



NEWS RELEASE
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INDOOR PERFORMERS ANNOUNCED FOR 25th FRINGE FESTIVAL

WINNIPEG, December 14, 2011 – Last night, Fringe Executive Producer Chuck McEwen and Interim Festival Director Rob Ring conducted the **Winnipeg Fringe Performer Lottery** to randomly choose the indoor performers who will make up the 25th anniversary festival in July 2012.

283 companies were vying for the 117 spots available, which include 55 local spots, 33 national spots, 22 international spots and 7 spots at the Kids Venue. The lottery winners join five Canadian companies and five international companies who were already accepted into the festival through the CAFF Touring Lottery draw, bringing the total number of indoor performing companies to 127.

Some past festival favourites who will be returning include White Rabbit Productions, Squeezebox Mama, Stars and Hearts, Big Sandwich Productions, Found in New York, The Birdmann and Phoenix Productions, who were at the first Fringe, the 10th, the 20th and now the 25th. The full list of results is available online at www.winnipegfringe.com.

The addition of a new venue – the Muriel Richardson Auditorium at the Winnipeg Art Gallery – means that the Fringe was able to accept 10 more performing companies into the 2012 festival. There will also be 30-40 Bring Your Own Venue (BYOV) spots available. These slots are great for companies who are interested in doing site-specific theatre or who want to be a part of the festival but didn't get drawn for a regular slot. BYOV applications will be available on the Fringe website as of December 15, 2011.

The Fringe Performer Lottery was followed by a reading of the play *Aftertaste* by Kevin Klassen, the first in a series of **Retro Readings** in the lead up to the festival. Other plays in the series include: *Zac & Speth* by Rick Chafe (1992), *Mind of the Iguana* by Brian Drader and Stephen Eric McIntyre (1988), *Blade* by Yvette Nolan (1990) and *Eureka!* By Ron Jenkins (1991). Performance dates and locations TBA.

The **2012 Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival runs July 18-29, 2012**. Fringe Festival passes are already on sale online, in person at the MTC Box Office (174 Market Avenue), by calling 204-942-6537 or by mailing a pass order form. Visit www.winnipegfringe.com/tickets for more info.

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