Age of Arousal
by Linda Griffiths
Wildly inspired by George Gissing’s The Odd Women
February 7–22, 2014 (preview performance on February 6)
at The Gladstone Theatre

Type, damn you. Type! It’s the way to liberty!

Linda Griffiths’s Age of Arousal blasts onto the stage at The Gladstone, opening February 7th!

It’s 1885: a time of great passion, great confusion. In filthy, smoggy, turbulent London, ex-militant suffragette Mary Barfoot runs a school for secretaries with her lover and protégé Rhoda. The school’s invasion by a trio of spinster sisters and a charismatic cad named Everard creates a catalyst for political, sexual, and emotional revolution, as each character confronts their own ideals and learns what it means to be a New Woman—or a New Man. Sexy, startling, and imaginative, Age of Arousal is a modern look at forbidden Victorian desires on the brink of explosion.

Award-winning playwright Linda Griffiths is one of Canada’s originals. Her genre-busting, rule-bending, and ambitiously original script for Age of Arousal won a Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding New Play following its debut at Alberta Theatre Project’s PlayRites Festival. With its cast of beautiful and complicated characters, Age of Arousal is sometimes wistfully sad, and sometimes laugh-out-loud hilarious.

Ottawa native Diana Fajrajsl, Capital Critic’s Circle Award nominee for Shadows and director of Odyssey Theatre’s The Illusion and Bungsu and the Big Snake, directs. The ensemble cast features Eleanor Crowder, known for her interpretation of Shakespeare (As You Like It) and freshly home from a cross-country tour of her new play, Momma’s Boy; Margo MacDonald (winner or nominee of multiple Prix Rideau and Capital Critic’s Circle awards, who recently appeared in Good Night Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) at the GCTC); Rachel Eugster (The Comedy of Errors, The Walk); Anna Lewis (Agnes of God, ’Tis Pity She’s a Whore); Tim Oberholzer (Ethan Claymore, Taming of the Shrew); and the now Edmonton-based Lisa Jeans (Prix Rideau Awards nominee, The Ventraloquist). Age of Arousal features lighting by David Magladry; set by Anna Lewis; costumes by Patrice-Ann Forbes; wigs, hair, and make-up consultation with Annie Lefebvre; and sound design by Diana Fajrajsl and Rachel Eugster, and is stage managed by Jane Osborn/Mary Davidson.

Performance Details:
February 7–22, 2014 (with a special preview performance on February 6)
Tuesday–Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m.
Adult: $34 / Senior (65+): $30 / Student/Artist/Unwaged: $20 / Preview (all): $18

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