



The Power of Performance Public Energy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, February 12, 2018. For more information: Bill Kimball, bill@publicenergy.ca 705-745-1788.

VETERAN DIRECTOR PATRICIA ROZEMA DIRECTING FILM ADAPTATION OF THE HIT CANADIAN PLAY *MOUTHPIECE*, FOLLOWING THE PLAY'S PUBLICATION BY COACH HOUSE BOOKS.

The original stage version of *Mouthpiece* comes to Peterborough as part of Public Energy's mainstage season at the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre on February 23rd for one night only.

One of Canada's foremost filmmakers, Patricia Rozema, whose widely acclaimed films include *I Heard The Mermaids Singing* and *Mansfield Park*, is adapting *Mouthpiece* for the screen. Shooting for the \$5 million film recently wrapped in Toronto; a release date has not been announced. When asked what attracted her to the project Rozema told the online magazine Playback: "I was blown away by the mixture of fierceness and humour, absurdity and thoughtfulness. It had this dichotomy of things that I've always been really attracted to as a filmmaker." The film of *Mouthpiece* features the two women, Norah Sadava and Amy Nostbakken, who wrote the play and star in the stage production, together with actor Maev Beatty.

Making *Mouthpiece* as a film is a rare achievement for an independent Canadian theatre project but it is all the more remarkable when one considers that it is the second time *Mouthpiece* has been adapted into another form. Last September the play was published, along with its music, by one of Canada's most venerable publishing houses, Toronto's Coach House Press.

Public Energy artistic producer Bill Kimball puts the latest news about *Mouthpiece* into context:

"What Norah and Amy have accomplished with *Mouthpiece* is extraordinary. Just one of its achievements would be remarkable for a play coming out of a major theatre institution such as Stratford or Shaw Festival - either being published by one of Canada's most important presses, or receiving a \$5 million film adaptation by one of the country's most accomplished directors. But for *both* to happen with a low-budget play coming out of Canada's independent theatre scene, well it speaks to the singular achievement of the play, which is to combine two things: compelling subject matter that speaks to audiences of all ages and backgrounds, with highly entertaining performances that use the actors' considerable vocal, acting and movement skills. *Mouthpiece* really is the complete package."

Peterborough audiences will have just one chance to see *Mouthpiece*, as well as meet the co-creators at a post-show Q&A, on February 23, 2018 at 8pm at the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre.

Tickets available through the Market Hall Box Office ([online](#) and 705-749-1146) are \$23 and \$15 for students and the underwaged. There are also a limited number of tickets for high school students available for \$8.