



COMPANY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #10: JUNE 2011

DRAMATIC SHOWCASE 2011



We are pleased to present "*Merlyn Productions Dramatic Showcase 2011*", playing for ONE NIGHT ONLY at the Ellice Theatre on Saturday, June 4th.

Merlyn Productions' DRAMATIC SHOWCASE is a new theatrical variety show that aims to become a yearly fund-raising event for our company.

In the 2011 Showcase, the adult introductory theatre students present their class-end scenes and monologues, followed by "*HEARTS AND FLOWERS*": an over-the-top mockery of an old-fashioned melodrama, featuring a cast of core members.

Come out to watch what the students have been working on – see a group of company regulars perform our first-ever melodrama – and support your local community theatre!

Featuring EV DARRACH, KEVIN HAMILL, TIM BEAUDRY, ANNA WOODWARD, RACHELL HODGINS, SAM KOWALUK, IAN PETERS and SARA ARENSON, with Stage One students BRIAN DOUGHERTY, SELENE PAUL, CAROLYNN PRIMEAU, JENNIFER REABURN, BAILEE WOODS and BARBARA ZALESKI.

Doors open at 7:00 PM; show starts at 7:30 PM.

Admission is BY DONATION (minimum \$5), or FREE with the purchase of any company merchandise (\$10 mug or \$15 t-shirt). Payment is in cash only.

For further information and reservations, call (204) 415-2714 or visit our website at MERLYN.BIZ.

WARNINGS: Mature content; suitable for ages 13+.

MERLYN PRODUCTIONS THEATRE SCHOOL

Since 2009, when our company evolved beyond occasional productions and began staging full seasons of plays, we have seen positive growth and change – such as the Autumn 2010 instalment of periodic courses in the Performing Arts.

As its latest landmark transition, *Merlyn Productions* is pleased to announce the establishment of a theatre school within the organisation!

The theatre school will offer formal training for children ages 10 to 12, teens, and adults: all taught by local professionals at competitive rates.

The Youth Theatre Instructor is **TONY FROST**, founder and thirty-year veteran Artistic Director of *Fantasy Theatre for Children and The Theatre School*: Winnipeg's oldest children's theatre company.

We are honoured to have Mr Frost working with us; his decades-long legacy as an acting teacher is evident throughout the Winnipeg theatre community and beyond. Within *Merlyn Productions*, his alumni include Artistic Director John Chase, Technical Director Kevin Hamill, and many others.

The Adult Theatre Instructor is **JOHN CHASE**, *Merlyn Productions* Artistic Director.

Classes run September to March at 306 - 63 Albert Street in the Exchange District. ALL STUDENTS PERFORM in the next edition of our "Dramatic Showcase" series in March 2012!



Detailed course information and application forms go online JUNE 25, 2011 at MERLYN.BIZ.

"Committed to staging quality theatrical entertainment at an affordable price."



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NOT ANOTHER UGLY MUG

Just in time for *Dramatic Showcase 2011*, we've added stylish two-tone ceramic mugs to our shop!

Featuring the company logo on one side and drama masks on the other, this classy item is just **\$10** and can be seen at <http://www.merlyn.biz/shop.htm>

Buy one at the Showcase box office and get a FREE admission to the show - while supplies last!

MERLYN MEMBER NEWS

Many members of *Merlyn Productions* fill diverse roles in the local arts community. We are pleased to highlight the following recent, newsworthy items:

- Welcome to new company member **CAROLYNN PRIMEAU**, who joined our Thaw Festival re-mount of *"THE BOY COMES HOME, And Other Works by A. A. Milne"* as House Manager and Sound Operator in March 2011.
- Congratulations to **TONY FROST** on a full three decades as founder and Artistic Director of *Fantasy Theatre for Children and The Theatre School*: Winnipeg's oldest children's theatre production company, established in 1981.
- **EV DARRACH** and **SAM KOWALUK** appeared as two of the three featured cast members in FTC's unique rendition of the classic *"SNOW WHITE"*, which closed its 30th Season in May.
- **MEGEAN HABER** was seen performing with the *Academy of Acting* in their May presentation of Frank Wedekind's *"Spring Awakening"* at the Ellice Theatre.
- **EV DARRACH**, **SAM KOWALUK** and **GORDON SANGSTER** are currently rehearsing with *G.D. Productions*, and will appear in June performances of its theatrical comedy/cabaret show in both Winnipeg and Brandon, Manitoba.

COMPANY STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
JOHN CHASE

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
KEVIN HAMILL

WARDROBE MISTRESS
LEILA MARSTON

SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

YOUTH THEATRE INSTRUCTOR
TONY FROST

ADULT THEATRE INSTRUCTOR
JOHN CHASE

FAMOUS THEATRE QUOTE

"Through all the world there goes one long cry from the heart of the artist: Give me leave to do my utmost."

– ISAK DINESON

