

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS
**WPG COMEDY
FESTIVAL**
13 rotten years.



Laugh yourself to *death*.

April 7 to 13, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 2014 Winnipeg Comedy Festival: You'll laugh yourself to *death*.

April 7 to 13, 2014

February 13, 2014 (Winnipeg) — Macabre twists, eerie misfortune and sinister spells of bad luck await anyone bizarre enough to miss this year's Winnipeg Comedy Festival, delivering a lethal dose of laughs to audiences from April 7-13.

Celebrating its unlucky 13th birthday in appropriately frightful fashion, this year's Fest has assembled another killer roster of comics to lend a hand with ghastly gags and assorted "Gorey" details. From wicked wits and mordant misfits to creepy cut-ups and shadowy satirists, the lineup promises a dark and dastardly spin on one of the city's most infectious events.

No stranger to beastly behaviour, film and TV fave Tom Green brings his oddball charm to this year's late gala on Saturday, April 12, showcasing the "Special Delivery" of a roster of similarly singular talents, including super-droll festival regular Jon Steinberg.

Earlier the same night, *Match Game* host Darrin Rose turns Pantages Playhouse into his own personal man-cave, exploring macho attitudes and male ego at the über-masculine "Bro Show". (Don't worry: you can balance out all that testosterone at "The No Bro Show" later the same night, when host Tricia Cooper gives the last word to an all-female lineup.)

On Friday, April 11, TV's Daryn Jones hosts "First World Problems"—an evening of wry satire and observational humour—then our panel of prognosticators turn their gaze to the future at the The Future Show gala the same night. Over at the Gas Station Arts Centre, find out whether "Size Matters" as diminutive Las Vegas legend Tanyalee Davis returns home to perform with a lineup of comics representing different points on the body-type spectrum.

Bring your appetite to the opening gala on Thursday, April 10, when one-woman tsunami Sandra Shamas hosts the culinary-themed "Food, Glorious Food" showcase, which also stars comedian Cris Nannarone, host of the Cooking Channel's *Best in Chow*. Dine and laugh at Gastrocomique at Fusion Grill on Wednesday, April 9, or for an even earlier start on the festivities, catch the Comedy Aces showcase at McPhillips Station Casino on Tuesday, April 8.

Throughout the week, be sure to check out WCF crowd-pleasers like the Winnipeg Show (featuring a scary-good lineup of locals), the adult-themed Dark and Stormy Show (in which comics can indulge their "baser" instincts), and the WCF debut of a live taping of CBC Radio's hit sketch program *The Irrelevant Show*.

Catch solo gigs by Derek Edwards, Elvira Kurt and Dave Hemstad (among many others), fly by the seat of your pants with Doctor Whom & The Lords of Improv (hosted by CRUMBS founder Stephen Sim), or hit the Cinematheque for a film festival of "N(One)-Hit Wonders" (think Mel Brooks' *The Producers* and The Marx Brothers' *Duck Soup*), curated by *Kids in the Hall* vet Kevin McDonald.

Tickets to the Winnipeg Comedy Festival are available at www.winnipegcomedyfestival.com, or through Ticketmaster (www.ticketmaster.ca) or the Gas Station Arts Centre (445 River Ave.).

For more information or to inquire about media opportunities, please contact:

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The Winnipeg Comedy Festival is a production of the Gas Station Arts Centre.

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And-a-one, and-a-three...

Triskaidekaphobia (the fear of the number 13) is treatable, but my need to sound like a smarty-pants has no cure. This year, we are actually quite lucky to have so many great comics on the roster. Plus, as the fates would have it, we have managed to create some very lucky breaks for local acts. In fact, while the Chinese may have branded 2014 The Year of the Horse, we dub it The Year of the Winnipeg Comic. So our dour marketing campaign hides an ear-to-ear grin.

Delivered in partnership with CBC Television and Frantic Films, each of our themed galas will begin with a tailored set from a Winnipeg comic, which will air as brand new Winnipeg Comedy Festival web content on cbc.ca. It's a chance for national coverage and a slot on the main event. Congrats to Dan Verville, Chantel Marostica, Matt Falk, Paul Rabliauskas, and Big Daddy Tazz for making the final cut.

And Hot Thespian Action's Jane Testar and Jacquie Loewen join the cast of The Irrelevant Show for a special evening of sketches from the hit CBC Radio brand. Don't worry, we're not walking away from The Debaters, they're back. We think The Irrelevant Show has legs just as long, and we're hoping for a yearly visit from our new gang, too.

And what better time than the 50th anniversary of Doctor Who to introduce a new show? We're so sure of The Irrelevant Show being a hit we've already ordered a spin off. Doctor Whom & the Lords of Improv features our Irrelevant cast, with stellar local Stephen Sim along for the spacey trip.

We've really piled on the local shows, meaning this year will be a very tragic year for big spenders. The Upper Deck shows at the King's Head Pub mean top draw comedy at pickpocket prices.

