

Sarasvati Productions Blooms Into Season

Winnipeg, August 2, 2011– In its 11th year in Winnipeg Sarasvati Productions is in full bloom and launching its inspirational 2011-2012 season of transformative theatre. Join us on **August 23rd at 10 a.m.** at the Canwest Centre for Theatre and Film (at the University of Winnipeg, 400 Colony St.) for a sneak peek of this year's exciting artistic offerings. Inspired by FemFest's theme, Staging Inspiration, and a brand new fundraiser called Love Blooms, Sarasvati Productions has chosen to offer an array of work this year that will allow artists to blossom, that will inspire audiences, entertain and promote community growth.

Love Blooms – available all season

We are pleased to announce a new fundraising partnership with Sonya's Flowers (1459 Main St.), who has created a beautiful bouquet in the Sarasvati Productions colours which can be purchased for \$20, every bouquet sold provides Sarasvati Productions with \$5 to support our artistic work.

FemFest 2011: Staging Inspiration – September 17 to 24, 2011

This year marks FemFest's 9th annual festival of plays by women, for everyone. The FemFest line-up was chosen due to the powerful impact it will have on audiences. The festival will include fully staged plays, readings of new work in development and four touring shows from around the world, as well as skill development workshops and our cabarets featuring artists from multiple disciplines.

Jail Baby – September 21 & 24, 2011

This collaborative piece has been gestating for over a year and will be presented as a workshop at FemFest. It tells the compelling story of incarcerated women, revealing the chilling realities of the "system". After FemFest, *Jail Baby* will continue its development towards becoming a powerful touring piece. "After conducting sessions with incarcerated women in Winnipeg, Portage La Prairie and Edmonton we are excited to share this eye-opening performance with our audiences," says Artistic Director Hope McIntyre.

Cabaret of Monologues – October 28, 2011 & March 10, 2012

Sarasvati Productions is presenting two cabarets of monologues this season. In October, in conjunction with the Council of Women of Winnipeg, will be a series honouring Women's History Month, and, once again, Sarasvati will be staging monologues to celebrate International Women's Week in March 2012.

So You Think You Can Act – February 16, 2012

Sarasvati Productions will inaugurate its annual fundraiser "*So You Think You Can Act*" this season. It is an exciting showcase of local celebrities trying their hand at acting. Find out who is ready for Hollywood, and who's better off sticking with their day job. The real challenge will be between the celebs - who will reign as the best actor, gaining bragging rights – and a fabulous trophy to display? It could be you!

EDEN – April 27 to May 13, 2012

Our season will end with the premiere of this epic new play which has been in development for over five years. This exploration of truth and justice will feature a stellar local cast, live music and video. This ambitious project will be something extraordinary that Winnipeg audiences will be the first to experience!

About Sarasvati Productions: *We seek to inspire artists and audiences through the use of theatre and to provide a place where artists can develop, showcase their skills and celebrate their creativity.*