

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 8, 2008

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Please include in JULY and AUGUST calendar listings and announcements

**Media contact:** Tina Teeninga

604-722-9177

tina@teeninga.ca

“Sometimes my head runs away from me, over the ocean to Kosovo.”  
**Otherwise Productions’ *The Saddest Girl in the World* exposes the dark side of Canadian immigration.**

**IN SHORT:** Separated from everyone she knows. Haunted by a bloody past. Natya believes Canada is the beginning of a new life. Canada harbours dirty secrets of its own, however, and Natya must face personal demons in a fight to survive. Natya’s one possible ally is Ava: an innocent woman she has never met, whose dreams of jewels glimmer with hope.

**Runs: August 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, Carousel Theatre’s Studio Space. For tickets (\$10): 604-269-0763 or [tickets@saddestgirl.org](mailto:tickets@saddestgirl.org).**

Vancouver, BC - August 26<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>

Separated from everyone she knows. Haunted by a bloody past. Natya believes Canada is the beginning of a new life. Canada harbours dirty secrets of its own, however, and Natya must face personal demons in a fight to survive. Natya’s one possible ally is Ava: an innocent woman she has never met, whose dreams of jewels glimmer with hope.

Canada takes pride in its multi-cultural society and in attracting the well-educated from around the globe. Recent news articles by CBC and The Globe and Mail have exposed that multitudes of highly educated, experienced immigrants struggle to feed their families by laboring at low-skilled jobs. Contemporary immigrants are among the victims of Canada’s wage gap in which the rich get richer. For immigrants from conflicted countries, the physical presence of former enemies makes the struggle to fulfill “the Canadian dream” all the more difficult.

Otherwise Productions hopes to enter into the discussion of how Canada’s government and caring individuals might aid our newest citizens.

The play is written and performed by **Tina Teeninga** (*Normal, Broken, River Bottom Baby*), Pacific Theatre’s former playwriting apprentice, whose writing and acting has “vitality and theatrical instincts, poetic sensibility and imagination.” (Ron Reed, Artistic Director, Pacific Theatre.) The touching piece is co-directed by **Dirk VanStralen** (*The Woodsman, Cariboo Magi*) and **Kathy Parsons** (*A Bright Particular Star*), who also dramaturged the play.

Otherwise Productions is excited to offer free tickets to new immigrants and refugees through a variety of local organizations! E-mail [tickets@saddestgirl.com](mailto:tickets@saddestgirl.com) for details.

**Details:** **The Saddest Girl in the World**, by Tina Teeninga  
**When:** **August 26-30<sup>th</sup>**, Tuesday – Saturday at 8 pm. Sat at 2 pm.  
**Where:** **Carousel Theatre’s Studio Space**, 1411 Cartwright Street  
**Tickets:** \$10 (GST incl). To reserve call **604-269-0763**, or visit **saddestgirl.com**.