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Girl Friday Productions
New Staging of a Timeless Classic
The Skin of Our Teeth

Minneapolis, MN – A comedy of epic proportions and surprising modern resonance, **Thornton Wilder’s The Skin of Our Teeth**, produced by **Girl Friday Productions** and directed by **Benjamin McGovern**, will open Thursday, July 2 at the Minneapolis Theater Garage. An optimistic tribute to the invincibility of the human spirit, this Pulitzer Prize-winning American classic was last staged professionally in the Twin Cities 18 years ago. This new production will explore the continuing wonder of this condition we call human.

Written in 1942, **The Skin of Our Teeth** remains remarkably relevant today. Through the adventures of one American family, **The Skin of Our Teeth** examines the cyclical nature of human existence. The Antrobus family, their maid Sabina and a host of other characters prevail over a series of successive catastrophes – both natural and man-made. While the Antrobus family is rooted in 20th century suburban New Jersey, they are at the same time an eternal family in the broadest sense. This play of contrasts juxtaposes everyday domestic events with the mythic world to create a wonderfully odd and engaging reality. While the play’s darker side examines human frailty and the nature of violence, the family – and humanity itself – not only perseveres, but embraces each new reality with compassionate pragmatism.

“I think it is an extraordinary time to do this show, which was conceived at the time between America’s worst economic crisis and the most destructive war the world has ever seen,” comments McGovern. “Wilder’s response was to focus on the hopefulness of the human spirit – this is an incredible thing to put on stage and to reach for. We are excited by the opportunity to surprise people with how lively and immediate this play is.”

Director **Benjamin McGovern** currently serves as the associate director of studio programming for The Guthrie Theater. A noted Twin Cities director, McGovern most recently was recognized for his finely detailed and engaging Guthrie production of **The Caretaker**.

The Skin of Our Teeth will showcase Girl Friday’s signature ensemble approach, featuring a dynamic cast of Twin Cities’ veterans and newcomers, including **Kirby Bennett, Joel Grothe, Alayne Hopkins, Sam Landman, Courtney McLean, John Middleton, Ian Miller, George Muellner, Mike Rylander, Anna Sundberg, Julie Weaver, and Amanda Whisner**. The artistic team of acclaimed

Twin Cities' designers includes scenic designer **Erica Zaffarano**, lighting designer **Jen DeGolier**, sound designer **Katharine Horowitz**, properties designer **Anna Lawrence** and costume designer **Kathy Kohl**. Girl Friday's producers are **Kirby Bennett** and **Anthony Paul**.

This is Girl Friday Productions' fourth and most ambitious theatrical presentation. Girl Friday Productions first tackled the work of Thornton Wilder with its July 2007 production of his Pulitzer Prize-winning **Our Town**. That production garnered substantial critical acclaim and community support, serving more than 1,300 audience members, receiving four outstanding reviews, and achieving artistic acknowledgment as one of the *Pioneer Press*' "Top Ten Shows of 2007." Like **Our Town**, **The Skin of Our Teeth** features the recognized qualities of a Girl Friday production: exceptional literature, humanity, relevance and stimulating theatricality. Girl Friday's production of **The Skin of Our Teeth** is made possible, in part, by funds provided by the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through an appropriation by the Minnesota Legislature.

Girl Friday Productions presents **The Skin of Our Teeth**, by **Thornton Wilder**

July 2-25, 2009

At the Minneapolis Theater Garage

711 West Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis (on the corner of Lyndale Avenue South and Franklin Avenue)

Ticket Prices

\$20

Discounts for students, seniors and groups

Reservations

(612) 729-1071

Performance Schedule

Thursday, July 2	7:30 PM	opening and reception
Friday, July 3	7:30 PM	reception
Thursday, July 9	7:30 PM	
Friday, July 10	7:30 PM	audio description and sensory tour
Saturday, July 11	7:30 PM	
Sunday, July 12	2:00 PM	matinee
Monday, July 13	7:30 PM	industry night/pay what you wish

Thursday, July 16 7:30 PM post-show discussion

Friday, July 17 7:30 PM

Saturday, July 18 7:30 PM

Sunday, July 19 2:00 PM matinee

Thursday, July 23 7:30 PM

Friday, July 24 7:30 PM

Saturday, July 25 7:30 PM closing

Web site

www.girlfridayproductions.org