

For Immediate Release: August 27, 2007

# B E I R U T

VANCOUVER, BC: PikeFly Theatre is pleased to present **Beirut**, Alan Bowne's tale of love in desperate times. Raw, brutal, and challenging, this one-act play asks: what would you risk for love? **Beirut** is directed by Michael Tayles, and runs September 25 to October 7 at Studio 16, 1555 W 7<sup>th</sup>.

The story is set in New York, in 'the near future' where Torch, a young man from the Bronx has been quarantined and tattooed after testing positive for a deadly disease. Blue, his girlfriend from Queens, won't let that keep them apart and chooses to risk her life in order to be with him. Defying a ruthless political regime, these two must now find the freedom that exists in their ultimate commitment to one another.

Written by Alan Bowne, a New Yorker who died of AIDS at age 44, **Beirut** is the story of star crossed lovers forbidden to be together by disease and police presence. But it is also about hope and love, and living life to the fullest, in the face of the highest possible stakes.

Mylène Dinh-Robic, well known to TV audiences as DaVinci's handler, Rita Ma from *Davinci's City Hall* and the upcoming made-for-TV movie *The Quality of Life*, produces and plays Blue. "I have lived with this play for the last two years, and the truth of the story, that love, true love, is not without conflict and pain and raw vulnerability has haunted me. It is a story that I feel really needs to be told, and I am so thrilled to be able to tell it." Directed by Michael Tayles (*Alive*, *The Bed*, *Battlestar Galactica*), it also stars Adam Lolacher (*The Seagull* for UP, *Less Ado About Nothing* for PT, *Stargate*) as Torch, and Russ Ball (*Cards on the Table* for Metro, *Under the Sycamore Tree*) as the Guard.

*Living without love is death itself. If you've got love in your life—the true thing—then you've got everything. It's finding the truth of it that's the bitch.* –Alan Bowne

**Beirut**, written by Alan Bowne, produced by PikeFly Theatre runs Tuesdays through Saturdays from September 25 to October 6 at 8 pm. There will be one matinee on Sunday, October 7 at 2 pm. **Beirut** is at Studio 16, 1555 W 7<sup>th</sup> Ave (between Granville). Tickets are \$17, and are available by calling 604.899.0787.

[www.mylenerobic.com/pikefly](http://www.mylenerobic.com/pikefly)

-30-

---

For more information, photos, or interviews, please contact:  
Rebecca Coleman                      778.230.1712                      rebeccacoleman@shaw.ca