

FemFest 2015 – Rip-Roaring Line-Up Announced!

Winnipeg, June 16, 2015 –Sarasvati Productions presents **FemFest 2015: Hear Her Roar**, the 13th annual festival of life changing theatre, written by women, for everyone. This year's line-up includes an exciting mix of artists from across the world who are using performance as a way to make sure their stories are heard. It will be an amazing showcase of talent as well as a celebration of local female artists.

We are excited to announce the touring shows that will travel to Winnipeg to appear in FemFest 2015:

The National Elevator Project - Theatre Yes (Edmonton, AB); Conceived and Created by Heather Inglis
A series of 16 short play between 3-12 minutes in length that require audience members to ride elevators with actors placing them in the thick of one-of-a kind performance experiences. Two of the elevator plays will be presented as part of FemFest 2015.

A Side of Dreams - Paper Canoe Projects (Toronto, ON): Written and Directed by Jani Lauzon
Trauma can silence the best of us, but as Haisa and her daughter Aina discover, the spirit of the Dreamcatcher can be awakened with prayer and the ancestors you meet may not be what you expected. Incorporating aerial hoop, puppetry, a rich sound design, projection and text, *A Side of Dreams* is a visual feast and a surprisingly emotional journey through unconscious memory.

Mittelschmerz (Middle Pain) - Kimmy Zee (Winnipeg, MB); Written and Performed by Kim Zeglinski
Take a ride down the slippery slope of the other side of the hill in this jam-packed hour of shoot-from-the-hip-replacement truth-telling! With storytelling, monologue, & spoken word; Zeglinski weaves a witty exploration of motherhood & middle age. Comic, dramatic, always truthful; this *dramedy* will leave audiences in stitches & tears.

Sitaraha - The Stars - Written and Performed by Monirah Hashemi (from Afghanistan; living in Sweden)
The story of three women, Halima, Sara and Gul Begum who have experienced war throughout their lives in three historical periods in Afghanistan. Under the oppression of religion and power, they try to keep their stories alive as they intertwine their dances and songs together.

In addition FemFest will include the world premiere of a new play by up-and-coming Indigenous writer Frances Koncan. *The Dance-Off of Conscious Uncoupling* was the audience's choice from last year's Bake-Off competition and won a slot in the festival. There will also be readings of two new local plays by Cairn Moore and Terrie Todd; a workshop presentation of *#perfect* by Monique Marcker and Andraea Sartison; another edition of our Bake-Off playwriting competition; readings from the shortlist; and two cabaret evenings featuring female artists from all disciplines.

FemFest runs at the University of Winnipeg **Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (400 Colony Street)** from **September 12-19, 2015**. Tickets are \$10 for single shows with the full festival being available for a \$50 festival pass. FemFest welcomes all audience members to join in a celebration of female artists and experience a taste of the local and national art scene. More details at www.femfest.ca.

About Sarasvati Productions: *Founded in Winnipeg in 2000, 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.*