

For Immediate Release
March 11, 2008



A New Force at Concrete Theatre

The Board and Staff of Concrete Theatre are pleased to welcome Debbie Giesbrecht as their new General Manager, effective March 25, 2008. She brings a wealth of experience to her new position.

Caroline Howarth and Mieko Ouchi, Co-Artistic Directors at Concrete Theatre: "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Debbie as our new partner at Concrete Theatre as we launch the next stage of our development. With our growing programming and touring, both here in the province and beyond, we are fortunate to have an administrator with such respected, rich and diverse experience joining the Concrete family."

Debbie Giesbrecht is an arts management professional who began her artistic career with her first public performance at the age of four. After many years dancing, playing, singing and acting, she found her true calling was behind the scenes. Debbie has held positions with Alberta Ballet, Phoenix Theatre, the Calgary International Organ Festival & Competition, the McGill Summer Organ Academy, Honens International Piano Competition, Cantilon Choirs, Edmonton Tourism's Festival City in a Box Road Show, and Fringe Theatre Adventures. She was programming chair of the Windspiration Edmonton Organ Festival in 2007, and continues her involvement in the organ community as volunteer chair of the Royal Canadian College of Organists' National Competition, and with Edmonton's Sundays at 3 Organ Recital Series.

"I was fortunate to begin my experience with theatre at a young age, and am very excited to be joining a company that inspires young audiences. I'm thrilled to be collaborating with Caroline and Mieko on the care and feeding of Concrete Theatre's future."

Debbie will be joining Concrete Theatre as they start their six week tour of Jane Heather's play *Are We There Yet?*, a play exploring teenage relationships, sexuality and boundaries appropriate for Grade 9 students and covering the Alberta Health curriculum. She will also help with the 2008 *Sprouts New Play Festival For Kids*, playing at the Stanley A. Milner Public Library Theatre on June 14 and 15, 2008.

Concrete Theatre, founded in 1989, is an award-winning professional theatre company committed to creating, developing and producing artistically excellent and culturally diverse Theatre for Young Audiences that explores issues relevant to the lives of young people and their families.

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For more information, please contact Concrete Theatre at 780.439.3905 or ctheatre@telus.net