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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Glaciy Theatre Collective performs new play, *Exhibition*

Exhibition by William McMillen
Jan. 27 – 29 & Feb. 3 – 5, 2012

Toledo: Glaciy Theatre Collective is lucky to have a number of very dedicated audience members. One of them recently decided to give something back to the company – a brand new play.

Not everyone knows that University of Toledo Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs William McMillen has a creative writing background. When he announced a year ago to Glaciy Executive Director Holly Monsos that he was writing a play for the company, she was pleased and surprised, but knowing how busy he was, she didn't expect to see a draft soon, if ever.

In early February the first act of *Exhibition* arrived in her email, followed by the remainder of the play a month later. Members of the Collective gathered at her home not long after to read through it with the playwright. "It didn't need any work at all," recalls Dramaturg Ed Lingan. "Most playwrights hear things they want to change after a new work is read aloud, but this script was ready to go. It's the sort of play that any theatre company would kill for – intriguing premise, compelling characters, and though written to be done in a gallery, it could be easily produced in any kind of space, theatrical or not." The collective members agreed that a gallery setting would be ideal, and when Monsos learned of a gallery space that was available in January, Glaciy grabbed the opportunity.

The play is composed of three scenes that focus on a couple, Sharon and Raymond, at key points in their married life: their engagement, in the midst of raising children, and after the children have grown and gone. Each of the three couples is played by a different pair of actors, and, though the characters at the focus of each scene are not aware of it, their older/younger selves are also onstage, providing depth and nuance to each story as it unfolds in "real" time under the disinterested eye of a security guard.

The cast features Brian Purdue and Chellsea Cutino as the newly engaged couple, Ben Pryor and Jennifer Lake as the couple in mid-life and Dave DeChristopher and Pamela Tomassetti as the couple late in their marriage.

Cornel Gabara directed the production, Lee Heritage composed the music, James S. Hill designed the set and lighting, and Holly Monsos designed the costumes.

Exhibition will open at 8 pm on Jan. 27th in the Center for Visual Arts Gallery, 620 Grove Place (next to the Toledo Museum of Art). It continues with performances on Jan. 28 & 29 and Feb. 3 - 5. All Friday/Saturday performances will be at 8 pm, and both Sunday performances will be at 2 pm. Doors open one half hour prior to curtain. Ticket prices are \$20 at the door, or they can be purchased in advance online at <http://glacity.tix.org> except for the Sunday, Jan. 29th matinee which will be a "Pay What You Can" matinee with tickets available at the door only. Parking is available in the lot closest to the Collingwood and Monroe intersection. Go to www.glacity.org for more info.

- 30 -

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Photo credits –

1. William McMillen

Photo by Barb McMillen

2. Pamela Tomassetti as Sharon 3 hugs Dave DeChristopher playing Raymond 3

3. Chelsea Cutino as Sharon 1 leans on husband to be Raymond 1, played by Brian Purdue

Photos by Cornel Gabara