

## SCHEDULE

All events are at the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (The University of Winnipeg, 400 Colony Street) unless otherwise noted.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- 1:00 PM (reading) *OUR HOME & native land* by Jo MacDonald  
3:00 PM (reading) *Home 2.0*  
7:00 PM Opening Cabaret and Reception

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 1PM–3PM (workshop) *Devising from the Real World*  
facilitated by Norah Paton  
4:00 PM (reading) *La Civilisation...ma mère!...* (in Arabic)  
7:00 PM *The Game* by Manohar Performing Arts

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 7:00 PM *Bake-Off*  
9:00 PM *The Game*

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 7:00 PM *White Man's Indian* by Darla Contois  
9:00 PM *Burnt* by Norah Paton

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 12:30 PM Real Thing Lecture with Donna-Michelle St. Bernard  
5:30 PM Walking Art Tour  
7:00 PM *La Civilisation, ma mère!...*  
9:00 PM *Burnt*

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 1:00 PM *Sound of the Beast* by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard  
7:00 PM *Burnt*  
9:00 PM *White Man's Indian*

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 7:00 PM *White Man's Indian*  
9:00 PM *Sound of the Beast*

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 2:00 PM Walking Art Tour  
4:00 PM *The Game*  
7:00 PM *Sound of the Beast*  
9:00 PM One Night Stand

## SARASVATI PRODUCTIONS

Sarasvati Productions is a Winnipeg-based independent theatre company dedicated to using theatre to promote human understanding. We produce FemFest, as well as a wide range of plays, community tours, workshops of new creations and projects that support emerging artists.

FemFest has been up and kicking since 2003!

Stay tuned for details on new initiatives as FemFest evolves with more community engagement, interactive events and exciting partnerships!



### TICKET PRICES:

SINGLE SHOWS/CABARET	\$15
PLATINUM PASS (3 SHOWS)	\$30
FESTIVAL PASS (ENTIRE FESTIVAL)	\$50

### FOR TICKETS AND INFO:

204.586.2236 | SARASVATI.CA | FEMFEST.CA



### FUNDERS AND SPONSORS:



SARASVATI PRODUCTIONS  
transformative theatre

SARASVATI  
FEMFEST 2018

LIFE-CHANGING PLAYS  
FOR EVERYONE!

# FEMFEST 2018

## STAGING RESISTANCE 15–22 SEPTEMBER

Asper Centre for Theatre and Film  
University of Winnipeg,  
400 Colony Street



## IN-HOUSE PRODUCTIONS

### *The Game*

written by Shyamala Dakshinamurti  
and Sowmya Dakshinamurti  
Directed by Cherissa Richards

A co-production between Manohar Performing Arts of Canada and Sarasvati Productions

Witness six different perspectives on a single violent incident that occurs to Draupadi, the iconic woman at the heart of The Mahabharata. Through a combination of beautiful Indian dance and poetic writing, *The Game* is the story of a woman who resists attempts to silence her—as relevant today as in centuries past.

## READINGS/WORKSHOP PRODUCTIONS

### *OUR HOME & native land*

by Jo MacDonald

Armed with bannock and ancestral knowledge, teaching 'Mr. Mansplainer' and 'Ms. Selfie' Important about the Treaties will be as easy as the original signings! *OUR HOME & native land* confronts treaty violations and our history with wit and sarcasm as thick as the Indian Act.

**Winner of the FemFest 2017 Bake-Off.**

### *Bake-Off*

Coordinated and directed by Cairn Moore  
In partnership with the Manitoba Association of Playwrights

Feast your eyes on the annual Bake-Off. We challenge selected playwrights with a list of ingredients and eight hours to cook up their own fantastic theatrical feasts! The results are an abundance of laughs and entertaining surprises.

### *One Night Stand*

Instant Gratification. Immediate Results.  
Directed and coordinated by Tatiana Carnevale

Sarasvati Productions' One Night Stand series gives creators the opportunity to test their work, while providing audiences a chance to take part in the developmental process. We will feature readings from our most celebrated writers!



## PRESENTED PIECES

### *Burnt*

Created and performed by Norah Paton  
Dramaturgy by Emily Pearlman and Brad Long

Every year over 65,000 people gather in the desert outside of Reno, Nevada to form a temporary community called Burning Man. *Burnt* explores the participants and culture of Burning Man using recordings of interviews, conversations, music, dust storms, and chaos.

### *The Sound of the Beast*

Theatre Passe Muraille  
Written and performed by Donna-Michelle St. Bernard  
Direction/Dramaturgy: Andy McKim and Jivesh Parasram

This solo piece by two-time Governor General's Award Nominee Donna-Michelle St. Bernard (aka Belladonna the Blest) speaks truth to power using spoken word, storytelling and hip-hop. Inspired by Tunisian emcee Weld-El 15 – who was jailed for his song Boulicia Kleb (The Police Are Dogs) – the show highlights St. Bernard's quick wit and quicker rhymes in a performance that reflects on identity, oppression and what happens when authority is questioned.

**Tour Sponsor: TD**

### *White Man's Indian*

Written and performed by Darla Contois  
Direction and Dramaturgy by Ed Roy

This is the story of Eva, a Cree teenage girl, and her journey through the maze of a White Man's high school. It is a hilarious quest for identity and spirituality through the hallways of teen angst, racism, and an evil prom queen.

## OPENING CABARET

Celebrate our opening night with our popular cabaret evening! Showcasing a multitude of artists from all disciplines, this variety show is jam-packed with high-energy entertainment. It is followed by a chance to eat, drink and mingle.

### *La Civilisation, ma mère!...*

La Compagnie du Jour & La Compagnie L'Aperté  
d'après le roman de Driss Chaïbi  
adaptation d'Émilie Malosse  
mise en scène Karim Troussi  
comédienne Amal Ayouch  
présentée avec Théâtre Cercle Molière

Après une vie passée à secouer les archaïsmes de la société, une femme vient de mourir. Au troisième jour de deuil, sa petite-fille accueille les gens venus lui dire adieu. En attendant l'arrivée de son père et de son oncle (les véritables hôtes), elle décide de revenir avec les convives sur la vie peu banale de sa grand-mère. Durant ce laps de temps suspendu, elle évoquera la grand-mère d'avant, inculte et recluse et le parcours, pas à pas, qui l'a amenée à découvrir le monde, son mari, ses fils et, surtout, elle-même.

This play is adapted from the celebrated novel of the same name and tells the story of a young woman who discovers that there was more to her grandmother's life than she'd ever imagined.

Arabic reading on September 16 and French presentation on September 19.