



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

NEWS ADVISORY

Tuesday, October 26, 2004
For Immediate Release

Timeless Comedy Pits Women Against War in Latest UWinnipeg Theatre Production

WINNIPEG—The University of Winnipeg will open its 2004/05 theatre season on **November 17** with Aristophanes' popular comedy *Lysistrata*, performed by 4th-Year Honours Acting - Style and Genre students.

Lysistrata is a bawdy romp which attacks war from the point of view of the women left at home. Aristophanes—twice tried for his political irreverence—pulls no punches as he satirizes diplomats, soldiers, police, male potency, machismo, and the whole ugly business of war.

First produced in Athens, Greece in 411 B.C., this play is one of the very few examples of Early Comedy. *Lysistrata* is a starting point for later developments such as Comedia Dell'Arte and Brecht's epic theatre. Fittingly, this is a workshop production utilizing minimal sets and a troupe of actors who play multiple roles.

Lysistrata is directed by actor and University of Winnipeg Theatre Professor Blake Taylor. Costumes are designed by Kisha Rasmussen, lighting design is by Tim Babcock, the soundscape is designed by Wes Grycki, and vocal coaching is by Gail Loadman.

Performances are Wednesday, November 17 through Saturday, November 20 at 8:00 p.m. nightly at the Gas Station Theatre, 445 River Avenue. Admission is free but reservations are recommended. Call our 24-hour Reservation and Information Line at 204.786.9152, or visit The University of Winnipeg Theatre Department website at: <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca>

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 and our programs practical. 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.

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Members of the media are invited to call Patty Hawkins at 204.786.9955 or to email p.hawkins@uwinnipeg.ca to arrange interviews / film clips.