

**\* WINNER of 2 META (Montreal English Theatre Awards) \***  
**\*THEATERSCENE.NET (New York) TOP 10 PLAYS OF THE YEAR\***

*Oren Safdie's Gratitude is an unflinchingly dark (and darkly funny) exploration of sexual power play... [He] is clearly not a playwright to gingerly approach controversial issues ... The provocations in the play are very much in line with those of Neil La Bute at his most caustic ..... You might have some strong post-show words for Safdie. What you won't be able to say is that he doesn't know how to put together a bracingly provocative and ferociously entertaining 75 minutes of theatre."* - **MONTREAL GAZETTE**

*"The 75-minute play begins rather innocently, but dissolves into so much sexual tension and human desperation with a great deal of simplicity and humour. The acting is riveting and brings out issues that teens handle amongst themselves within the sanctity of a private school with a great deal of force and authenticity. "* - **MONTREAL TIMES**

*"Gratitude offers a topical look at high school lust and longing .... The scenes are well-paced, engaging, funny ... skillfully choreographed ... and the acting is strong."* - **THE GLOBE & MAIL**

*"GRATITUDE takes Teenage-dom to the bitter edge and over. You will not fall in love with any of these characters but there will be glimpses of salvation and hope in each. And you will be captivated by the unfolding of this perfect storm."* - **ELECTRONIC LINK JOURNEY NYC (NYC)**

*"Hilarious raunchy high school sexual escapades merge with unsettling psychological twists and turns in this wild dark comedy that is electrifyingly performed ... Mr. Safdie channels the Oleanna-mode essence of David Mamet, Neil LaBute's twisted psychological gamesmanship and Jules Feiffer's Carnal Knowledge-style ribaldry, all into his own distinctively refreshing and well-plotted work which builds to a shattering conclusion."* - **THEATERSCENE (NYC)**

*"The play opens up a lot of topics that make people cringe, and then it makes them stare at those things ... Safdie's script works exceedingly well."* - **STAGE BIZ (NY)**

*"Montreal-born playwright Oren Safdie has hit the proverbial ball out of the court with his new play Gratitude. Safdie's play captures youthful stirrings with all their passions and insecurities to devastating effect. Gratitude is a brave, provocative story exploring the realities around sex, love, consent, duty, gender roles and rebellion."* - **THE SUBURBAN**

*"Oren Safdie's triumphant return to Montreal with Gratitude is a well-rounded presentation that will make one think, examine one's values personally – as well as those that seem pervasive in a societal context – and simply get one talking on both sides of the issue ... Safdie does an ingenious job of bringing the conundrum to the forefront for all generations in thought-provoking fashion ..."* - **ORCA SOUND ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

*"No stranger to politics and seedy characters, Safdie has concocted a soapy drama that fits in well with our growing awareness of the evil teens can inflict on each other."* - **CULT MONTREAL**

*"Oren Safdie has once again written a timely and captivating play."* - **LAST CALL WITH SOL**

*"[Gratitude] manages to convey a large spectrum of emotions. It also makes you see certain youth experiences in a different light ... The audience felt all the cringe-worthy moments and the musings of teenage infatuation. Without forgetting the awkward laughter of embarrassment and the indignation in the face of bullying."* - **JANO LAPIN**

*"Oren Safdie's new play, Gratitude, is direct, raw and does not spare words ... The dialogue and the structure of the piece are flawless."* - **ZONE CULTURE** (translated from French)