But our obsession with locals doesn't mean Canada's best comics are dead to us. Along with the many Very Big Deals you can see all of Canada's best, in venues large and small. This year, it's more up close and personal, with the best Rumors showcases EVER and a solo show from the indefatigable Elvira Kurt, who's become so beloved and well known to Winnipeggers she might just have to drop her last name! And Fringe Fest hit "I Hate Bill Pats" gets reworked and remounted — a dark tale with a bittersweet end.

Bruce Clark hosts Just Kidding!, a thrilling panel discussion on the question of the limits of comic speech that will bring us to the finish of a thirteenth festival that includes those three pillars of standup gold, Best of the Fest, Dark and Stormy and Comedy Aces.

Okay, so maybe it's not that grim and ghastly after all. But the world is still going to hell and if it helps, I'm in a very bad mood.

Grimly,

Al Rae, Esq

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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Line-up*

• GALA HOSTS •

Sandra Shamas • Daryn Jones • Darrin Rose • Tom Green

• ARTISTS •

Big Daddy Tazz
Graham Chittenden
Bruce Clark
Graham Clark
Tanyalee Davis
Ivan Decker
Sunee Dhaliwal
John B. Duff
Jeff Elliott
Derek Edwards
Matt Falk
Neil Grahm
Jen Grant
Ali Hassan
Dave Hemstad
Chadd Henderson
Katie-ellen Humphries
Leif Ingebrigtsen

Julie Kim
Simon King
Rebecca Kohler
Elvira Kurt
Sean Lecomber
Sook-Yin Lee
Jacqueline Loewen
Chantel Marostica
Kevin McDonald
Mark Meer
Howie Miller
Ted Morris
Tyler Morrison
Cris Nannarone
Jana O'Connor
Darryl Orr
Steve Patterson
Bill Pats

Jean Paul
Rob Pue
Paul Rabliauskas
Evany Rosen
Stephen Sim
Arthur Simeon
DeAnne Smith
Winston Spear
Ron Sparks
Tim Steeves
Jon Steinberg
Jane Testar
Dan Verville
Christina Walkinshaw
Peter White
John Wing
Donovan Workun

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS
**WPG COMEDY
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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH ♦

Festival Preview

MCNALLY ROBINSON
PRAIRIE INK RESTAURANT — 7:00PM
—Free Event—

♦ MONDAY, APRIL 7TH ♦

A Lawyer Walks Up to the Bar...

CLEA (Community Legal Education Association)
FUNDRAISER

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 7:30PM
Host: Dave Hemstad / PERFORMERS: Jen Grant,
Derek Edwards, Graham Chittenden
TICKETS: \$50.00 (includes \$35.00 tax receipt)

Kings of King's Head

KING'S HEAD PUB — 9:00PM
Host: Chantel Marostica
TICKETS: \$10.00

♦ TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH ♦

High School Improv Show

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 6:00PM
Host: Chadd Henderson
TICKETS: \$5.00

Rumor's Comedy Club Series (#1)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 8:00PM
TICKETS: \$15.00

Comedy Aces

MCPHILLIPS STATION CASINO — 8:00PM
Host: Graham Chittenden / PERFORMERS: Derek Edwards,
Jen Grant, Dave Hemstad, Darryl Orr
TICKETS: \$23.00 (18+ event — no minors)

Doctor Whom & The Lords of Improv

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 8:30PM
Host: Stephen Sim / MUSICIAN: Leif Ingebrightsen
ACT I: THE LORDS OF IMPROV || ACT II: DOCTOR WHOM
Mark Meer, Stephen Sim, Donovan Workun
TICKETS: \$15.00 general, \$12.00 students

WCF's The Upper Deck

KING'S HEAD PUB — 10:30PM
Host: Dan Verville
TICKETS: \$10.00

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS
**WPG COMEDY
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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH ♦

Gastrocomique

FUSION GRILL — 6:00PM

WITH Derek Edwards

TICKETS: \$15.00

KEVIN FILM FEST: *The Man with Two Brains* by Carl Reiner

CINEMATHEQUE — 7:00PM

Host: Kevin McDonald

TICKETS: *Available at Cinematheque*

I Hate Bill Pats

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 7:00 PM

PERFORMED BY: Bill Pats

TICKETS: \$15.00

CBC Radio's The Irrelevant Show

BURTON CUMMINGS THEATRE — 7:30PM

PERFORMERS: Neil Grahm, Mark Meer,

Jana O'Connor, Donovan Workun with Jane Testar

MUSICAL GUEST: Jacqueline Loewen

TICKETS: \$22.00

Rumor's Comedy Club Series (#2)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 8:00PM

