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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

*Joking Around with Mixed Company Theatre  
Upcoming Forum Theatre Joker Master Class*

**Toronto, June 15, 2009** - Actors, playwrights, counselors and educators come together next week as **Mixed Company Theatre** hosts its annual *Forum Theatre Joker Master Class* in Toronto, June 22 - 25. Facilitator and Artistic Director, Simon Malbogot, guides the group through the fine art of *joking* - asking questions, making connections, and instructing participants in engaging groups to think critically and problem-solve.

The workshop challenges participants to awaken the internal and external manipulators of human behaviour, and master the nuances of guiding a group through hard-to-talk about issues. Forum Theatre scenes are quickly created and participants practice various styles of facilitation. By studying themselves and others with input from the group, they learn conflict resolution, audience/group management, including techniques to further animate opinions and ideas of an audience.

Acting and directing for more than 35 years, Malbogot has studied with *Theatre of the Oppressed* icons Augusto Boal, Jerzy Grotowski, and Eugenio Barba. Leading workshops internationally and directing productions across Canada, Malbogot brings **Mixed Company's** work to Finland, Ukraine, Turkey, Israel, India and Brazil.

The workshop is held at **Mixed Company**, 157 Carlton Street in Toronto. For further information or to register for a spot, contact [www.mixedcompanytheatre.com](http://www.mixedcompanytheatre.com) or 416 515 8080.

*Mixed Company Theatre produces innovative, socially relevant drama as a tool to educate, engage and empower for positive change.*

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