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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ambition. Control. Abuse. Collapse.

Henrik Ibsen's *The Master Builder* Confronts Power and Accountability, presented by the Atlantic Repertory Company. Featuring R.H. Thomson. Directed by Richard Rose.

In a moment when conversations about abusive power, accountability, and the consequences of unchecked ambition dominate the cultural landscape, Atlantic Repertory Company presents a gripping production of *The Master Builder* by Henrik Ibsen, a classic drama that feels strikingly relevant today.

Running **April 21–26, 2026**, this psychologically charged work explores the unraveling of Halvard Solness, a celebrated architect whose towering reputation hides a lifetime of manipulation, insecurity, and fear of being replaced. When a young woman from his past arrives demanding he fulfill a promise made to her when she was only thirteen, the consequences of his past behaviour rise to the surface with devastating force.

Long considered one of Ibsen's most complex plays, modern audiences and scholars increasingly view *The Master Builder* through the lens of contemporary conversations about power and gender dynamics. The story examines how authority and influence can be used to control and exploit others, and how those systems eventually collapse under the weight of their own abuses.

The play's central confrontation between the aging architect and the fearless Hilde Wangel highlights generational conflict and questions of accountability that echo through today's cultural conversations. Their charged relationship becomes a catalyst for exposing the cost of ambition, the fragility of power, and the emotional wreckage left in its wake.

This production features an outstanding Canadian cast led by R. H. Thomson as Solness, alongside Caroline Bell as Hilde Wangel, with Mary-Colin Chisholm, Dean Turner, Bob Doherty, Patrick Jeffrey, and Caroline Coon.

Raw, unsettling, and deeply human, *The Master Builder* is a tense battle of wills; an exploration of ambition, guilt, desire, and the consequences of power wielded without accountability.

Trigger Warning: This production contains themes of psychological manipulation, abusive relationships, and intense emotional distress.

April 21–26, 2026 | Tickets: www.atlanticrep.ca | 506-652-7582

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