

For Immediate Release

“Us and Them” crowns Headlines Theatre’s 30th anniversary



*Vancouver’s award-winning Headlines Theatre presents their latest interactive production, **Us and Them**—a fun, moving, and gutsy exploration of how and why we create divisions between ourselves and ‘others.’ Happening at The Cultch from Oct. 21st to Nov. 12th, this performance crowns their 30th anniversary. Photo credit: David Cooper Photography*

When:

October 21 - November 12

Where:

The Cultch at 1895 Venables St. Vancouver, BC

Tickets:

Regular: \$20 + venue service charge \$3.36

Student/Senior: \$15 + venue service charge \$3.36

**Available through The Cultch: 604-251-1363 or <http://tickets.thecultch.com>*

Matinees:

Oct. 26, 30 & Nov. 2

\$10 + venue service charge \$3.36

Vancouver, BC, September 15, 2011—Since 1981, Headlines Theatre has been known for their boundary-pushing, innovative productions that explore community issues such as homelessness, addictions, violence and other hot button topics. This year, the award-winning theatre company will be crowning their 30th year anniversary with their most ambitious project to date, ***Us and Them***.

Co-directed by **David Diamond** (Headlines Theatre) and **Kevin Finnan** (Motionhouse, UK), ***Us and Them*** explores how and why we create divisions between ourselves and ‘others.’

This play is the continuation of last year’s project, ***Us and Them (the inquiry)***, which Headlines Theatre co-hosted with 27 community partners.

“About 90% of Headlines’ work happens as a response to an invitation from a community or an organization. Although almost 150 organizations are now involved, the original impulse for this project was personal,” says Diamond.

“Since this is Headlines Theatre’s 30th anniversary, it’s important for us to do something risky – taking the blending of personal story-telling and physical, image-based theatre to a new level. At the same time, the ‘us and them’ theme hits a nerve because it’s personal for everybody. We are hoping to reach out to a very broad audience.”

Us and Them is grassroots, interactive, physical theatre (Forum Theatre) that allows audiences to intervene and change the way the story unfolds. A live webcast of the play will be streamed through Headlines Theatre’s website on **November 12th at 8:00 pm PST** for audiences in Vancouver and around the world.

“The play invites audiences to share their expertise, knowledge, and experiences so we can build bridges together because in reality, there is no ‘them’—there’s only ‘us’ here.”

About Headlines Theatre

www.headlinestheatre.com | @headlinestheatr

Headlines Theatre works with communities that want to tell their stories, and approaches community-based cultural work from a systems-based perspective—understanding that a community is a complexly integrated, living organism. Founded as a collective in 1981, Diamond became Artistic Director in 1984. Headlines Theatre's work is a worldwide leading example of theatre for social change; theatre for dialogue, creation, and conflict resolution as well as theatre for community healing and empowerment. Projects have taken place in collaboration with First Nations and multicultural communities through hundreds of theatre workshops, Power Plays and Forum Theatre events around the world on issues such as violence and suicide prevention, anti-racism workshops, youth empowerment, homelessness and mental health, ‘othering’, bullying and community development.

For a list of Headlines Theatre's past work:

<http://www.headlinestheatre.com/pastwork.htm>

For more information on the cast and crew of ***Us and Them***:

http://www.headlinestheatre.com/present_work/us_and_them_play/company_us_and_them.htm

Us and Them is made possible through the generous support of the following sponsors:



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“Us and Them (the inquiry) has the power for both individual and societal transformation like no other theatre event I have ever witnessed. Be prepared to leave the venue viewing your relationships and interactions with others in a new light. There is no doubt in my mind that I will be talking and thinking about this event for a long time to come.”

-Anna Vogt, audience member 2010