

Theatre in the Community for International Women's Week

Winnipeg, February 6, 2018: Surviving riots, a pregnant Mom's journey to Canada, ghosts seeking revenge and learning to teach yoga as a senior - this year's line-up full of inspiring stories from unstoppable women will be touring to a range of Manitoba communities! Sarasvati Productions' International Women's Week has become an annual event for women's shelters and women's centres. This year's theme is *I Am Unstoppable*, as we tackle obstacles, conquering challenges and living life to the fullest.

"It is an honour to bring women's stories to various communities" says Artistic Director Hope McIntyre, "It has become a wonderful partnership where we can offer entertainment for events put on by our sister organizations to help them celebrate, raise awareness and even raise funds."

This year we welcome back past performers Lorraine James, Reena Jolly and Cheryl Soluk to tackle pieces written by playwrights from across the country. Communities will also enjoy performances from newcomers to the event including Anna Binder. Plus the unique opportunity for non-traditional work created and performed by multi-disciplinary artists like Anjali Sandhu, Cynthia Fortlage, Joanna Hawkins and Kristy Janvier.

Sarasvati Productions launched this popular event in 2003. Over the years it has featured over a hundred monologues from playwrights across Canada and toured to soup kitchens, correctional centres and shopping malls. The goal is to provide a range of voices, issues and styles that relate to women's experiences.

- Sunday, March 4th, 2:00 PM – Ukrainian Labour Temple
- Tuesday, March 6th, 1:30-3:30PM – [North End Women's Centre](#)
- Wednesday, March 7th 12-1 PM – [Women's Trans-Spectrum Centre](#) hosted at the Hive U of W
- Friday, March 9th 6PM – Interlake Women's Resource Centre

The full performances of the cabaret of monologues will take place on **March 10 at 4pm and 8pm at the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (at U of W, 400 Colony Street). Tickets are \$15** and can be purchased at www.sarasvati.ca or by calling 204-586-2236.

About Sarasvati Productions: Sarasvati Dramatic Theatre Producers 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.

About International Women's Day: In 1977, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolutions calling on member states to proclaim a day for women's rights and international peace. Following the UN's lead, Canada chose March 8 as International Women's Day (IWD). Over time, International Women's Day has grown into a week-long series of commemorative events and activities across the country, recognizing global progress toward general equality.

**Sarasvati Productions - International Women's Week Cabaret of Monologues:
*I am Unstoppable***

Saviour Self by Andrea Scott and performed by Reena Jolly

Where were you in 1992 when Yonge Street exploded in riots? Josephine Benedict was a swaggering teenager looking to take care of herself, one tampon at a time.

Flight 182 created and performed by Anjali Sandhu

Where are you from? The Jungle Book, supermodels, ignorant politicians...nothing will stop Rani from being accepted as Canadian.

I Got 99 Problems, My Penis is Just One created and performed by Cynthia Fortlage

One transgender woman's exploration of her journey to womanhood. This piece delves deep into Learning to be a Feminist, Loss of Privilege, and the Subtleties of Sisterhood.

I Am Unstoppable created and performed by Joanna Hawkins

Can you remember a time when nothing stood in your way? The innocence of childhood can make you feel unstoppable, but how do we persevere after the barriers and discrimination in the dominant world are fully perceived? Deaf artist, Joanna Hawkins explores this through mime.

Captain of My Ship by Kathy France and performed by Ady Kay in collaboration with Victoria Hill and Emily Solstice

A woman recounts her coming of age story, reliving the confusion and fear that define a young woman's entry into sexual awareness.

I've Never Been Very Good at Drawing Hearts, But I Keep Trying by A.b. Norris and performed by Monica Thurn und Taxis

Using images captured during a lunar eclipse, this audio-visual media and collaborative performance piece explores (dis)connection between the persistent need to love/be loved and actually being good at either.

I Am a Warrior by Sue Higgs performed by Cheryl Soluk

Cathy signs up for a course. Nothing unusual about that, except for the fact that Cathy is in her late 60's in a class full of twenty-something's.

Sweet An Nice by Althea Cunningham and performed by Lorraine James

Pregnant with a child, Jamaican immigrant Celestine seeks a better life in a new country. After getting a family to sponsor her, she moves thousands of miles across several oceans to discover it's far from what she imagined it to be.

ObScene created and performed by Kristy Janvier

By holding onto our beliefs or judgements, how can we create connection? A performance art piece that explores healthy sensuality as a means of release.

Perfect Pie by Judith Thompson and performed by Anna Binder

When prompted by a long-estranged friend, Patsy explains what it's like to have an epileptic seizure. From master playwright Judith Thompson's ground-breaking play about how you cannot escape where you come from.