

"...when we think this is the end, it's also a new beginning."



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 12, 2014

Toronto, Ontario- Theatre Smash is proud to announce that they will be joining the **Canadian Stage Company** in a newly created two-year resident artist program at Berkeley Upstairs Theatre. For the 2015-2016 season, Theatre Smash, with Canadian Stage Company will produce the North American premiere of **Das Ding (The Thing)** by **Philipp Löhle**, translated by **Birgit Schreyer Duarte**, directed by **Ashlie Corcoran**, April 12-May 1, 2016 at The Berkeley Theatre, Upstairs. Previews April 12 and 13. Opening Night on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 8pm.

Philipp Löhle's highly ambitious social comedy **Das Ding** spans an interconnected world that binds the fates of the African Siwa, Chinese business people, Romanian pig-breeders and two young newlyweds, Katrin and Thomas. As a global crisis attaches itself to the smallest marital problems on a deeply personal level, all are forced to consider whether such a thing as coincidence can exist in a globalized world. Meanwhile, the eponymous 'thing' - a cotton fibre in its apparently endless iterations- looks on humanity, amazed.

In 2012, with support from the Goethe-Institut, Theatre Smash commissioned the first English translation of **Das Ding (The Thing)** by **Birgit Schreyer Duarte** and held the first workshop reading of the work. The translation recently had its world premiere at the New Diorama Theatre in London, UK. The production of **Das Ding (The Thing)** will feature 5 actors, playing 14 characters in 9 different locations. Casting announcement will follow.

"In a highly comical, breakneck fashion, Philipp Löhle illuminates the mechanisms of our globalized, technologized, rapidly changing world." -Deutsches Theatre, Berlin

April 12-May 1, 2016 at Berkeley Theatre- Upstairs. 26 Berkeley Street, Toronto.

Theatre Smash is run by Artistic Producer, **Ashlie Corcoran** and General Manager, **Stacey Norton**. **Theatre Smash** develops and produces Canadian premieres of international contemporary work. **Theatre Smash** engages audiences with international writing through the exploration of text, movement, space, and design. We also commission new translations of international scripts into English.

Philipp Löhle is an award-winning German playwright. In 2007, Löhle won a commission from the Stückemarkt of the Berliner Theatertreffen. His play *Call Me Gospodin* was nominated for the Mülheimer Dramatikerpreis in 2008. In 2012, he was nominated for the Mülheimer Dramatikerpreis and won the audience award for **Das Ding**.

For more information, visit www.canadianstage.com or, call 416 368-3110

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