

The University of Winnipeg

N E W S R E L E A S E

January 22, 2004 For Immediate Release

Murder! Mystery! at The University of Winnipeg

WINNIPEG B The University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Drama presents Lanford Wilson=s *Book* of Days, a production by the 3rd-Year Honours Acting class. Variety calls Book of Days Aan intriguing, prismatic and thoroughly engrossing depiction of contemporary small town life with a murder mystery at its core. . . a splendid evening of theatre.@

Lanford Wilson is a highly respected American playwright, whose works include *Fifth of July* and *Burn This*. AWilson-s compassionate treatment of the misfits and rejects of society marks him as one of the most humane of contemporary playwrights.@ (Oscar G. Brockett)

Book of Days is set in Dublin, Missouri, a small American town dominated by a cheese plant, a fundamentalist church, and a community theatre. When the owner of the cheese plant dies mysteriously in a hunting accident, Ruth, his bookkeeper, suspects murder. The suspects include a remarkable collection of fascinating and complex characters.

Book of Days is directed by University of Winnipeg Theatre Professor Shelagh Carter, who was admitted in May of 2003 to Lifetime Membership in the legendary Actors Studio in New York and Los Angeles. Set design for the play is by Debra Miller; costume design is by Rachelle Fordyce, and lighting design is by Libid Zyla.

Performances are February 5-13 at 8:00 p.m. nightly (except Sunday) at Convocation Hall (2nd Floor, Wesley Hall), University of Winnipeg. Admission is free. For reservations (24-hours) call 786-9152, or visit The University of Winnipeg Theatre Department website at: <u>http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca</u>

The University of Winnipeg=s theatre season will close with a production of August Strindberg=s *The Ghost Sonata* (in the translation by Harry G. Carlson), directed by Robert Astle (April 6-10 at the Gas Station Theatre).

The Department of Theatre and Drama at The University of Winnipeg offers programs in Acting, Design, Drama in Education, Filmmaking, Playwriting, and Production/Stage Management. Our classes are small, our programs are practical, and our faculty is comprised of highly respected and award-winning professionals who are experienced teachers and remain active in their disciplines, bringing relevant and up-to-date instruction to our students.

- 30 -

Media Interviews have been scheduled for Wednesday, February 4 at 4:30-5:30 p.m. For further information, and to confirm your interview, call Patty Hawkins at 786-9955.

For more information, please contact: Katherine Unruh, Director of Communications The University of Winnipeg T: 204.786.9872 C: 204.782.3279