

# the Carol Shields FESTIVAL OF NEW WORKS

## Schedule & Play Synopses

As of Wednesday, May 19, 2010 – Please check back for updates

### Wednesday, May 19

**11:30 am** *InstaPlay* – 90 Minute

**-1:00 pm** **Playwriting Contest**

(Edmonton Court, Portage Place  
Shopping Centre)

To register, call 925-5256

Enter *InstaPlay*, and prove to the world that your script-writing talents can beat the odds. This is improv for writers – you'll be placed in the middle of a shopping centre with nothing but a pad, a pencil and your own incredibly fertile imagination and superior talent – and 90 minutes to create a play!

### Thursday, May 20

**7:00 pm** **Kick-off Celebration**

PTE Mainstage

**Special Guest Speaker**

Tickets \$25 at the PTE Box Office, 942-5483

**Andy McKim**, Artistic Director of Theatre Passe Muraille, Canada's oldest alternative theatre devoted to the development and production of new Canadian work.

**Dance Presentation**

(Presented by the Royal Winnipeg  
Ballet School-Professional Division)

***Desire***

A collaboration between playwright **Debbie Patterson**, musician **Greg Lowe** and choreographer **Stéphane Léonard**. Inspired by Patterson's current struggle with Multiple Sclerosis, *Desire* explores the fleeting perfection of the human body.

Performed by the graduating students of the RWB School Professional Division

**Short Films**

(Presented by Winnipeg Film Group)

***Static*** by Tyler Funk

***Souvenirs*** - Waiting for the Parade by Paula Kelly

**Reading: *The Neighbour***

(Presented by Prairie Theatre  
Exchange)

**Winner of InstaPlay, 90 Minute Playwriting Contest 2009**

By Kerri Twigg

A couple's decision to spend a year without leaving their apartment leads to a very different relationship with their next door neighbour.

Note: Schedule subject to change.

## Thursday, May 20 (cont'd)

7:00 pm	<b>Kick-off Celebration</b> (cont'd)	Tickets \$25 at the PTE Box Office, 942-5483
	<b>Selections of Musical Theatre</b> (Presented by White Rabbit Productions)	Details TBA
	<b>Short Shots</b> (Presented by the Prairie Theatre Exchange Playwrights Unit)	10-minute plays specially commissioned for the Festival
	<b>Song Selections</b>	Local singer/songwriter Tom Keenan offers a sampling of his work
	<b>Art on the Spot</b>	Visual artist Arlea Ashcroft will create a piece inspired by the other artists performing at the Kick-off
	<b>More -- TBA</b>	

## Friday, May 21

<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Short Shots</b> (Presented by the Prairie Theatre Exchange) PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre	10-minute plays specially commissioned for the Festival, including new work from <b>Joseph Aragon</b> , <b>Tricia Cooper</b> , <b>James Durham</b> and <b>Ellen Peterson</b> (all members of the PTE Playwrights Unit)
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Reading: <i>Such Creatures</i></b> (Presented by Prairie Theatre Exchange) PTE Mainstage	<b>By Judith Thompson, Featuring Doreen Brownstone</b> Two deeply-linked monologues show us the astonishing courage and resilience of young human beings during earth shattering moments. Each piece introduces us to a fifteen-year-old girl: the first speaks to us from contemporary Toronto, and the second from Auschwitz, 1945. Thanks to their shared love of Shakespeare, each girl believes in miracles when there is almost no hope and in humour when there is nothing but fear.
<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Reading: <i>Some Light Undergroun'</i></b> (Presented by Theatre Incarnate) PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre	<b>By Lisa Martens</b> The 2120's Oil and Water Wars have swept the prairies. Rayann's surrogate family lives outside the law in the close quarters of a fortified basement in Winnipeg's North End. Surviving under the Corporate Government's radar, these peaceable urban insurgents struggle through the details of love, friendship and discipline without transforming the pressures they face into internal violence.
<b>8:30 pm</b>	<b>Reading: <i>One of Ours</i></b> (Presented Winnipeg Jewish Theatre) PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre	<b>By Michael Nathanson</b> the new play from Governor General's Award nominee and Manitoba Book Award winner Michael Nathanson. The play is set at West Hawk Lake, Manitoba during an unseasonably hot September. Mark and his wife Janice await the arrival of Mark's brother Simon and his new mystery girlfriend. This poignant comedy explores issues of entitlement, sibling rivalry, and our emerging ideas about privacy.

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## Saturday, May 22

- 1:45 pm**    **InstaPlay – The Winners**    The winning play in each division of the 90 Minute Playwriting Contest is read by professional actors  
PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre
- 2:00 pm**    **Short Shots**    10-minute plays specially commissioned for the Festival  
(Presented by PTE)  
Aqua Books, 274 Garry Street
- 3:00 pm**    **Reading: *The Secret Mask***    **By Rick Chafe**  
(Presented by Prairie Theatre Exchange)  
PTE Mainstage  
George has waited 40 years to meet the bastard who abandoned him as a two-year-old. Except when the phone finally rings, it's from a hospital in Vancouver. Dad's had a stroke. His memory is fragmented, his speech is mostly gone, and he has no idea who George is. Or who he is himself, for that matter. The story of fathers and sons and how a funny reconciliation happened on the way to getting even.
- 5:30 pm**    **Panel Discussion:**    **Panel: Bill Kerr, Ann Hodges, Ellen Peterson**  
**When Good Plays Go Bad**  
PTE SAAN Studio  
The reading was great, the workshop was so productive, so what happened? Every now and then, a final production of a script just doesn't live up to the promise of the reading. Is there something that makes a play work as a reading that undermines the staging of the play? Join leading members of Winnipeg's theatre community as we wrestle this and other tough questions to the ground.
- 7:30 pm**    **Musical Reading: *neighbours***    **By Craig Cassils & Robin Richardson**  
(Presented by White Rabbit Productions)  
PTE Mainstage  
We've heard that it takes all kinds of people to make a world. The same can be said of neighbourhoods. People thrown together, mostly by chance, are challenged to live their lives, relate to each other, and be a community. They each bring with them their goals, dreams, and ambitions, their troubles and their strengths, their needs and their wants. So it is with all members of the neighbourhood, including the children, who also live side by side and who touch each other's lives like the pieces of a puzzle.
- 8:00 pm**    **Reading: *The Last Time***    **By Owen Perkins**  
(Presented by Manitoba Association of Playwrights)  
PTE Colin Jackson Studio Theatre  
Three brothers attempt to find themselves amongst a train wreck of motives and on the way discover something much more...or...much less. Discovering who you really are is quite difficult, especially when there's a gun and especially when it's loaded, but for Billy Bob there's just no other option. If he only had that money, if he only had that money...in that bank.
- 9:30 pm**    ***Playwrights Cabaret***    A benefit for the Actors Fund of Canada, featuring volunteer performances by local actors and playwrights. Come backstage for a potpourri of surprising performances by some of Winnipeg's finest talent.  
(PTE Rehearsal Hall)
- SHORT FILMS***    Throughout the Festival, short films will be paired with play readings for an extra treat.  
(Presented by Winnipeg Film Group)

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