endures the full impact of the famine.

Single Thread was founded in 2003 by Queen's University alumni with a passion for staging professional quality theatre that is both raw and emotional. It is a non-profit organization with a focus on performing contemporary Canadian works without losing sight of the significance of classical and international contemporary theatre. A secondary focus of the company is to perform traditional works in non-traditional found spaces. *Famine* marks the twelfth Single Thread production performed in Kingston and is directed by one of the founding members and the current Artistic Director, Liam Karry.

The play is being performed in the NGB Studios Warehouse, an old building that has recently been reborn as a new arts venue in Kingston. Single Thread has converted the top floor of this historic building into a theatrical installation for the show.

Show information:
Location: NGB Studios Warehouse – 12 Cataraqui St. Kingston, Ontario
Showtimes: 8 PM November 14th – 17th, 20th – 24th 2 PM November 17th, 18th, 24th
Ticket Prices: $12 students, $15 adults
Ticket Outlets: Destinations (Queen's University) and the Grand Theatre Box Office.

Famine has particular relevance for this area. In the play, the characters are compelled to accept a sponsored exodus to Canada. In reality, many Irish died on this journey and are buried in Kingston, often anonymously. The most famous of these burial grounds is McBurney Park, better known as Skeleton Park. It is Single Thread's hope that this play will raise awareness about the Irish Potato Famine and its tragic consequences. Though it occurred over 150 years ago across the Atlantic, its victims still lie in our own backyards.

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