

For Immed. Release: 09/22/09: Arts - Theatre | **Theatre at UBC** and **Yorick Theatre** present **The Master Builder by Henrik Ibsen**, in a new adaptation by **Errol Durbach**, Directed by **Gerald Vanderwoude** | Run: Oct. 28 – Nov. 7, 2009| Mon. - Sat at 7:30 p.m. Opening Night: Oct. 29 | TELUS Studio Theatre, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, UBC | Tickets: Reg. \$25/Senior \$20/Student \$15 || \$6 Preview: Oct. 28 | Mondays \$5 for UBC Alumni | Box Office: 604.822.2678 | More: [www.theatre.ubc.ca](http://www.theatre.ubc.ca)

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T H E U N I V E R S I T Y O F B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

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# The Master Builder

By Henrik Ibsen, A new adaptation by Errol Durbach,  
Directed by Gerald Vanderwoude a Co-production with Yorick Theatre

Halvard Solness, a brilliantly successful architect, has willed his unspoken desire into reality at every turn - but not without a price. Now burned out and at the end of his career he lives in fear that the next generation will rise up and cast him aside. Halvard's encounter with a fiery-hearted young woman from his past, Hilde Wangel becomes a dramatic enactment of the forces animating, inspiring or destroying the artist in the drawn-out struggle to reconcile the prerogatives of aesthetics and of life. For this new 90 minute adaptation Ibsen scholar Errol Durbach utilizes source material created by Ibsen including letters, manuscripts and poems. Find out more about this production and our full season of events <http://www.theatre.ubc.ca>

*"Ibsen's tragic and epic masterwork: the forces of art, religion, sex and nature all converge to raise man up and knock him down."* – **New York Times**

**Errol Durbach:** Errol Durbach (MA [Cantab.], PhD [London]) began teaching at UBC in 1967, he served as Head of Theatre from 1987 to 1994 and as Associate Dean of Arts between 1995 and 2000. His work on Henrik Ibsen has resulted in three volumes of critical analysis as well as an acclaimed adaptation of *Peer Gynt*, which earned the Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding Production in 2006/07. Durbach is a Professor Emeritus at UBC and author of *Ibsen The Romantic*, *A Doll's House: Ibsen's Myth of Transformation* plus many articles on modern, comparative, and Commonwealth drama.

Director **Gerald Vanderwoude** has directed over 40 productions in Vancouver, specializing in works by Samuel Beckett. Recent credits includes Bella Luna's acclaimed productions of *Futurisiti* and *The Return of Futuristi* (co-directed with Susan C. Bertoia) and *Beckett Cent*, a centenary celebration of the work Samuel Beckett

**Henrik Ibsen** (1828-1906), the Norwegian playwright and poet known as the "father of modern drama," is best known for *Hedda Gabler*, the epitome of a realistic play. Right behind is *A Doll's House*, *The Wild Duck* and *An Enemy of the People*. Where these plays are all realistic and rife with symbolism, *The Master Builder* practically achieves allegorical heights. A taught psychological drama *The Master Builder*, along with his other late works *Little Eyolf*, *When We Dead Awaken* and *John Gabriel Borkman* it is known as one of his "symbolic" plays.

*"Castles in the air - they are so easy to take refuge in. And so easy to build too."* – **Henrik Ibsen**

*The Master Builder* features best selling novelist and veteran actor **Chris Humphreys** as the Master Builder (Halvard Solness) who joins fellow professional artists **Trish Pattenden** (Aline), Theatre at UBC alumni **Nicholas Fontaine** (Ragnar Brovik), **Odessa Cadieux-Rey** (Kaja) and **Maurice Verkaar** (Dr. Herdal) along with BFA Acting candidate Fiona **Mongillo** (Hilde). This production welcomes back to the stage - after a 35 year hiatus - Theatre at UBC's talented Professor Emeritus **Norman Young** (Knut Brovik). The creative team includes UBC MFA Design Alumna **Alison Green** [costumes], MFA Design Candidate **Ana Luisa Espinoza** [Scenic Design], BFA Design Candidates **Craig Alfredson** [Lighting] and Christina Istrate [Sound] with BFA Production candidate **Maria Fumano** [Stage Manager].

## TELUS STUDIO THEATRE Oct. 28 – Nov. 7, 2009

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, UBC

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a place of mind