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No Place Called Home comes to the University of Minnesota Morris

**Summary: The University of Minnesota, Morris Theatre Discipline announces a performance of No Place Called Home**

(December 31, 2012)-The University of Minnesota, Morris Theatre Discipline announces a performance of No Place Called Home, a new play written and performed by Kim Schultz, with amazing live music by Amikaeyla Gaston and directed by Sarah Cameron Sunde. The performance is Friday, February 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Humanities-Fine Arts Black Box Theatre. Tickets are $5 for general admission.

Falling in love with one of the refugees was never part of Schultz’s plan, but an Iraqi man named Omar changed all that. No Place Called Home is that unexpected story—a true story about an American woman and an Iraqi man, a story about one refugee out of 4 million, a story that isn’t supposed to be a love story.

No Place Called Home was originally produced and commissioned as part of the Iraqi Voices Amplification Project (IVAP), a global initiative started by Intersections International to use the power of the arts to call attention to the displacement of more than 4 million Iraqis as a result of the US military involvement in Iraq. Since 2006, an estimated 2.2 million Iraqis have fled their country, living as illegal migrants abroad – unable to work, access health or social services, or obtain an education for their children. Another 2 million were displaced internally.

Intersections International led a delegation of eight American artists, including Schultz and Gaston, on a three-week immersion trip to Jordan, Lebanon and Syria where they talked to hundreds of refugees. Upon their return, the artists began creating a series of pieces designed to humanize the crisis and give voice to the millions of refugees whose plight has yet to enter broad public consciousness. No Place Called Home is the centerpiece of this effort.

**About the Artists**

Kim Schultz, playwright and performer, is a New York based actress/writer and has performed for the Hamptons Shakespeare Festival, Oberon Theatre, Themantics Group, Midtown International Fringe Festival and the Zipper Factory Theatre. Nationally, she has performed at the Guthrie Theatre, Childrens’ Theatre Co., Chicago Improv Fest, the Brave New Workshop, and in a HBO Comedy Showcase in Los Angeles. Internationally, she wrote and performed a show for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Schultz also wrote and performed a critically acclaimed autobiographical solo show performed off-Broadway called, The F Trip. In addition, Schultz is also an improviser and runs Kim Schultz Improv, a school in New York.

Amikaeyla Proudfoot Gaston, musician and performer, was proclaimed one of the “purest contemporary voices” by National Public Radio. From the Washington, D.C. area, Gaston has performed with numerous Grammy Award winning artists across the world-- including at the commemoration of the Golden Buddha at the Inaugural Festival of Sacred Chanting and Singing in India. Her debut album, Mosaic, was recognized with 12 music awards including Best Jazz Vocalist, Best Urban Contemporary Vocalist, Best World Music Vocalist, and Best Debut Artist. She was named...

Sarah Cameron Sunde was named one of nytheatre.com’s People of the Year in 2009. Her directing credits include the U.S. premieres of: The Diary of a Teenage Girl by Marielle Heller (3LD), The Amish Project by Jessica Dickey (Rattlestick, Fringe et. al), What May Fall by Peter Gil-Sheridan (Guthrie Theater), The Asphalt Kiss by Nelson Rodrigues (59E59), and her own translations of Night Sings Its Songs, death variations and Sa Ka La by Norway’s Jon Fosse (Oslo elsewhere at 59E59 and 45 Bleecker). Sunde is the associate director of New Georges, co-founder of Oslo Elsewhere, and recipient of a Princess Grace Directing Award.

The production team also includes the lighting and design talents of Jeanette Oi-Suk (The Closest Farthest Away, Conni’s Avant Garde Restaurant) and set and costume by Jian Jung (The Marriage of Figaro Die Fledermaus).

The performance of No Place Called Home is made possible through the Rodney A. and Helen R. Briggs Endowment, UMM Improv Club, and the UMM Theatre Discipline.

For more information visit www.omarwashisname.blogspot.com

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