

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 7 to October 28, 2018**  
**MEDIA CONTACT: Josée Duranleau | 416 652 7672 | [josee@duranleau.com](mailto:josee@duranleau.com)**

**Le Théâtre français de Toronto presents**  
**LA SECONDE SURPRISE DE L'AMOUR (The Second Surprise of Love)**  
**Marivaux's anti-conformist comedy**

*"Free will is the condition of certainty." Maurice Schumann*

**Toronto, ON** - To kick off its season, Théâtre français de Toronto offers a work by Marivaux, *La Seconde Surprise de l'amour (The Second Surprise of Love)* – only the third time the company has produced a play by Marivaux in fifty years. A unique comedy that explores the winding ways of love, and centres on two women determined to control their respective destinies. The play will be presented at the Berkeley Street Theatre from October 17 to 28 in French with English surtitles.

**SYNOPSIS:** Lisette has decided to throw her mistress the marquise into the arms of a knight, so that she herself can marry the man she loves. But the Marquise is inconsolable following the death of her husband one month after their wedding. For his part, the Knight is infinitely inconsolable over the infidelity of his lover, Angélique. The task that falls to the mischievous Lisette is not an easy one. Ruses, blunders, jealousies and denials are all obstacles delaying the ultimate declaration of love. Will Lisette overcome the hesitations of lovers meant for each other?

In this comedy, Marivaux focuses on the idea of new love born from the loss or failure of the first.

Through wit ("*marivaudage*"), the play takes on a feminist and surprisingly contemporary twist. The characters of the Marquise and Lisette drive the plot and unlike most classical French plays, in this lesser known Marivaux work, women are free to access the truth of their feelings and always act according to their desires.

As he did with *Dom Juan* and *The Liar*, Joël Beddows continues to explore the mechanisms of seduction and once again, takes us off the beaten track. In this winding walk full of twists and turns, the disillusionment of love yields to the discovery of a sentimental maturity hitherto unsuspected.

**With:** Patricia Marceau, Karine Ricard, Pierre Simpson, Nabil Traboulsi, Nicolas Van Burek & Manuel Verreydt.

*TFT thanks TFO (Show Sponsor), VIA Rail Canada (Season Sponsor), TD (Surtitles Sponsor) & Pierre & Mariel O'Neill-Karch (Show Patrons).*

**LA SECONDE SURPRISE DE L'AMOUR**

A production by **Théâtre français de Toronto**

**Text: Pierre de Marivaux** | Direction: **Joël Beddows** | Set, Costume and Prop Design: **Melanie McNeill** | Lighting: **Laird Macdonald** | Sound: **Ben Gibson** | Stage Management: **Xavier Lemoine** |

**En français** (with English Surtitles): From October 17 to 28, 2018

Wednesdays to Saturdays at 8 PM | Saturday Matinee at 3:30PM and Sunday Matinee at 2:30 PM

**Berkeley Street Theatre - Upstairs** | 26 Berkeley Street, Toronto

**Fee:** Regular: \$49 | Senior: \$40 | under 30 and artists: \$20 | PWYC on Wednesdays and Thursdays | Saturday Rush

Tickets: \$20 at the door | **Group rate for 8 or more:** \$ 25 per ticket

**Box Office:** 416.534.6604 or [theatrefrancais.com](http://theatrefrancais.com)