REMY BUMPPO PRESENTS THE CHICAGO PREMIERE OF TOM STOPPARD’S AWARD-WINNING COMEDY HEROES

CHICAGO – Remy Bumppo Theatre Company presents the Chicago premiere of Heroes, winner of the 2006 Olivier Award for Best New Comedy, written by Gerard Sibleyras and translated by Tom Stoppard. Heroes runs Oct. 14 through Nov. 29 in the Downstairs Mainstage of the Greenhouse Theater at 2257 N. Lincoln Avenue. Preview performances begin Thursday, Oct. 14 with opening night Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7:00 p.m. The Heroes cast features guest artist Mike Nussbaum making his Remy Bumppo debut, Artistic Associate David Darlow and guest artist Roderick Peeples. Heroes is directed by Remy Bumppo Artistic Director James Bohnen, with set design by Tim Morrison, costume design by Samantha C. Jones, lighting design by Rich Norwood, sound design by Jason Knox and properties design by Nick Heggestad.

"I say we go...up that hill, where the poplars are. There where the wind blows...it's not a bad halfway house between Indochina and a picnic." - Heroes

It's 1959 and Philippe, Gustave and Henri, three veterans from WWI keep each other company on the back terrace of a retired soldiers' home. Through a series of witty scenes, the men goad one another into new adventures. The men's cantankerous camaraderie becomes strained as they plot an expedition to Indochina, or at least as far as the poplar trees on the distant hill. Heroes is a funny and bittersweet play about memory and "not going gently into that good night."

The 2009-2010 Season is made possible by Prince Charitable Trusts, The Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, The Illinois Arts Council and by a City Arts Program 3 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

Listing Information
Heroes
By Gerard Sibleyras and translated by Tom Stoppard
Directed by James Bohnen
Cast features: Mike Nussbaum, David Darlow and Roderick Peeples
Oct. 14 - Nov. 29, 2009
Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. on Oct. 28 and Nov. 11 (Veteran's Day).
Opening Night is Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7:00 p.m.

(more)
Single tickets are on sale now.

**Previews:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday $25 - $35; Saturday and Sunday $30 - $40

**Regular run:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday $35 - $45; Saturday and Sunday $40 - $50

**Opening Night:** $50

Student and group discounts are available.

**Groups** (6 or more): 773-244-8119

**Special Events:**

**Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7:00 p.m.** - Heroes Opening Night. Tickets are $50 and include post-show artist reception in the lobby.

**Saturday, Oct. 24 at 1:30 p.m.** - Between the Lines program with Newberry Library expert on 20th century literature **Todd Bauer**, who will share insights into the themes of the play with a 30 minute pre-show conversation. Tickets are $50 and include a ticket for the 2:30 p.m. performance of *Heroes* and a post-show discussion.

**Sunday, Nov. 22 at 5:30 p.m.** - poetry reading co-sponsored by the Vet Art Project titled, *Warrior Poetry*. Veterans and actors will perform poetic works. This event will take place at the Greenhouse Theater.

**Weekly post-show discussions** with cast members are held after Sunday matinee performances (excluding Oct. 18 preview and closing performance Nov. 29).

Playwright **Gerard Sibleyras** was born in 1961 in Paris. His most notable work is the 2003 *Le Vent des Peupliers*, which has been translated and produced in countries worldwide including the United Kingdom, Germany, Uruguay and now the United States. The play premiered in Paris at the Théâtre Montparnasse, and received four Molières nominations including Meilleur Auteur (Best Author). Tom Stoppard translated the play into English (*Heroes*) and it received its London debut at the Wyndham Theater under the direction of Thea Sharrock. The production won the 2006 Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Comedy. His next play *L'Inscription* was produced in 2004 in Paris and later in Poland. In 2003 *Un Petit Jeu Sans Conséquence* was awarded five Molières Awards. Gérald Sibleyras adapted William Nicholson's *The Retreat From Moscow* which was produced in Paris in January 2007. He is currently adapting his play *La Danse de L'Albatros* for the screen.

