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**MILDRED'S UMBRELLA THEATER COMPANY GETS SPOOKY WITH THE HORROR COMEDY *FEATHERS AND TEETH* FROM *DEVIOUS MAIDS* WRITER CHARISE CASTRO SMITH**

HOUSTON – Reminding us all that Halloween is the best holiday of the year, Mildred's Umbrella (MU) dusts off its spooky side with the fun and bloody dark comedy *FEATHERS AND TEETH* by playwright and actress Charise Castro Smith.

Set in a sleepy factory town at the end of the 1970's, Castro-Smith's horror comedy centers on teenaged Chris and her father's new fiancée Carol, who don't exactly get along. The already tense atmosphere gets even more stressful when Chris's dad Arthur hits a mysterious creature on his way home from work, launching a series of events that rapidly spin hilariously out of control. Who will be left standing when this bloody rollercoaster of family dysfunction screeches to a stop?

"I came across this script a couple of years ago, and I've wanted to produce it ever since," says Jennifer Decker, Artistic Director of Mildred's Umbrella. "When Jacey approached me about it again several months ago, I knew it was time to bring it as a Halloween gift to our Houston audiences."

Born in Miami, FL to a Cuban-American family, Castro Smith is a playwright and actress who attended both Brown University and Yale Drama where she studied under Paula Vogel. Her writing has been featured at La Jolla Playhouse, Goodman Theatre, and New Dramatists, where she was awarded a Van Lier Fellowship, as well as on the television series *Devious Maids*.

*FEATHERS AND TEETH* runs October 19 through November 4, 2017, at Studio 101 at Spring Street Studios, in the heart of the Washington Avenue Arts District. Tickets are on sale now at [www.mildredsumbrella.com](http://www.mildredsumbrella.com). For more information, call 832-463-0409 or e-mail [info@mildredsumbrella.com](mailto:info@mildredsumbrella.com).

**FEATHERS AND TEETH BY CHARISE CASTRO-SMITH (OCTOBER 19 – NOVEMBER 4, 2017)**

Directed by: Jacey Little

Where: STUDIO 101 – 1824 Spring Street, Houston, TX 77007

When: October 19-21, October 26-28, and November 2-4 at 8 pm

Matinee on October 29 at 3 p.m.

Pay-What-You-Can night on October 30 at 8 p.m.

Cost: Regular admission: \$25; Students, Seniors & Arts Industry: \$15; Group rate: \$15/ticket

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**About Mildred's Umbrella**

Mildred's Umbrella Theater Company (MU) is committed to repairing the gender disparity on industry stages by producing works by women, featuring strong female protagonists, and creating a counterscript for mainstream society. As Houston's premier female-focused theater, MU seeks to challenge audiences and theatre artists by creating and performing bold, innovative, and fresh theatrical works grounded in the best traditions of the dramatic arts. Mildred's Umbrella Theater Company's 2017-18 season is supported by the Houston Arts Alliance, Texas Commission on the Arts, and individual funders.