

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### PLUS-SIZED LAUGHS IN NEIL LABUTE'S FAT PIG

Neil LaBute's award-winning comedy *Fat Pig* takes a comical and politically incorrect look at our obsession with appearance when it opens at Bille Brown Studio from 31 May. When Tom falls in love with plus-sized Helen he is ecstatic, yet there's no way he can tell his fat-phobic colleagues about their romance...

Director Morgan Dowsett says "*Fat Pig* is a bold, honest and darkly comic look at a big issue. When obesity and vanity are national obsessions, we're very squeamish about being honest and truthful to ourselves and each other."

"In this play LaBute dispenses with social niceties and goes straight for the jugular, provoking the audience to think: Should Tom continue his romance despite his colleague's taunts? Should Helen try downsizing to fit into Tom's life? Is Helen a 'fat pig' or the best thing that ever happened to Tom? Perhaps she's both."

LaBute wrote *Fat Pig* as part of a trilogy of plays on body image, consumerism and relationships. The show was inspired by his experiment with dieting, as his weight decreased so did his focus on writing, leaving him to conclude that "I discovered the preening fool who was living beneath the surface of my usual self...I also noticed that I was writing less and less".

Described by New York Magazine as "arguably, the most legitimately provocative and polarizing playwright at work today", LaBute himself has been quoted as saying he's "looking to cause trouble on the stage."

*Fat Pig's* cast includes Paige Gardiner, Chris Sommers, Steven Rooke and Amy Ingram, who replaces Rebel Wilson in the role of Helen.

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<b>Venue:</b>	Bille Brown Studio, 78 Montague Rd South Brisbane
<b>Dates:</b>	Monday 31 May – Saturday 26 June 2010
<b>Tickets:</b>	\$36-\$56 Under 30: \$30
<b>Bookings:</b>	QTIX 136 246 or <a href="http://www.qldtheatreco.com.au">www.qldtheatreco.com.au</a>
<b>U30 Studio Nite:</b>	Thursday 24 June This event for young theatre-goers allows them to see the show, enjoy a post show Q & A, then mingle afterwards in the Studio foyer with the cast and creative team with DJ entertainment.

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#### ENDS

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