

**Geordie Productions opens its Montreal Mainstage season with a trip down the rabbit hole in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland***

**Montreal, November 14, 2006** — Geordie Productions is proud to debut its 2006-2007 Montreal Mainstage season with a new stage adaptation of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. This play makes its world premiere at the D.B. Clarke Theatre from December 1<sup>st</sup> — December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

In following the season's theme, "Opening Doors to Worlds Old and New", Geordie Productions brings an old, well-loved classic book to the stage in a brand new adaptation by **HARRY STANDJOFSKI**. With a story that has been described as "the most enchanting nonsense in the English language", Montrealer Harry Standjofski's script brings Carroll's Victorian Wonderland into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, "so, though some of the best-loved and well known catch-phrases remain in the play, our Alice's world is your world and we play with words and songs that you know" (Harry Standjofski). A well-known Montreal actor, Harry Standjofski has written many plays; his last one, *Here & There*, was nominated for a Masque Award.

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* chronicles the adventures of precocious young Alice when she stumbles down a rabbit hole one lazy summer afternoon. In the fantasy world of Wonderland, Alice meets a cast of weird and wacky creatures; the tardy White Rabbit, The Queen & King of Hearts, the Mock Turtle and the Gryphon, a bubble-blowing Caterpillar, a grinning Cheshire Cat without a body, the Mad Hatter, March Hare and sleepy Dormouse at their ridiculous Tea Party, and other favourite characters from the book.

Geordie's new artistic director **DEAN PATRICK FLEMING** directs the large-scale production. A diverse design team creates a multimedia Wonderland that brings together the old and the new in theatrical elements, from puppets to video projections, all to create a world that transcends the bounds of the imagination. The creative team includes Set and Lighting Designer **ANA CAPPELLUTO**, Sound Designer **TROY SLOCUM**, Video Editor **DAYNA MCLEOD**, Costume Designer **AMY KEITH** and Puppet Designer **NELLY SAVOVA**. The production is stage managed by **MELANIE ST-JACQUES**.

The stellar all-Montreal cast includes **DEENA AZIZ** (from the TV series "North/South"), **GLENDA BRAGANZA** (a winner of Montreal English Critics Circle Award for Best Actress) in the role of Alice, **CHIP CHUIPKA** (*Robinson Crusoe*, Geordie Productions), **ALAIN GOULEM** (the lead in the CBC hockey comedy "The Tournament"), **JULIE TAMIKO MANNING** (*Edmund the Terrible Raccoon*, Geordie Productions), **FELICIA SHULMAN** (*Bye Bye Baby*, Imago and Centaur Theatre), and with Concordia Theatre students **ADÈLE GIGANTES**, **GILDA MONREAL** and **NEM JEVTOVIC**.

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* marks the first production directed by Dean Fleming in his new capacity as Geordie Productions' Artistic Director. Says Dean: "There have been so many fantastic, inspired, wondrous tales written and told over and over but I must say that one of my favorites has always been *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. It is one that forces the imagination to open fully to try and discover the world of Wonderland." Geordie Productions play will take you into a fantastic dream world you won't want to leave — this is Wonderland like you've never seen it before!

This production has been created in association with Concordia University Theatre Department.

Geordie also offers weekday morning matinees of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* with a reduced ticket rate especially for school groups. Call (514) 845-9810 for more information on bringing school groups to the show.

**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland | By Lewis Carroll | Adapted by Harry Standjofski**

**Family Performances:** Opening Night: December 1, 7pm

Saturday, December 2, 3pm                      Saturday, December 9, 1pm & 3pm

Sunday, December 3, 1pm & 3pm              Sunday, December 10, 1pm & 3pm

**D.B. Clarke Theatre, Concordia University Hall Building | 1455 de Maisonneuve West, Montreal. Metro Guy Concordia**

**Tickets:** \$12.50 children, \$15 adults | Recommended for ages 6 – 106 | 60 minutes

**BOX OFFICE and INFORMATION:** (514) 845-9810 or [www.geordie.ca](http://www.geordie.ca)

**About Geordie Theatre Productions**

Geordie is a professional theatre company that has presented live English-language theatre for young audiences for the last twenty-five years. Based in Montreal, Geordie tours extensively across Quebec, Ontario and the Maritimes, performing in schools, theatres, libraries and community centres. Geordie has also visited the Far North and has performed across Canada and the United States, bringing many communities their only opportunity to see live theatre. Closer to home, Geordie's three-show Mainstage series entertains hundreds of families and school groups at Concordia's D.B. Clarke Theatre each season. This season, Dean Patrick Fleming replaces Elsa Bolam as the company's 2<sup>nd</sup> artistic director.

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Siu-Min Jim, Communications Coordinator | (514) 845-9810 or [publicity@geordie.ca](mailto:publicity@geordie.ca)

**MEDIA CALL** for photo and/or video footage: Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 2pm