

The Embrey Family Foundation is honored to sponsor the U.S. premiere of

Truth in Translation

An extraordinary theatrical performance that explores the power of forgiveness

A Colonnades Theatre Lab/Market Theatre Production
Co-presented by The Colorado Festival of World Theatre

Conceived and directed by Michael Lessac
Featuring an original music score by Hugh Masekela

September 6-8, 2007 at SMU's Bob Hope Theatre

Free and open to the public by reservation only

For reservations call 214-768-ARTS

The Truth in Translation Project is a pilgrimage of 11 South African actors to international conflict zones to tell the story of how the people of South Africa made a small evolutionary leap to heal their country. This stage production, which is the catalyst for an international series of civil society workshops and a forthcoming documentary film, takes place in that flash of time.



For more information about The Truth in Translation Project in Dallas, please contact:

Embrey Family Foundation
214-206-3577, ext. 304
www.embreyfdn.org

truth in translation

Can we forgive the past to survive the future?

Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu asked this of the people of South Africa. For a moment in history they said, "Yes." And for that moment, they broke a cycle of revenge, prevented a blood bath, and made space for change.



critically acclaimed

"... innovative, surprisingly funny in places and consistently moving."
— Alex Perry, *TIME*, March 12, 2007

"... If what happened here can inspire others to find their way peacefully into a future of hope, then it is of vital importance that our story be told." — Archbishop Desmond Tutu

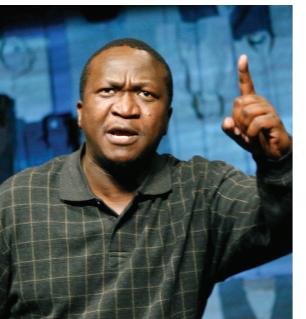
"... one of the most important theatrical events of our time ... It is theatre that inspires dialogue and motivates change."
— Daniel Dercksen, *The Writing Studio*

Translating truth and reconciliation

In 1996, following the end of apartheid, South Africa launched its groundbreaking Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). During the commission's hearings, interpreters of 11 African languages translated testimony of both perpetrators and victims of genocide.

Truth in Translation tells the story of a group of TRC interpreters translating these opposing accounts while sharing their personal and community's experiences. Always present but almost invisible, they are mandated to remain uninvolved, yet caught in a conflict between watching and participating. They absorb everything, embodying every truth and every lie.

In the resulting quest for their identities, these young people become true interpreters of their nation's story and their own humanity, frailty, grace and courage. Ultimately, they show us transformation through communication.



Artistic Director Michael Lessac

This production, conceived and directed by Michael Lessac, was created from TRC testimony in a series of collaborative workshops with TRC interpreters, actors and musicians held in South Africa over three years.

Original music score by Hugh Masekela

South Africa's internationally acclaimed musician and composer, Hugh Masekela, amplifies the sounds of a nation that uses music as its universal language of survival and celebration.

Eleven of South Africa's leading actors

An "A" list of South African theatre talent brings authenticity to these diverse characters. Film credits of troupe members include *Hotel Rwanda*, *In My Country* and *Cape of Good Hope*.

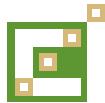
Four Performances Only

8pm Thursday, September 6
8pm Friday, September 7
2pm Saturday, September 8
8pm Saturday, September 8

The Bob Hope Theatre
Southern Methodist University
6101 Bishop Boulevard
Dallas, TX 75275

Free and open to the community by reservation only
214-768-ARTS





**Embrey Family
Foundation**

"Our foundation's goal
for this unique event
is to bring people together
from across the community
to foster discussion
and understanding."

"After seeing this production, I knew we needed to bring it to Dallas."

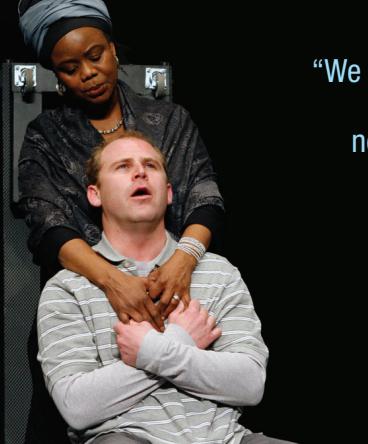
– Lauren Embrey, President, Embrey Family Foundation

Artistic expression of the human condition

In August 2006, Lauren Embrey was in Kigali, Rwanda, on a human rights trip and witnessed the impact of *Truth in Translation* during a festival. She was so inspired that before she left, she approached the producer and artistic director, Michael Lessac, to see if he would bring the production to Dallas. This powerful theatre production clearly reveals the interrelatedness of world issues.

Advancing human rights education

The Embrey Family Foundation dedicates its resources to human rights, the environment, education and human services. It works to foster the well-being of all people through programs addressing poverty, violence, education, creativity and community enhancement.



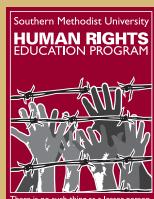
"We live in a world that is increasingly driven by fear and vengeance. This is incompatible with the notion of forgiveness. Yet we cannot survive unless emotional and perceptual reconciliation can be made. This story is not just about one country, one context, one event, but about all of us, right now, everywhere we look." – Michael Lessac, Artistic Director, *Truth in Translation*

reconciliation

"We are proud to partner with the Embrey Family Foundation to bring this extraordinary theatre production to our great city of Dallas. This is a wonderful example of how artists can inspire change and make a difference by imagining new beginnings and new models."

– José Antonio Bowen, Dean, SMU Meadows School of the Arts

 **SMU MEADOWS**
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



"There is no such thing as a lesser person. All people merit dignity, humanity and respect. The Truth in Translation Project focuses on reconciliation, forgiveness and healing. This is a unique way to communicate the fundamental principles of human rights."

– Dr. Rick Halperin, Director, SMU Human Rights Education Program
Chair, Board of Directors, Amnesty International USA