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For Immediate Release

Rebecca Applebaum Jumps Into New Joker Internship Initiative at Mixed Company

Toronto, **February1**, **2010** - As we cross the threshold of our next 25 years, Mixed Company Theatre is pleased to announce a new Joker Internship initiative with emerging playwright and actor Rebecca Applebaum the first to step into this role.

Applebaum will assist Mixed Company's Associate Artists in developing the Bouncing Back Project, in which our resident artists collaborate with youth who have experienced homelessness. Applebaum, who participated in the initial focus groups held at shelters and community centres around the city, says: "I've been so impressed by the enthusiasm and wisdom of the youth I've met so far. I can't wait for us to get on our feet and work together."

Applebaum earned her M.A. in English from the University of Toronto, specializing in poetry and the drama of slavery. Currently a member of fu-GEN Asian-Canadian Theatre Company's Kitchen Playwriting unit, she has a particular interest in working within marginalized communities. Applebaum will gain valuable experience in that arena doing what Mixed Company does best - empowering individuals to affect relevant social change in their communities through original, interactive, and issue-based theatre.

The Bouncing Back Project is currently supported by the City of Toronto and the Daily Bread Food Bank. Those interested in supporting Mixed Company Theatre's homeless initiatives should contact Daniel@mixedcompanytheatre.com.

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

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