FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THEATRE PASSE MURAILLE PRESENTS TWO CAPTIVATING PRODUCTIONS IN THE #BEYONDTO FESTIVAL:

CISPERSONNAGES EN QUÊTE D'AUTEURICE AND A TASTE OF HONG KONG

#BEYONDTO FESTIVAL BRINGS INTIMATE STORIES FROM ACROSS CANADA TO TORONTO!

APRIL 24 - MAY 17, 2025 AT THEATRE PASSE MURAILLE

Toronto, ON – April 3, 2025 – Theatre Passe Muraille (TPM) is thrilled to present the third edition of the **#BeyondTO Festival**, showcasing vibrant and thought-provoking productions from outside Toronto. This year's festival opens with **Cispersonnages en quête d'auteurice** from Montréal—a sharp, satirical exploration of identity, ethics, and artistic freedom, loosely inspired by Luigi Pirandello's **Six Characters in Search of an Author**.

The festival concludes with *A Taste of Hong Kong* from Vancouver, an immersive tasting class that invites audiences to sample Hong Kong's iconic snacks while uncovering stories of resilience and grit, from its colonial past to the present day. *Cispersonnages en quête d'auteurice* runs from April 24–27, and *A Taste of Hong Kong* will be on stage from May 13–17, 2025.

In *Cispersonnages en quête d'auteurice*, a troupe of professional actors faces a creative block during a rehearsal. As ideas are tossed around, the rehearsal space transforms into a battleground where artistic liberty and ethical principles collide. This dark comedy delves into the complexities of societal change, inclusion, and the tensions surrounding equity, offering a hilarious yet provocative experience that challenges assumptions while entertaining audiences.

Join *A Taste of Hong Kong*, a unique tasting class that serves up Hong Kong's best treats! Hosted by Jackie, the audience will sample famous snacks such as pineapple bun, while exploring the rich history of Hong Kong—from its colonial past to its present-day resilience.

CISPERSONNAGES EN QUÊTE D'AUTEURICE

A Joe Jack & John Production | Co-Presented by Theatre Passe Muraille & Théâtre français de Toronto

Performance Dates: April 24–27, 2025

Venue: Theatre Passe Muraille, 16 Ryerson Ave. | Mainspace

Tickets: Pay What You Can Afford: \$15 | \$40 | \$65

Tickets available at: passemuraille.ca

The performance is in French with English surtitles.

Accessibility Features:

- The production will be performed in a relaxed environment to ensure comfort for all attendees. For more details, please visit TPM's Relaxed Environment page
- The performance is in French with English captions of the text being spoken.
- Google Glasses will be available to access the titles

Content Warnings:

- Strong language: sexism and derogatory terms for LGBTQ+, disabled, and BIPOC communities
- Gestures of a sexual nature
- Depictions of violence and animal abuse (the animal is not real)

Written by: Catherine Bourgeois, in collaboration with Edon Descollines, Jean-François Huppé, Hubert Lemire, Michael Nimbley, Audrey Talbot, Anne Tremblay, Pénélope Bourque, Louis Girandello, Maryline Chery, Guy-Philippe Côté, Pénélope Goulet-Simard

Performances by: Edon Descollines, Maryline Chery, Guy-Philippe Côté, Pénélope

Goulet-Simard, David Noël, Michael Nimbley, Audrey Talbot

Direction and Set Design by: Catherine Bourgeois

Costume and Set Design by: Amy Keith

Lighting Design by: Jean Jauvin

Sound Design by: Alexander MacSween

Dramaturgy by: Sara Fauteux

Translation of surtitles by: Bobby Theodore

ABOUT THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS DE TORONTO (TFT):

Théâtre français de Toronto (TFT) is a company performing repertoire and new work for Francophones and Francophiles. It promotes and presents theatrical vitality to the various communities and school networks it serves. As a gathering place where everyone can meet, the company puts quality work at the forefront by offering a diversified and inclusive program. Through its programs, TFT supports, encourages, and spurs on the artistic emergence and professional development of its community. It actively participates in education and theatrical outreach.

A TASTE OF HONG KONG

by Anonymous | A Theatre Passe Muraille Presentation of a Co-Production by Pi Theatre and fu-GEN Asian Canadian Theatre in association with vAct

Performance Dates: May 13-17, 2025

Venue: Theatre Passe Muraille, 16 Ryerson Ave. | Mainspace

Tickets: Pay What You Can Afford: \$15 | \$40 | \$65

Tickets available at: passemuraille.ca

Written by: Anonymous
Performed by: Derek Chan
Directed by: Richard Wolfe
Lighting Design: Sophie Tang

Lighting Associate (Toronto): Gabriel Cropley

Scenography: Jergus Oprsal

Sound and Composition: Alex Mah

Videography: Andie Lloyd Dramaturgy: Marjorie Chan

Production Management: Jessica Han

Accessibility Features:

This production will be performed in a relaxed environment to create a welcoming space for all patrons. A full list of accessibility features is available on TPM's Relaxed Environment page.

ABOUT Pi Theatre:

Founded in 1984, Pi Theatre is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year! Currently under the leadership of Artistic and Producing Director Richard Wolfe and interim General Manager Cory Philley, Pi produces, presents, and tours work that's intellectually alive and emotionally charged. This is Pi's second visit to Toronto this season. Our production of *Black & Rural* was presented by dance Immersion at Tarragon Theatre in November. Since the company's inception, our peers have recognized Pi and its collaborators with 36 Jessie Richardson Awards and 121 nominations for outstanding artistic achievement in Vancouver's professional theatre.

ABOUT The Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre (VACT):

The Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre (VACT) was established in 2000 and incorporated as a non-profit society in 2001. vAct is an incubator for some of the best Asian Canadian talent in the country, fusing Asian content with artistic excellence in Vancouver.

ABOUT fuGen Theatre:

fu-GEN is a charitable theatre company dedicated to the development of professional Asian Canadian theatre artists through the production of new and established works.

About Theatre Passe Muraille (TPM):

Founded in 1989, Theatre Passe Muraille is one of Canada's most innovative theatres, dedicated to creating new works and offering a platform for diverse voices. As a hub for

local and international talent, TPM continues to champion storytelling that challenges boundaries, fosters community, and supports artistic development.



Media Contact:

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For more information about the festival and to purchase tickets, visit <u>passemuraille.ca</u>.