

## ***MEDIA CALL FOR FEMFEST 2011: STAGING INSPIRATION***

**Winnipeg, August 31, 2011** – Sarasvati Productions’ ninth annual theatre of plays by women for everyone is just around the corner and media are invited for an exclusive sneak peak. In keeping with Sarasvati Productions’ mandate, the showcased production is controversial, and takes on timely societal issues that are of interest both locally and nationally.

*Magpie* is a play written by Katherine Koller and was inspired by a terrible crime committed against one of her friends, which ended up taking her life. Magpie is a parolee surveillance officer who takes in rapists and killers trying to reintegrate into society. She teaches them how to take care of a room, how to get a job and keep it, and...how to bake. The piece explores questions, feelings and sympathy on both sides. Magpie’s job may be difficult, but so is Reggie’s (an inmate she takes in).

### **MEDIA CALL**

**Host:** Sarasvati Productions

**Date:** Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** Canwest Centre for Theatre and Film

(at the University of Winnipeg, 400 Colony Street)

**Time:** 2 p.m.

*Magpie* features local performers Jane Burpee (well-known local actress and mother of Winnipeg’s Ace Burpee), Adam Charbonneau (lead singer of Mas Headspace), Nan Fewchuk (recent Fringe hit *Or*), and Karl Thordarson (most recently seen in Kids Fringe *Étoile*). All performers and the director will be available at the media call for interviews.

*FemFest 2011: Staging Inspiration* runs at the Canwest Centre for Theatre and Film (at the University of Winnipeg) from **September 17 to 24, 2011**.

**About FemFest:** *Founded in 2003 by Sarasvati Productions, FemFest presents the work of both established and emerging artists from across Canada. The festival’s mandate is to produce one-act plays by women and showcase women theatre artists.*

**About Sarasvati Productions:** *Sarasvati Dramatic Theatre Productions and Repertory Inc. (founded in Winnipeg in 2000) seeks to inspire artists and audiences through the use of theatre and to provide a place where artists can develop and showcase their skills, and celebrate their creativity.*

*For ticket reservations and information call 586-2236 or visit [www.sarasvati.ca](http://www.sarasvati.ca)*