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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UNRAVELING THE FABRIC OF SPACE AND TIME, LOVE AND LOSS

Theatre Unbound Premieres Jennifer Blackmer's "Unraveled"

(Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota) **Theatre Unbound** stages the world premiere of *Unraveled* by Jennifer Blackmer at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, October 26 through November 10, 2013.

"*Unraveled* is a drama about connection, reconnection and letting go," says **Stacey Poirier**, Theatre Unbound Artistic Director. "It tells the story of Joy, a professor of the philosophy of space and time, who struggles with caring for her mother, George, who suffers from a severe form of dementia induced by chemotherapy. We were captivated both by the beauty of the script and by its relevance. More and more women find themselves responsible for caring for an aging parent. *Unraveled* is very frank about the stresses and the sometimes surprising rewards of that situation."

Another way that this script seemed uniquely suited for Theatre Unbound is in the character of Anna, a hospice nurse and avid knitter. Through Anna, playwright Blackmer draws parallels between knitting and healing. "I love to knit!" she says. "I often let my brain run amok while I'm knitting and this idea worked its way into the script really early. I'm fascinated by the idea of a female language and I think the fiber arts comes pretty close as something that women pass down to each other."

The Playwright

Jennifer Blackmer is a graduate of the MFA program in Directing at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre & Dance at Ball State University. *Unraveled* was developed as part of the Ingram New Works Festival at Tennessee Repertory Theatre. Blackmer is "THRILLED" to return to Minnesota to see the first full staging of her play.

The Director

Dr. Mary Cutler taught performance and dramatic literature while staging a variety of works--Shakespeare, musical theater, the classics, and new plays--as a theatre professor at the University of North Dakota, 1990-2009. Cutler has written in the areas of feminist performance, gender, gay/lesbian musical theater, American comedy, pedagogy, and her article, 'Typed' for What?' appears in the anthology, "The Politics of American Actor Training" (Routledge-2009). Cutler's most recent area directing credits include *Moonlight and Magnolias* for Bloomington Civic Theater; *Our Town* for The Park Theater Company; and *Quilters* for Buffalo Community Theatre.

The Cast

Rebecca Yoho (Skewed Visions, Jeune Lune) leads the cast as the brilliant, but in-denial, Joy. **Kristen Mathisen** (Jungle, Theatre in the Round) and **Carin Leonard-Gorrill** (Theatre Pro Rata) share the role of Joy's mother George, portraying her as past and present versions of the same woman. **Eli Coats** (Guthrie, Park Square) plays the hunky, grad student diversion. **Jamila Anderson** (Pillsbury House, History Theatre) rounds out the cast as Anna, the calm and quirky hospice caregiver.

FACTS SHEET

Theatre Unbound Presents

A World Premiere

Unraveled by Jennifer Blackmer

Directed by Mary Cutler

Joy and her mother, George, struggle to preserve their close-knit relationship as George's cancer and dementia worsen. An insightful hospice nurse enters their lives and teaches Joy a thing or two about life, loss, and the process of letting go.

Location

The Woman's Club of Minneapolis.

410 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403

FREE PARKING

Dates

October 26 - November 10, 2013

Tickets

General admission ticket prices: \$15-\$25

Reservations

612-721-1186

Order Onlinewww.theatreunbound.com**Performance Calendar**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		October 26 7:30 PM Post-show Gala & Fashion Show	October 27 2:00 PM
	November 1 7:30 PM	November 2 7:30 PM	November 3 2:00 PM
November 7 7:30 PM Pay-What-You- Can	November 8 7:30 PM	November 9 7:30 PM	November 10 2:00 PM Audio Described

About Theatre Unbound

Theatre Unbound is one of a dozen or so women's theatre companies across the nation working to shrink the gender gap on America's stages. Others include Airmid Theatre in Long Island, NY; The Women's Theatre Project in Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Echo Theatre in Dallas, TX; Looking for Lilith Theatre Company in Louisville, KY; and The Women's Project in New York, NY.

Theatre Unbound delivers thought-provoking live theatre conceived and created by women, providing audiences with engaging, rarely-seen perspectives on issues that are relevant and universal.

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