

## **PRESS RELEASE**

On [insert date] Ignacio Jarquin will present  
**THE QUAKE**  
at [insert venue] at [insert time] each day from [insert date] to [insert date and month].

A Prodigal Theatre collaboration with the playwright Andrew G Marshall, The Quake tells the story of the famous tenor Caruso who was trapped in the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906.

In order to return home to the family he loved, he had to escape his collapsing hotel room, cross a city swept by fire and fight his way past the military on to the only ferry out of town. Beautiful storytelling and live opera singing combine to reveal the heart behind a legend.

Written for Ignacio by Andrew G Marshall the play features live music from Rossini, Puccini, Cilea and Tosti, and Direction and Dramaturgy from Miranda Henderson, the Prodigal Theatre director of the multi-award winning Tragedian Trilogy.

Marshall wrote the play after seeing Ignacio as Cariola in Prodigal's Brighton Festival sell-out "Ten Thousand Several Doors".

"I overheard another playwright I know saying they could write a play just for him, and I thought, 'Oh no you don't!'" laughs Marshall.

True to Prodigal form the play is stripped back to the bare bones of scenography with just a few hand-props and a chair conjuring up a wealth of locations as Caruso fights, slogs and sings his way across a city in ruins.

Developed with The Nightingale Theatre.

**ENDS**

## Notes for Editors

- Contact Ignacio Jarquin on +447900 014600 for interviews and further information
- Enrico Caruso (1873-1921) was an Italian opera singer and one of the best known public figures at the beginning of the 20th century. His extraordinary voice was perfect for the early recording studios. He became the best selling artist in any genre and helped form the modern recording industry.
- On the morning of April 18<sup>th</sup> 1906, he had just gone to bed after performing at the San Francisco Opera House but woke-up to find his hotel room collapsing on top of him.
- Ignacio Jarquin is a singer / performer / conductor. His credits include 'Ten Thousand Several Doors' (winner of Best Show at Brighton Festival 2006) and 'Queen of the Slaughter' for Prodigal Theatre Company. His work has taken him to Egypt, Jordan, Holland, Spain, Italy and Germany.
- Andrew G. Marshall's most recent play 'Modern Major General' was chosen as a pick of the day in the Independent and his other work includes 'Coming Around Again' (West Yorkshire Playhouse) published by Oberon.
- Miranda Henderson, founder member and performer of the Prodigal Theatre Company, manager of the Nightingale Theatre, Director and Dramaturge of the (multi award winning) Tragedian Trilogy and the Urban Playground Performances. [www.prodigalthatre.co.uk](http://www.prodigalthatre.co.uk)
- The play was developed at the Nightingale Theatre with two mentors – Alister O'Loughlin, co-founder of Prodigal Theatre and writer/performer of The Tragedian Trilogy, and Ross Gurney-Randall, co-writer/performer of "Follow Me" for which he won a Herald Angel at the 2007 Edinburgh Festival Fringe.