

May 1, 2009-04-30

For Immediate Release

*Angelika's Promise* Captures Spirit of 1920s Artist

The five scene monologue play, *Angelika's Promise*, portrays the final five weeks of a 22 year old German artist before her death from tuberculosis. Accompanying the AGO exhibition *Angelika Hoerle: Comet of the Cologne Arts Scene*, the play stands on its own as a contemporary exploration of women's issues.

Toronto - Angelika Hoerle lived hard and died young. In spite of her youth, she left a promising artistic legacy. The play written by her grand-niece Angelika Littlefield, captures Angelika, the person. "The AGO exhibition shows my great-aunt's works from political to feminist and from expressionist to proto-surrealist," says Angelika Littlefield. "Thanks to the talents of Ryerson Theatre students, I've been able to go beyond what Angelika left on the walls—just as I know my great aunt would have liked. The students and I crafted performances that add the insights of 21<sup>st</sup> century women to an extraordinary 20<sup>th</sup> century spirit."

Recent Ryerson graduate Sochi Fried, who plays Angelika June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m, on a pay-what-you-can performance night, touches the five stages of grief. Assistant Director, Ryerson student Meghan Gennings says, "Sochi plays every emotional note in the register. The ebb and flow leaves you touched, angry and hopeful but above all reflecting."

Tickets for the performance of Taryn Jorgensen as Angelika on June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. are available through the AGO website. Assistant exhibition curator Stephanie Gibson finds the insights of the two Angelikas an interesting counterpoint to the exhibition and to one another. "Taryn brings the precision to the part that I see in Angelika's works. She etches her performance with sharp lines. Sochi is all about the effusiveness of Angelika the revolutionary."

Ennio Paolo composed the music *Comets and Shadows* for the play and Mary Cook is the graphic designer. Performances in Jackmann Hall, AGO, conclude with an interactive dialogue between the audience, performers and playwright.