

For Immediate Release
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Concrete Theatre announces 2011-2012 season

Concrete Theatre welcomes you to its 22nd season of diverse and relevant theatre for young audiences. Artistic Co-directors Caroline Howarth and Mieko Ouchi are excited to announce a season that includes three returning favourites and a new crop of plays at *Sprouts 2012!*

First off, this fall, we're bringing back a slam dunk hit! *Offensive Fouls*, by award-winning playwright Jason Long and directed by Caroline Howarth, is an engaging and thought provoking exploration of cross-cultural relationships, racism, violence and respect as seen through the eyes of a high school couple. Joey is 17 and obsessed with basketball, his Irish heritage and his girlfriend Christine. But when Christine hears a rumour that Joey may have been involved in the racially motivated assault of a local convenience store owner, their relationship is put to the test and Joey must face his own prejudices. This Concrete production can be seen at the Stanley Milner Library Theatre on November 18 and 19. The show will tour to Edmonton area Jr. and Sr. High Schools from November 14 to November 25, 2011.

Next up after Christmas, we are bringing back a Concrete favourite for Elementary school and family audiences this winter. *Lig & Bittle* by Elyne Quan & Jared Matsunaga-Turnbull tell the tale of Lig, who is big and Bittle who is little, who never seem to fit in, in their hard-to-fit-int-worlds. When they are each invited to journey to the land of Perfectt Phitt – a mysterious place where they will finally find a spot just their size – they hit the road for new adventure. This engaging and energetic show, which was recognized with the 2002 Sterling Award for Outstanding Production for Young Audiences is directed by Tracy Carroll and celebrates the diversity in all of us. The show will tour Elementary schools January 30 through February 10, 2012, with Public and Elementary school performances at Fringe Theatre Adventures, January 26 to 28, 2012.

Spring brings the phenomenal 15th tour of the Sterling Award winning *Are We There Yet?* by Jane Heather directed by Mieko Ouchi, visiting Grade 9 audiences across Alberta from March 19 through April 27, 2012. Winner of the 2000 Sterling Award for Outstanding Production for Young Audiences, this critically acclaimed 90-minute participatory play explores sexuality, relationships, birth control and boundaries appropriate for Grade 9 students and covers the Alberta Health curriculum.

Wrapping up the season will be the 11th *Sprouts New Play Festival for Kids* on June 9 and 10, 2012. This ground-breaking greenhouse for new works for children was the first of its kind in Canada, and has been the incubator for many full-length scripts for the company and beyond. *Sprouts 2012* will feature four new short plays exploring our diverse cultural community will be featured along with interactive activities in the lobby.

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For more information contact Concrete Theatre at 780.439.3905 or visit www.concretetheatre.ca