

## ***So You Think You Can Act*** ***An Evening Packed Full of Entertainment!***

**Winnipeg, January 16, 2012**– On February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Gas Station Arts Centre the inaugural *So You Think You Can Act* event will entertain audiences with an array of comic writing by celebrated playwrights. *So You Think You Can Act* is a fun fundraiser supporting the transformative theatre work of Sarasvati Productions. The evening will feature celebrities testing out their acting chops in front of a panel of judges and an audience.

In the fashion of *Dancing with the Stars*, each celebrity will be paired with an actor and given great material. Tracy Koga will be performing a hilarious fast forward through the dating game from the hit musical *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. Lending support as her acting partner will be stage and screen actor Tyhr Trubiak, best known for his lead role in independent film hit *Aegri Somnia*.

“This is a unique opportunity for audiences to see a great range of scenes performed by some of their favourite personalities,” says Artistic Director Hope McIntyre. “Some of the funniest and most engaging plays deal with bad break-ups, heartbreaks and dysfunctional relationships. We get to include them all in this event.”

The Love Gone Wrong theme in honour of the post-Valentine’s Day date, will see John Lu tackle Marty Chan’s classic Canadian play *Mom, Dad, I’m Living with a White Girl*. Lu is traveling back home to Winnipeg for this event, but is best known for covering Habs games on TSN.

David King’s *Life Skills* won a Jessie Award for Best New Play and Al Simmons will certainly bring the humour in the script to life as a man desperately trying to escape his marriage. Audiences will also see local favorite Sylvia Kuzyk in a new light, as a famous actress confronted by her lover’s wife in Ferenc Molnar’s *A Matter of Husbands*.

The other celebrities include: Ace Burpee (Hot 103), Randall King (Winnipeg Free Press), Howard Mandshein (92 CITI FM) and Judy Wasylycia-Leis (former MP). Big laughs will also be guaranteed by host Big Daddy Tazz and judges Kayla Gordon (Winnipeg Studio Theatre Artistic Director), Robert Metcalfe (PTE Artistic Director) and Lee White (Crumbs Improv).

As part of the event a raffle will be held with prizes ranging from tickets to the city’s hottest performing arts events to a free adult acting class at Prairie Theatre Exchange. With donations from dozens of businesses, including Vandenberg’s Fine Jewellery, Sugar Mountain and the Love Nest, there will be thousands of dollars worth of prizes to be won.

*So You Think You Can Act* will run on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. Tickets are \$25, which includes a wine reception, and can be purchased through [www.sarasvati.ca](http://www.sarasvati.ca) or at 586-2236.

**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.*