

THE WALK OPENS FEBRUARY 3

Ottawa, January 9, 2012 – “**The Walk**,” by Catherine Cunningham-Huston, will play at the **Natalie Stern Studio Theatre**, 294 Picton Avenue, Ottawa, **February 3 to 5 and February 10 to 12**, 2012.

In this gripping drama about global sex trafficking, three wildly incompatible individuals—a quirky social activist nun, a neurotic writer, and an out-of-work film director—struggle to write a play about trafficked women. Haunting stories of victimized girls and women emerge from their meetings. Telling her own story throughout the play is Celestine, a Nigerian who was trafficked for eight years in Italy, now trying to build a life for her infant son in Canada.

The play premiered at the Ottawa Fringe Festival last summer. It will be produced by Moon Dog Theatre in association with PACT-Ottawa (Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in humans). The director is **Natalie Fraser-Purdy**.

The updated show features a new scene and original new music, along with many professional tweaks. “Some theatre-goers think of the Fringe Festival as fluffy or amateurish,” says Gene Bodzin, one of the show’s producers. “But this is a serious play, and we want the message to reach as many people as possible.” He says the audience’s enthusiastic and moving response at the premiere is a tribute to the quality of the production.

Four new cast members will take the stage in February, including Rachel Eugster in the role of Sister Catherine Anne, Lori Jean Hodge as the writer Stephanie, and Brie Barker debuting as Peter. Another change sees Shirley Manh as one of the trafficked women. The four returning actors are Guy Buller, Céline Filion, Jazmine Campanale, with Dyna Ibrahim as the Nigerian, Celestine. Drummer Mike Berrigan rounds out the cast.

“**The Walk**” will be staged at the **Natalie Stern Studio Theatre**, 294 Picton Avenue (Westboro), Ottawa, **February 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12**, 2012. All performances are at **8 pm**. Tickets cost \$20 in advance and \$22 at the door. They may be purchased at Collected Works Bookstore, 1242 Wellington Street West (at Holland), and Mother Tongue Books, 1067 Bank Street (at Sunnyside).

For more information, please visit www.moondogtheatre.com or contact: **613 733 0776** or moondogtheatre@rogers.com.

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