

Rose Theatre stages Blood Brothers

Brampton Guardian

BRAMPTON— It's a tale of loss, love, brotherhood and betrayal— fraternal twins, separated at birth. Two boys, raised by two very different families, who form an unexpected friendship, unaware of their relation.

This is the story behind the award-winning musical *Blood Brothers*, which is presented by the Rose Theatre Feb. 12 to 16.

Directed by the Rose Theatre's Danny Harvey, the production is timeless, emotionally-charged piece that explores some dark themes.

"I'd say it's like a modern Greek tragedy," said Harvey. "But we are trying to approach it from a very honest point of view. We want to tap into the rawness of the emotions."

The music, added Harvey, helps to explore a lot of the themes presented in the story.

He's also taking a fresh approach and trying to present the story's "villains" as more humanized characters with their own "motivations and fears."

Performing in the play are some familiar faces— as well as some newcomers to the Rose Theatre stage.

Sweeney MacArthur will take on the role of the narrator, which Harvey said is "a fantastic role" that "bridges the storytelling and keeps the action going."

Also joining the cast is Kristin Galer (Mrs. Johnstone), Will Lamond (Eddie) and Colin Lepage (Mickey).

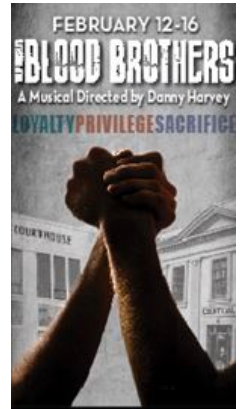
"Kristin is joining us for the first time and we're very excited," said Harvey. "She's an incredible talent."

It's also important to note, he said, that these adult actors portray their characters as children, teens and adults, which showcases their range of talents.

Though this production has some serious and dark undertones, Harvey said he feels it's a show Rose Theatre patrons will enjoy.

"I think our theatre audience is sophisticated and they want this type of show," he said. "It's a good evening of entertainment, and I'm hoping what the audience will get out of it is a conversation."

For tickets, showtimes and information, visit www.rosetheatre.ca (<http://www.rosetheatre.ca>) or call the box office at 905-874-2800.



The Rose Theatre presents Blood Brothers, Feb. 12 to 16.