HEADLINER: Dave Hemstad

TICKETS: \$15.00

Elvira Kurt: Angel and Asshole

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 9:30PM

PERFORMED BY: Elvira Kurt

TICKETS: \$18.00

WCF's The Upper Deck

KING'S HEAD PUB — 10:00PM

Host: Dan Verville

TICKETS: \$10.00



2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH ♦

KEVIN FILM FEST:
Duck Soup by Leo McCarey

CINEMATHEQUE — 7:00PM

Host: Kevin McDonald

TICKETS: *Available at Cinematheque*

CBC Radio's DNT0

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 7:00PM

Host: Sook-Yin Lee

TICKETS: \$18.00

Thursday Gala

PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE THEATRE — 7:15PM

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Host: Sandra Shamas / PERFORMERS: Graham Chittenden,

Katie-Ellen Humphries, Ali Hassan, Jen Grant,

Dave Hemstad, Cris Nannarone

TICKETS: \$44.99

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*Rumor's Comedy
Club Series (#3)*

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 8:00PM

HEADLINER: Derek Edwards

TICKETS: \$20.00

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS
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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ **FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH** ♦

KEVIN FILM FEST:
The Producers
by Mel Brooks

CINEMATHEQUE — 7:00PM

Host: Kevin McDonald

TICKETS: *Available at Cinematheque*

Friday Early Gala

PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE THEATRE —
6:45PM

FIRST WORLD PROBLEMS

Host: Daryn Jones / PERFORMERS: Darryl Orr,
Ted Morris, Julie Kim, Sean Lecomber, Jeff Elliott

TICKETS: \$44.99

The Winnipeg Show

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 7:00PM

Host: Bruce Clark / PERFORMERS: Big Daddy Tazz,
TBA

TICKETS: \$18.00

Rumor's Comedy Club
Series (#4)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 7:45PM

TICKETS: \$15.00

Friday Late Gala

PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE THEATRE —

9:15PM

THE FUTURE

Host: TBA / PERFORMERS: Graham Clark, Peter White,
Evany Rosen, John Wing, Jean Paul, Ron Sparks

TICKETS: \$44.99

Rumor's Comedy
Club Series (#5)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 10:30PM

HEADLINER: Sean Lecomber

TICKETS: \$15.00

Size Matters

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 10:30PM

PERFORMERS: Tanyalee Davis, Sunee Dhaliwal

TICKETS: \$18.00

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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH ♦

CBC Radio's The Debaters

METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
BY CANAD INNS — 2:00PM
Host: Steve Patterson

TICKETS: \$32 floor || \$25 balcony seat || \$20 balcony standing
(minors must be accompanied by an adult)

Saturday Early Gala

PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE THEATRE — 6:45PM

THE BRO SHOW

Host: Darrin Rose / PERFORMERS: Rob Pue,
Howie Miller, Ivan Decker, Rebecca Kohler,
Tim Steeves, Christina Walkinshaw

TICKETS: \$44.99

KEVIN FILM FEST:

The General by Clyde Bruckman and Buster Keaton

CINEMATHEQUE — 7:00PM
Host: Kevin McDonald

TICKETS: Available at Cinematheque

Rumor's Comedy Club Series (#6)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 7:45PM

TICKETS: \$17.00

The No Bro Show

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 9:00PM
Host: Tricia Cooper / PERFORMERS: Jen Grant, DeAnne Smith,
Christina Walkinshaw, Katie-Ellen Humphries, Julie Kim

TICKETS: \$18.00

Saturday Late Gala

PANTAGES PLAYHOUSE THEATRE — 9:15PM

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Host: Tom Green / PERFORMERS: Winston Spear, Arthur
Simeon, DeAnne Smith, Simon King, Jon Steinberg

TICKETS: \$44.99

The Dark and Stormy Show

METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
BY CANAD INNS — 9:30PM
Host: Tyler Morrison / PERFORMERS: Tanyalee Davis, Rob Pue,
Tim Steeves, Al Rae

TICKETS: \$22.00 (18+ event — no minors)

Rumor's Comedy Club Series (#7)

RUMOR'S COMEDY CLUB — 10:30PM

TICKETS: \$17.00

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS
**WPG COMEDY
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2014 *Winnipeg Comedy Festival Schedule*

♦ SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH ♦

CBC Radio's The Debaters

METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

BY CANAD INNS — 2:00PM

Host: Steve Patterson

TICKETS: \$32 floor || \$25 balcony seat || \$20 balcony standing
(minors must be accompanied by an adult)

Just Kidding? The Limits of Free Speech

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE — 4:00PM

MODERATOR: Bruce Clark / PERFORMERS: Al Rae, DeAnne Smith

TICKETS: \$10.00

KEVIN FILM FEST: *Ishtar by Elaine May*

CINEMATHEQUE — 7:00PM

Host: Kevin McDonald

TICKETS: *Available at Cinematheque*

Best of the Fest

METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

BY CANAD INNS — 7:30PM

Host: Dave Hemstad / PERFORMERS: Tanyalee Davis,
Jeff Elliott, Howie Miller, Tim Steeves

TICKETS: \$44.99

GAS STATION ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS

WPG COMEDY FESTIVAL

APRIL 7-13, 2014

TELEVISION GALAS RECORDED BY:



FESTIVAL SPONSOR:



Winnipeg Free Press



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