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**James Thiérrée Returns to Chicago Shakespeare Theater
with the American Premiere of His Visually-stunning
FAREWELL UMBRELLA
*(AU REVOIR PARAPLUIE)***

November 21 through December 1, 2007

Chicago—August 23, 2007—Chicago Shakespeare Theater’s international programming initiative, **The World’s Stage Series**, begins 2007/08 with *Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie)*, marking the triumphant return of **James Thiérrée** to the CST stage. Thiérrée and his company, known for stunning physical spectacles, perform at Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier for 9 performances only, November 21 through December 1, 2007.

Infused with childlike imagination, **James Thiérrée**’s exceptional theater returns to Chicago Shakespeare for the American premiere of his new work *Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie)*—a production that has already received standing ovations and critical acclaim in France. “Although Thiérrée is weary of being compared to Charlie Chaplin, his grandfather, you can’t help noticing how closely he resembles the little tramp” (*Bloomberg*). Evoking the breathtaking artistry of *Bright Abyss*, Thiérrée’s 2005 production that played to sold-out CST houses, *Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie)* dazzles audiences with what *L’Express* declares “has made the world magical again!” According to *Les Echos*, “Thiérrée has reinvented what Lewis Carroll found through the looking glass.” *Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie)* promises to be another visually phenomenal event in the Courtyard Theater, which will be reconfigured into a proscenium stage.

Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie) is performed by some of the world’s finest acrobats, dancers and musicians: **Kaori Ito, Magnus Jakobsson, Satchie Noro, Maria Sendow, and James Thiérrée.**

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Chicago Shakespeare Theater is proud to be among Chicago's foremost arts institutions that place a priority on forging global connections by cultivating international cultural events for Chicago audiences. Through the World's Stage Series, CST has brought to its stage 18 international productions, and has shared its uniquely American brand of Shakespeare performance with the world. For Chicago audiences, the World's Stage Series is a passport to experiencing exceptional stage work.

Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie) begins its limited engagement on November 21, with performances scheduled through December 1, 2007 in Chicago Shakespeare's Courtyard Theater. The performance schedule is: November 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 and December 1 at 7:30 p.m.; and November 25 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$46 Tuesday through Thursday and \$56 Friday through Sunday. For further information and to purchase tickets, call the Chicago Shakespeare Theater Box Office at 312.595.5600 or visit the Theater's website at www.chicagoshakes.com.

Chicago Shakespeare Theater's 2007/08 World's Stage Series continues with the Chicago premiere of Canada's **Shaw Festival** and its production of **Saint Joan** by Bernard Shaw, on stage January 8 through 20, 2008, and **Fragments** from the French company **Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord**, based on texts by preeminent playwright Samuel Beckett, directed by the world-renowned Peter Brook, and performed in English in January 2008.

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Farewell Umbrella (Au Revoir Parapluie) is supported, in part, by a grant from Étant donnés, the French-American Fund for the Performing Arts, a program of FACE. Chicago Shakespeare Theater's international programming is supported, in part, by The Davee Foundation, with additional grant support from the Julius Frankel Foundation and The Rhoades Foundation.

American Airlines is the official airline of Chicago Shakespeare Theater.
ComEd is the official lighting sponsor of Chicago Shakespeare Theater.
Artistic productions in the Courtyard Theater are supported, in part, through a generous grant from the McCormick Tribune Foundation.