

Geordie Productions presents *A Giraffe in Paris*

Montreal, March 27, 2007 – Geordie Productions is proud to present the Quebec Premiere of *A Giraffe in Paris* by Mark Haroun, running April 27th to May 6th at the D.B. Clarke Theatre.

To complete Geordie's 2006-2007 Montreal Mainstage season, Geordie's Founding Artistic Director, **Elsa Bolam** returns to Geordie to direct the play written by Canadian playwright, Mark Haroun. Based on true events of the early 19th century, *A Giraffe in Paris* is an enchanting and heart-warming tale about the power of friendship and why you should *always* believe in magic.

In *A Giraffe in Paris*, the young Prince of Egypt, Amen-Ra, embarks on a journey to Paris. He sets out to take a giraffe named Zarafa to be presented to the king of France as a gift from his father. Along the pair's perilous travels, they encounter everything from crocodiles and wolves to an evil circus ring-leader and magic. At the end of this journey of adventure and self-discovery, Amen-Ra finds what he least expected but what he wanted the most.

"When I first heard about the true story of a giraffe named Zarafa's amazing journey from the heart of Egypt all the way to Paris, it seemed too magical to be true. As I discovered more and more about this little known historical event, I was reminded of what it was like to visit far away places as a child and how my imagination would come alive," says Mr. Haroun.

A Giraffe in Paris features a cast of veteran Montrealers familiar to the Geordie stage: hilariously multi-talented **Mike Hughes** (Wilbur from *Charlotte's Web*), and popular stage and TV performers **Michel Perron** (a long-time Geordie favourite) and **Felicia Shulman** (White Rabbit from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*). Geordie is also thrilled to introduce circus-performer, **Elise Deguire**, who will astound you with her stilt-walking portrayal of Zarafa the giraffe. A creative team comprised of outstanding Montreal talents, **Paul Chambers** (Lighting Design); **Steve Schön** (Set Construction); **Nelly Savova** (Set Design); **Troy Slocum** (Sound Design); and **Susana Vera** (Costume Design) brings the audience from the sandy world of Egypt to the glamorous turn-of-the-century Paris. **Luciana Burcheri** is the Stage Manager, with **Stephane Rousseau** as the Apprentice Stage Manager.

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's School Tour** travels extensively from the Far North to across Quebec, Ontario and the Maritimes, bringing many communities their only opportunity to see live theatre. Geordie's **Montreal Mainstage Series** presents both well-loved classics and exciting new work by contemporary Canadian playwrights to families and school groups at Concordia's D.B. Clarke Theatre. Altogether, Geordie reaches about 80,000 audience members each year.

In addition to Weekend Family Performances, Geordie also offers **Weekday School Matinees** of *A Giraffe in Paris* with a reduced ticket rate especially for school groups. Call (514) 845-9810 for more information on bringing a school group to the show.

A Giraffe in Paris | By Mark Haroun | Directed by Elsa Bolam

Opening Night: Friday, April 27, 7pm

Weekend Family Performances:

- Saturday, April 28, 3pm
- Sunday, April 29, 1pm & 3pm
- Saturday, May 5, 1pm & 3pm
- Sunday, May 6, 1pm & 3pm

Weekday School Matinees: May 1 – 4, 10am & 12pm.

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

Tickets: \$12.50 children, \$15 adults | Recommended for children ages 6 – 12 and adults of all ages | 60 minutes

BOX OFFICE and INFORMATION: (514) 845-9810 or www.geordie.ca



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