

### PROVINCE at the Centaur



Maxime Coté

Talisman Theatre and Other Theatre co-production presents Province : a darkly humorous and imaginative fable, steeped in rich rural textures. Currently running at the Centaur Theater from October 7 to 17, 2015

**Province**  
Talisman Theater and Other Theater co-production presents PROVINCE a darkly humorous tale that presents a bevy of colorful characters that must band together to ward off the mutant animals that are reclaiming their land.

In the last century, humans has bestowed upon us. We pollute our rivers and air and we increasingly discard non recyclable plastic. Mathieu Gosselin's end-of-the-world play, Province is a dark but comedic tale of forewarning: In a not so distant future, *nature will have its revenge.*

The stage is set in the heart of a remote Quebec village engulfed by thick foliage and a looming forest inhabited by monstrously mutated animals that are plotting their revenge on humanity.

Within the fake grass and "yellow vomit-inducing" wallpaper, designed by Lyne Paquette, we are introduced to a cast of colorful characters that have all resorted to some form of obsessive extremism: Comedic duo (Éloi Archambaudoin and Sabrina Reeves) as "perfect plastic surgery Barbie and Ken" Brandon and Faeryday are so self-absorbed that they literally squish their shy and nervous neighbor Kimmie (Jennifer Roberts).

Brothers Zachary (Davide Chiazzese) and Royal (Mike Hughes) are completely oblivious to the dangers that lurk outside their door as they glue their eyes to their camcorder and video game consoles. They even ignore their sexually frustrated neighbor (Natalie Tannous) who resorts to mating with the mutant animals instead. (France Rolland) who plays the boys' mother, wanders off into an imaginary Eden and engages in a romance with an ethereal being (voiced by Tristan D Lalla's).

Among all the apathy in the face of imminent destruction, only wilderness survivor Hide (Stefanie Buxton) and pyromaniac prophet Buddy (Zach Fraser) realize that something is amiss, but by the time realization hits, it's too late: Like a Shakespearean tragedy, Province climaxes with the stage littered in corpses...

In this dystopian tale of humanity's inevitable destruction, I really liked how the individual characters were colorful and conceived with much imagination. It would have been nice to see more interaction and meaningful connections between groups of characters which would have made for smoother transitions between separate scenes which alternated from being comedic and grotesque to more serious and contemplative in nature.

Province's tragic ending helps examine the tremendous resilience of human beings in the face of adversity and offer spectators the chance to reflect upon and contemplate the impact we humans currently have on nature and the uncertainty of our own future with a visionary theatrical approach.

### Province A Talisman Theatre and Other Theatre co-production

With Éloi Archambaudoin, Stefanie Buxton, Davide Chiazzese, Zach Fraser, Mike Hughes, Sabrina Reeves, Jennifer Roberts, France Rolland and Natalie Tannous • Lyne Paquette (Set Design), David Perreault Ninacs (Lighting Design) and Fruzsina Layni (Costume Design), Jesse Ash (Composition and Sound Design) Barbara Zsigovics (Stage Manager).

From October 7 to 17, 2015 | Wednesday to Saturday, 8:30 pm. Matinee: Sat., Oct. 17 at 2:30 pm

**Playing at Centaur Theatre (453 St. François-Xavier)**

Box office 514 288-3161 or purchase online Centaur box office Tickets 28\$ regular, 25\$ students

For further information- talisman-theatre.com and OtherTheatre.com/province/ at:

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