

Joe-Norman Shaw appointed as St. Mary's University College new Drama Professor

Calgary, AB (July 26, 2011) - St. Mary's University College is thrilled to announce that Joe-Norman Shaw will serve as its Drama Professor effective September 1st, 2011.

Joe brings to this position a rare combination of experience in theatre, film/television, instructing and directing. Since 1981, Joe has worked as an actor in theatres across Canada and internationally. Some of his credits include: Joe Pitt in *Angels in America* (Phoenix Theatre, Edmonton); the lead role of Tommy Paul in *One Tiger To A Hill* (Stratford Festival); and Robert in the critically acclaimed Crow's Theatre production of *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love* (Toronto, N.A.C, Montreal, Mexico City). Some of his numerous film/TV credits include: *Supernatural*, *Burn*, *Everest*, and *North of Sixty*. In addition to his experience in acting, Joe is also Co-Founder / Co-Director of Company of Rogues Actors Studio where he has directed *Some Girls*, *Den of Thieves*, and *Italian American Reconciliation*, to name just a few.

Joe received his Honours BA in Acting / Directing from the University of Guelph and holds a MFA in Directing from the University of Calgary. He has worked as an acting instructor for The Alberta Centre of Acting Studies, Mount Royal University, and the University of Calgary. Joe's twenty-plus years of teaching experience, and extensive skills in all areas of the industry, demonstrate his astounding capacity to work with emerging artists.

"We are very excited that Joe-Norman Shaw will be joining us this fall," remarked Dr. Mark Charlton, Vice-President Academic and Dean. "He brings a broad range of theatrical experience that students will greatly benefit from. This is a great opportunity for students to work with a seasoned professional who is very attuned to nurturing and mentoring student actors."

St. Mary's students are also excited at the new addition to St. Mary's faculty. "Joe is amazingly talented and is a creative genius!" proclaimed Jami Haugen, a student at St. Mary's. "I've had the pleasure of studying with him in both theater and film for the past year and a half. He strives for his students to deliver an authentic performance which makes an exhilarating experience for both the actor and audience."

Joe is very excited to begin as Drama Professor for St. Mary's University College this fall. He sees the Drama Program as a dynamic performance/acting based program with an emphasis on authentic performance style. He states "the Program will offer integrated training informed by both the theatre and filmic mediums. From classwork through our Spring Production, students will be provided with a sound foundation in acting techniques following the lineage of Stanislavky, Uta Hagen and Sanford Meisner. Students with an interest in the technical aspects of theatre will find exciting opportunities by working on the Spring Production." Although Joe does not officially begin until September 1st, he has already begun fielding inquiries from students.

About St. Mary's University College

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, student-focused liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution in Calgary. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and courses in 33 academic disciplines. For more information, visit www.stmu.ca

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