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Translator Tom Stoppard is a British playwright born in Zlin, Czechoslovakia in 1937. His plays include Rock 'N Roll, Arcadia (Remy Bumppo 2004), Night and Day (Remy Bumppo, 1996), Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, The Coast of Utopia and the Tony Award-winning Best Play, The Real Thing (Remy Bumppo 2006). Stoppard co-wrote the screenplays for Brazil, which was nominated for an Academy Award in 1985 and Shakespeare in Love, which won the Academy Award for Best Screenplay in 1999.

Mike Nussbaum is an actor and director. He received a Jeff Award in 1997 for his work in David Hare's Racing Demon. He originated roles in many of David Mamet's plays including Richard in A Life in the Theatre, John in The Shawl and Aaronow in Glengarry Glen Ross. He also originated the roles of Marcus in Claudia Allen's Winter and Shlomo in Charles L. Mee's Time to Burn. Chicago Shakespeare Theater stage credits include Macbeth, Passion, Hamlet, Henry IV Parts 1 and 2, The Merchant of Venice, Romeo and Juliet, Richard II, and Short Shakespeare! A Midsummer Night's Dream. Northlight Theatre credits include Visiting Mr. Green, Better Late, Tuesdays with Morrie and director for The Belmont Avenue Social Club. Film credits include Field of Dreams and Men in Black.

David Darlow is an Artistic Associate at Remy Bumppo Theatre, where he has been seen in The Voysey Inheritance, The Best Man, Power, Humble Boy, Hidden Laughter, No Man's Land, Hapgood, Road to Mecca, Man and Superman, Money, and Major Barbara (After Dark Award). He directed Mrs. Warren's Profession for Remy Bumppo and As You Like it at the Utah Shakespearean Festival. Other Chicago stage credits include A Life in the Theatre, As You Like it, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Passion and The Misanthrope at Goodman Theatre; Othello, Timon of Athens and As You Like it at Chicago Shakespeare Theater; The Real Thing and Betrayal at Northlight Theatre; Nathan the Wise at Chicago Festival of the Arts; and Stephen Sondheim's Passion with Patty Lupone and Audra McDonald at Ravinia Festival. He won a Joseph Jefferson Award for his performance in Endgame at American Theater Company (with Mike Nussbaum). Film credits include Were the World Mine, The Weatherman, Road to Perdition, The Fugitive, Miller's Crossing, and Ride with the Devil.

Roderick Peeples appeared last season in Remy Bumppo's production of The Voysey Inheritance. Chicago work includes Oedipus Complex at Goodman Theatre; Morning Star at Steppenwolf Theatre Company; Hamlet, Pacific Overtures, Two Gentlemen of Verona, and Richard III at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre; Berlin 45 at Victory Gardens Theater; The God of Hell at Next Theatre; Fräulein Else and Gross Indecency at Court Theatre. He won a Jeff Award for Dealer's Choice at Roadworks Theatre and was a company member at Famous Door Theater where he appeared in Lonesome West, The Homecoming and Ghetto. Regional credits include Henry V and As You Like It (directed by David Darlow) at Utah Shakespearean Festival; Death of a Salesman, The Price and Moon for the Misbegotten at Madison Repertory Theatre; and King Lear, Merchant of Venice and Henry VIII at Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington, IL. Film work includes Robert Altman's The Company, Road to Perdition and The Hudsucker Proxy.
James Bohnen (Director) is the artistic director and co-founder of Remy Bumppo Theatre Company where he has directed over two dozen productions. In 2008 he co-adapted and directed Henry IV: The Making of a King for American Players Theatre in Spring Green and adapted and directed Henry V this summer. James will direct The Island for Remy Bumppo this winter. Bohnen is a Meier Achievement Award Recipient, which recognizes gifted artists in mid-career.

Remy Bumppo Theatre Company's 2009/10 Season features three plays exploring the theme of Friendships Tested. The plays include the Chicago premiere of Heroes by Gerard Sibleyras and adapted by Tom Stoppard, The Island by Athol Fugard, and Les Liaisons Dangereuses by Choderlos De Laclos and adapted by Christopher Hampton. Subscriptions range from $56 for previews to $145 for opening nights. Subscriptions may be ordered online at www.remybumppo.org or by calling 773-244-8119.

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REMY BUMPPO THEATRE COMPANY delights and engages audiences with the emotional and ethical complexities of society through the provocative power of great theatrical language.