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Dark humour, raw honesty, and razor-sharp language create the hard knocks tale of *The Battery*, a new play by Newfoundland playwright Megan Coles.

Coles' writing is gritty, adamant, and hysterically funny, while often shocking and heart breaking.

<u>RCA Theatre Company</u> (RCAT) and Poverty Cove Theatre Company (PCTC) have partnered to bring Megan Coles' *The Battery* to St. John's, **April 13-16, 2011** at 8:00 pm nightly upstairs at The Republic (379 Duckworth Street).

The Battery is a play about Karen (Bridget Wareham) and Lizzie (Natalia Hennelly), two best friends, bartending in St. John's, forced to question the strength and importance of their friendship when one of them ends up in an abusive relationship. We see the characters transition between the steep edges of Signal Hill to The Backroom –a local dive-bar frequented by the neighbourhood regulars: Marilyn (Deidre Gillard-Rowlings) the fifty year old stripper, Bruce (Steve Lush) the KFC-eating divorcee, Cuppy (Greg King) who always needs to use the phone, Bobby (Darryl Hopkins) the victim become villain, and Phillips (Steve Lush) the bully who's going to cut Bobby's fingers off. *The Battery* examines the often difficult and challenging loyalties that surround and inform community and abusive relationships.

The Battery is cathartic and redemptive while maintaining unflinching honesty and humour.

Directed by Emma Tibaldo of Playwright's Workshop Montreal, *The Battery* is being presented in an existing bar upstairs at The Republic (379 Duckworth Street). **PCTC's mandate is to introduce seasoned and non-seasoned theatre goers alike to an unconventional venue while changing perceptions of what theatre is and where it happens.** RCAT's mandate is to provide opportunities through mentoring and production for the artistic growth of all Newfoundland and Labrador theatre artists; to offer a platform to facilitate emerging theatre artists' work; and to produce theatre that cultivates, enriches and promotes the culture of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Battery runs from April 13-16, 2011 upstairs at The Republic (379 Duckworth). Tickets are \$15 available at the LSPU Hall Box Office (3 Victoria Street). Call the Hall at 753-4531, or book online at www.rca.nf.ca. Limited seating available.

There is a special **pay-what-you-can matinee Saturday, April 16 at 2:00 pm** with proceeds donated to the <u>Naomi Centre</u>. There is also a **"Talk Back" on Thursday, April 14** after the 8:00 pm performance, with Director Emma Tibaldo, and Writer Megan Coles – with fellow PCTC Co-Founder Shannon Hawes.

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