

For Immediate Release  
December 3, 2009



*Written By Leslie Mildiner, Songs by Todd Butler*

### ***Buy Now Pray Later***

Vancouver, BC – Grey skies, bills piling up from Christmas – why not give yourself a laugh out loud musical treat to drive those January blues away with **DEBT – the Musical!** The Firehall Arts Centre presents the World Premiere of **DEBT- the Musical!** a 90 minute musical – revue that explores the chaos, confusion and comedy of dealing with money and debt in the modern world. The show has **preview performances from January 8 – 12, and opens Wednesday, January 13 - 30, 2010.**

**“Debt – The Musical!** is a comedic reality check. The musical is not only filled with fun but is also fuelled with satirical looks at live experiences” stated Donna Spencer, Director and Artistic Producer. “How does one pay the bills when you are down-sized? How do you “keep up with the Jones’s” when your credit card is maxed out? Who invented credit anyway? I am proud that the Firehall is able to bring this BC grown musical to the stage and think it is a great way to start 2010!”

The idea of “Debt” was born out of playwright Leslie Mildiner’s (“humbling”?) experience of having to claim personal bankruptcy. His traumatic experiences in bankruptcy court (now a scene in his show!) prompted him to explore the question: *WHY* do people have such an *emotional* relationship to money – often quite out of proportion to the reality of what they have or don’t have? Relationships...the ‘power’s-that-be’? Whatever it is – the end results is still the same – **VERY** few of us truly comprehend what money means and how we can have control over it – can *you* say....**Bernie Madoff?**

The creative team of Leslie Mildiner and Todd Butler with direction by Donna Spencer and choreography by Tara Cheyenne Friedenberg bring **DEBT – the Musical!** to life along with an outstanding cast that includes Ellen Kennedy, Tom Pickett, Tracey Power, Andy Toth and Simon Webb. Stage management is by Angela Beaulieu with musicians Todd Butler, Vince Ditrich and Lee Oliphant. Perhaps, more perfect for these times than we could ever imagine – **DEBT – the Musical!** dares to go where no musical has gone before and promises to keep you laughing all the way to the bank!

**Ticket Prices \$16 - \$28 Call Firehall Box Office 604 689-0926 or [www.firehallartscentre.ca](http://www.firehallartscentre.ca).**

-30-

Media Contact: Bridge Communications  
Bonnie Allan 604-739-3180, cell 604-218-9525 [bonnie@bridgecommunications.ca](mailto:bonnie@bridgecommunications.ca)