

For Immediate Release . . .

March 10, 2011

Touchstone Theatre and PTC (Playwrights Theatre Centre) are proud to announce their 2012 Flying Start playwright – Peter Boychuk. Peter, and his play *Shelter from the Storm*, was selected from a pool of 26 applicants.

Flying Start is a partnership of Touchstone and PTC that gives a stage to new playwrights who have yet to be professionally produced. The selected play is developed over a period of two years culminating in a small scale, fully professional showcase production. The playwright receives a \$6,000 stipend to support their writing work over the course of the process.

PLAYWRIGHT'S BIOGRAPHY

Peter Boychuk is currently completing an M.F.A. in Playwriting at the University of Victoria under the tutelage of Governor General's Award-winning playwright Joan MacLeod. His one-act plays include *Afterglow*, which is published in the anthology *Two Hands Clapping* and has been produced in schools and universities across the country; *Fortunate Son*, which has won the Stanley Mills Purchase Prize, Honourable Mention in the Canadian National Playwriting Competition, and Best of the Fest at ACToberfest 2007; and *Chainmail Bikini*, which premiered at the Calgary Fringe Festival. He works across BC as a freelance director and dramaturg.

Shelter from the Storm is his first full-length play.

ABOUT THE PLAY – SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Rick was one of thousands of young men who sought refuge in Canada to escape the Vietnam draft. But when he takes in a traumatized young American soldier, Rick begins to understand how much our country has changed in forty years. Set in Tofino, BC, *Shelter from the Storm* is a play about love and loss that questions our notions of courage and cowardice.

The production of *Shelter from the Storm* will close Touchstone's 2011/12 Season.

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