

ARTISTIC PRODUCER – Heather Inglis Ext. 102 ap@workshopwest.org

OPERATIONS MANAGER – Tasheena Syhatheb Ext. 101 operations@workshopwest.org

WEB – www.workshopwest.org

MEDIA RELEASE

The Shoe Project: A Special Event @ Workshop West's Gateway Theatre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(EDMONTON) **Workshop West** presents **The Shoe Project** a not-to-be-missed special event June 18th and 19th (only) @ **The Gateway Theatre** (8529 Gateway Blvd).

Whether selected by choice or imposed by circumstance, the shoes we wear can make or break a journey, shape our experiences, and open doors to the future. Women from Afghanistan, Chile, China, India, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Philippines, Spain, Sudan, Syria Togo, Vietnam, and Ukraine will share their stories of arrival and adaptation to Canada through stories about a pair of shoes they have worn. The women have participated in 10-week creative writing course with playwright Conni Massing in which they wrote a 2-3 minute personal story which chronicles their journeys to a life in Canada. After receiving voice and performance coaching the women will share their stories with Edmonton audiences later this month.

<u>The Shoe Project</u> is part of a national initiative created by novelist Katherine Govier and incubated at the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto. These powerful stories are bridges carrying us all to a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Canadian.

Artistic Producer Heather Inglis first went to see an installment of *The Shoe project* at the High-Performance Rodeo in Calgary. "I was moved, inspired, and humbled. As I sat in the audience that sunny afternoon, I knew we needed to host the project in Edmonton. I know you'll be talking about The Shoe Project long after you've left the theatre."

- Heather Inglis.

The Shoe Project runs for **4 performances on June 18**th **and 19**th **at 1:30pm and 7:30pm.** Join us this year for performances of stories from both the 2021 and 2022 participants.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact: Liam Salmon Community Outreach & Audience Relations community@workshopwest.org

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