

**For Immediate Release**

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

**Experience this! More live theatre in downtown  
Halifax and Dartmouth than ever before**

(Halifax, NS) – Celebrating some of Canada’s most innovative theatre artists, Canada’s **Magnetic North Theatre Festival**, in collaboration with **Eastern Front’s Stages Theatre Festival**, is pleased to announce the 2014 Festival line-up in Halifax and Dartmouth, June 19-29, 2014.

Magnetic North is Canada’s only national theatre festival, bringing Canadian stories to life on stage across the country. The annual event, which alternates between its home base in Ottawa and a new Canadian city every second year, promotes talented Canadian artists by showcasing the best touring theatre from across the country.

For this year’s event, Magnetic North is proud to partner with Halifax’s Eastern Front Theatre, a local company with a national reputation for speaking to the Atlantic Canadian experience.

“All of the shows being presented at the 2014 Festival in Halifax are underscored by a sense of urgency - a desire to break through,” said Brenda Leadlay, Artistic Director of the Magnetic North Theatre Festival. “These are stories that need to be told in order for transformation to take place. In all of these plays people are searching for love or they are torn between their love of one thing over another. What makes all these stories worthwhile is that they offer the possibility of redemption.”

The Stages Theatre Festival has joined forces with Magnetic North in Halifax to put East Coast stories and artists in the spotlight through a variety of productions, play readings, workshops, and talkback sessions.

“I am thrilled that Eastern Front is partnering with Magnetic North this year to make each of our Festivals bigger and more varied than they could have been on their own,” says Charlie Rhindress, Artistic Producer of Eastern Front Theatre. “This is a wonderful opportunity for us and it will bring even more attention to our Stages Theatre Festival and Atlantic Canada’s incredibly talented artists. By combining our two Festivals we will be able to provide eleven full days of wonderful theatrical experiences for our audiences and artists alike.”

**2014 Festival Presentations:**

**wag** is directed and performed by Denise Clarke, one of Canada’s most riveting performers, and features Clarke as she dances her way through a solo work of tender stories and beautiful music that will leave you exhilarated and uplifted.


Company: One Yellow Rabbit Theatre (Calgary, AB).

The show runs from June 19 – 22 at the Neptune Theatre Scotiabank Studio.

**Broken Sex Doll**, written and directed by Andy Thompson with music by Anton Lipovetsky, *Broken Sex Doll* is a sexy, sci-fi musical comedy about a futuristic society where everyone is addicted to super hi-tech porn. Think *Blade Runner* meets *The Six Million Dollar Man* meets *Glee* meets *Flesh Gordon*. It’s a “feel good” musical that’s so wrong it’s right!

Company: The Virtual Stage (Vancouver, BC).

The show runs from June 20 – 24 at Dalhousie’s Dunn Theatre.



**LEAR**, directed by Philip McKee and featuring Clare Coulter, is a distilled and vital adaptation of King Lear that uses dynamic staging to present a modern take on the relationship between powers in decline, and the powers that stand to inherit.

Company: Philip McKee Performance Projects (Toronto, ON).

The show runs from June 20 – 24 at Citadel High's Spatz Theatre.

**When It Rains**, written and directed by Anthony Black, is by turns blackly funny social satire, heartrending meta-tragedy, and visually arresting theatrical illusion- an acclaimed production from one of Canada's most heralded touring companies.

Company: 2b theatre (Halifax, NS).

The show runs from June 22 – 25 at Citadel High's Spatz Theatre.

**Huff**, directed by Karin Randoja and designed by Elizabeth Kantor, sees Cliff Cardinal flawlessly spinning his tragic material into more laugh out loud moments than you'd think possible in this heartbreaking, yet hopeful, search for love.

Company: Cardinal/Kantor Productions (Toronto, ON).

The show runs from June 23, June 25-28 at Dalhousie's The David Mack. Murray Studio Theatre.

**Iceland**, written by Nicolas Billon and directed by Ravi Jain, is set against the backdrop of the 2008 banking crisis when a confrontation between a real estate agent and a tenant takes an unexpected turn.

Company: Why Not Theatre (Toronto, ON).

