

Wensel excited about her latest challenge

By Joe Couture, Regina Leader-Post

March 13, 2014

The Globe Theatre's next main stage show is a tale of love - and the production's homegrown director has a love story of her own with the Globe Theatre.

Salt-Water Moon is the first main stage show directed by Regina's own Judy Wensel. But her name is likely among the most familiar to regular patrons of the Globe, as she has contributed her multi-faceted talents in many ways to previous productions at the theatre.

Wensel has acted in many main stage productions and put on some Shumiatcher Sandbox Series performances. She has also been an assistant director for a couple of main stage shows and involved in the Globe's Fusion projects in different capacities over the years.

"It feels like a big challenge and a big job for sure, but I prepped so immensely, I never stopped thinking about it the last year and was so excited to finally dive in. I'm having such a great time," Wensel said. "I really love performing, but I certainly have this real affinity for this side of the process, for sure."

As for the play that she is directing, Salt-Water Moon takes place in rural Newfoundland in 1926 and follows the interactions of two star-crossed young lovers. The play is one of five written by Canadian playwright David French about the same Newfoundland family at different points in history, Wensel said.

"I think it will appeal to really everyone," she said. "I think that love stories really resonate with all of us, regardless of whether we've ever been in love or whether we've had our heart broken or whether we're in a positive, healthy place with that emotion and so it really plays on a lot of levels, Salt-Water Moon.

"It's not just a love story, too. It explores a lot of different themes. It explores the themes of home, social status, the effects of war, rural life," she added, saying that the historical aspects about Newfoundland - and the similarities evidenced between attitudes of people of that province and those from Saskatchewan - are interesting elements, as well.

The show premiered in the early 1980s and was part of a Globe Theatre season in the early 1990s.

The two-person cast for this year's production is Lauren Holfeuer, who has been in a couple of recent Globe shows, and Joshua Ramsden, who is making his debut performance at the Globe.

Both are from Saskatoon and they knew each other before connecting for this show, which brought a good dynamic into the production, Wensel said.