

Culture Days with Theatre Aurora



By Corrie Clark
Theatre Aurora

Get ready for an afternoon of *Borderless Love* with Theatre Aurora as we explore the locations and settings of the five plays thematically packaged in our exciting 2016-2017 season.

Travel the globe and transcend time through love stories from near and far. Whether a work takes place in Canada, the United States, Australia, Germany or 17th century Italy, this Culture Days experience provides a glimpse into how each of those places may be interpreted in a theatrical way.

Evoking the theme of *I Love Culture*, we will present *tableaux* that remind the viewer of the location and hints at a love story that may have taken place there. The tableaux use the two major design elements in theatre: set and costume, but even more, they evoke the idea that design is closely allied with *semiology* – the science of reading signs.

From the director's first reading of the script, to the actor's interpretation, semiology takes into consideration all signs to make a whole: costumes, lighting, props, theatre space, music, posters, etc., all working together to create an entire experience which creates dramatic action, causing tension in a visual form, expression of mood and a signifier in performance meaning.

Through the use of simple designs and materials, the tableaux explore how simple, fun elements and materials can be used to suggest mood and be thought provoking and entertaining at the same time.

When all the elements are aligned and combined in a full stage production, the audience interprets its impact. The illusion and experience, the mood and the overall journey are individual to each audience. The location, design, props, costumes, lighting and performance may lay the *signs* to the overall experience but it is the audience that takes the trip.

Join us on Saturday, October 1, from 1 - 4 p.m., and travel on location with Theatre Aurora to the Aurora Cultural Centre, Brevik Hall.

We look forward to seeing you at our entertaining family-friendly and informative Culture Days event. For further information about Theatre Aurora and our upcoming season, visit theatreaurora.com.