

October 17, 2012

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For Immediate Release



**Profile Theatre presents
A Lesson from Aloes
by Athol Fugard**

November 7 - 11, 2012

(Portland, Oregon – October 17, 2012) Profile Theatre continues its 16th Season, dedicated to the works of South African playwright Athol Fugard, with a staged reading of ***A Lesson from Aloes***.

A society caught in the grips of a police state dictated by the laws of apartheid leaves no one unscathed. As liberal Afrikaner Piet waits for his black comrade Steve to arrive for a long-anticipated visit and farewell dinner, he cares for his collection of aloes and contemplates survival in the country that jailed his friend for political action. Piet's wife Gladys struggles to play hostess after a nervous breakdown and troubled recovery incurred by a police raid on their home. As the warm blanket of day disappears, a final meeting of friends becomes an evening charged with the revelation of thorny suspicions.

"The political and social situation in South Africa has changed," says director Bruce Hostettler. "Some of the old problems have faded and new problems have risen to take their place, but the ghosts of apartheid still haunt the daily lives of those who live there."

Bruce Hostettler directs **Julia Brandeberry**, **Jeff Gorham** and **Jasper Howard**.

Performance Schedule

Wednesday, November 7 – Saturday November 10, 7:30pm
Sunday, November 11, 2pm – followed by a Matinee Talk Back

Ticket Prices

\$18 - \$20 (Adults and Seniors)
\$16 - \$18 (30 & Under / Students)

Details and tickets at 503.242.0080 or www.profiletheatre.org

All performances are held at 3430 SE Belmont Street in Portland.

About Playwright Athol Fugard:

South African writer Athol Fugard is one of the most prolific and oft-produced playwrights in the world. He has worked in the theater as a playwright, director, and actor in South Africa, England, and the United States for over fifty years. As a playwright, his works have received critically acclaimed runs on Broadway, in London, and at The Fugard Theatre in Cape Town among many others. He has been seen on stage in South Africa, London, Broadway, off-Broadway, and in regional theater in the U.S. In June 2011 he received a Lifetime Achievement Tony Award.

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His plays include: *No-Good Friday*, *Nongogo*, *Blood Knot*, *Hello and Goodbye*, *People are Living There*, *Boesman and Lena*, *Statements After an Arrest*, *Under the Immorality Act*, *Sizwe Banzi is Dead*, *Dimetos*, *The Island*, *A Lesson From Aloes*, “*Master Harold*” ...and the Boys, *The Road to Mecca*, *A Place With the Pigs*, *My Children! My Africa!*, *Playland*, *Valley Song*, *The Captain’s Tiger*, *Sorrows and Rejoicings*, *Exits and Entrances*, *Victory*, *Coming Home*, *The Train Driver* and *The Blue Iris*.

Film credits include *The Road to Mecca*, *Gandhi*, *The Killing Fields*, *Meetings With Remarkable Men*, *Marigolds In August*, *Boesman and Lena*, and *The Guest*. His novel *Tsotsi*, was adapted into a film which won the Oscar for Best Foreign Film (2006). He has published his autobiographical memoir “Cousins.”

About Profile Theatre:

Profile Theatre was founded in 1997 with the mission of celebrating the playwright’s contribution to live theater. To that end, Profile produces a full season of plays by or about a single playwright each season. The opportunity to deeply engage with the body of work of a featured playwright through performances, readings, lectures and talkbacks is unique in Portland.

Profile has won a number of Drammy awards (Portland Area Theatre Critics Award), and Profile's productions consistently earn the Critic's Choice designations in the state's largest newspaper, *The Oregonian*. In October 2010, Profile was one of only ten companies in the United States to be honored with the prestigious National Theatre Company Grant from the American Theatre Wing, founder of the Tony Awards, recognizing Profile’s commitment to artistic excellence and our unique mission. Our mission is supported by a strong Education program that includes in-school workshops and Inside Out, Profile’s community and school tour.

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