The show runs from June 24-25, June 27-28 at Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth.

**The Tale of a Town Nova Scotia**, directed by Lisa Marie DiLiberto, is a launch to the national tour of a charming creation that celebrates main street stories gathered from people around the province. It is presented back to the community via a multi-media performance of sound bites, music and memories.

Company: FIXT POINT Theatre (Toronto, ON).

The show runs from June 24 -28. Location TBA.

**Dance Marathon** is a joyous, moving and wondrously fun interactive event that has you strapping on your dance shoes to whirl around the floor, or cheer on your friends, in a modern spin of a 1920's endurance dance contest.

Company: bluemouth inc. (Toronto, ON).

The show runs from June 25 – 28 at Olympic Community Hall and is suitable for all ages.

**The National Elevator Project** is an engaging project that features short plays (10 minutes and under) written for and performed in working elevators. You'll ride an elevator with the actors, placing you in the thick of the story for an unforgettable one-of-a-kind performance experience.


Company: Yes Theatre (Edmonton, AB).


The show runs from June 22 – 25. Location TBA.

**Stella, Queen of the Snow**, directed by Jim Morrow, is the world premiere of a much-anticipated collaborative effort. Mermaid's stage adaptation of Marie-Louise Gay's beloved book tells the story of two children as they spend the day in the snow discovering the wonderful world of winter.

Company: Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia (Windsor, NS).

The show runs from June 20 – 21 at Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth.





***Two In The Coop***, written by Ron Fromstein, is a comedy that follows two little birds as they try to cope when their mother flies the coop in this insightful, humorous piece about children's fears – a witty delight for the whole family!

Company: Halifax Theatre for Young People, (Halifax, NS).

The show runs from June 20 & 22 at Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth.

***Pop-Up Love Party***, directed by Alex McLean, is a work in progress from Zuppa Theatre. It re-imagines the famous conversation described in Plato's *Symposium* and asks the audience to raise a glass to love in a multi-sensory feast of dance, theatre and thought.

Company: Zuppa Theatre Co. (Halifax, NS).

The show runs from June 23 – 25 at the Lion & Bright Café Wine Bar.

***Who Killed Spalding Gray?***, written and performed by Daniel MacIvor, features the eminent Canadian playwright and actor as he explores his personal connection to the famed American monologist Spalding Gray in this compelling solo piece.

Company: Re: Work with a Factory Theatre and Necessary Angel Co-Production (Toronto, ON / Halifax, NS).

The show runs from June 24-25 & 27-28 at the Neptune Theatre Scotiabank Studio.

Tickets for all above-mentioned shows as well as Festival passes are available at [magneticnorthfestival.ca/buytickets/](http://magneticnorthfestival.ca/buytickets/)

### **About Canada's Magnetic North Theatre Festival**

The Magnetic North Theatre Festival is produced by the Canadian Theatre Festival Society and co-presented by the National Arts Centre's English Theatre. Major sponsors include: Canadian Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, The Coast, National Arts Centre, Ontario Arts Centre, Eastern Front Theatre, Arts Nova Scotia, Halifax Regional Municipality, Stages Theatre Festival, Metro, Ticketpro and Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

To keep up-to-date with Magnetic North, visit: [magneticnorthfestival.ca](http://magneticnorthfestival.ca) on Facebook: [/MNTFest](https://www.facebook.com/MNTFest) and on Twitter: [@MNTF](https://twitter.com/MNTF) #MNTF14

### **About Eastern Front's Stages Theatre Festival**

Eastern Front Theatre Company, Halifax Regional Municipality's most prominent theatre dedicated to the development, production and promotion of Atlantic Canadian theatre artists, is now in its 21st season. Committed to the pursuit of artistic excellence, the company engages and presents the work of Atlantic Canada's most established and respected artists as well as fostering the successes of tomorrow.

For more information about Eastern Front's Stages Theatre Festival, visit [easternfronttheatre.com](http://easternfronttheatre.com) on Facebook: [/EasternFrontTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/EasternFrontTheatre) and on Twitter: [@Eastern\\_Front](https://twitter.com/Eastern_Front)

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