

July 23, 2014



## Concrete Theatre announces 2014-2015 season 25 Years Young!

Concrete Theatre welcomes you to its **25th** season of diverse, dynamic and entertaining theatre for young audiences. Artistic Co-Directors Caroline Howarth and Mieko Ouchi are excited to announce a season that includes the world premiere of a brand new musical, the remount of a hit play by one of Edmonton's favorite playwrights, the return of our participatory show with a twist... and of course a new crop of plays and a brand new home for **Sprouts 2015!**

This fall, we are proud to present the second pilot year of ***The Bully Project***, a new participatory show written and directed by Mieko Ouchi with collaborator Caroline Howarth. This year, after an astoundingly successful first year touring to Junior Highs, **we are adding a second version for upper Elementary (Grades 4-6)**. Bullying behavior is something that schools, families, communities and young people grapple with every day. ***The Bully Project*** explores the complex reasons why this behavior happens, and what young people and the adults and communities who care about them can do about it. Touring to Edmonton & area Elementary & Junior High schools from **October 20 to November 15, 2014**.

In January 2015, we are thrilled to present a world premiere of a brand new musical for Elementary and family audiences, ***The Antyssey***, from the topnotch team of Richard Lee & Joel Crichton. Originally a commission for Sprouts 2013, this delightful play follows Oscar, a young ant, brought up with one goal in life: to dedicate his life to his black ant colony. When he discovers the truth about his parentage... that he is actually a yellow ant... huge questions about his identity send him away from his beloved colony on a journey of self-discovery. An Antyssey! Directed by Mieko Ouchi, the production will tour Elementary schools **February 2 to 21, 2015** with public & school performances at **Fringe Theatre Adventures** in the ATB Financial Arts Barns **January 29 to 31, 2015**.

Spring brings the remount of Concrete's award-winning production of Collin Doyle's play ***Routes***. A powerful and emotional exploration of public and private acts of violence... ***Routes*** is a riveting one man play that delves into the impact of violence through the eyes of Tom, a fifteen year old boy who escapes violence at home by riding his local bus until closing. Through his story, we discover the ties between violence at home to bullying at school and the killing of a man by four youth on this very route. This production won a Toronto Dora Award and an Edmonton Sterling Award for Outstanding Production for Young Audiences. Directed by Mieko Ouchi, the play will be touring to Edmonton Junior & Senior High schools **from April 7 to 23, 2015**, with public performances at **C103, April 24 & 25, 2015**

Wrapping up the season will be the **14<sup>th</sup> Sprouts New Play Festival for Kids** on **June 6 and 7, 2015** in a brand new location! Yes... for the first time in the history of the festival we are moving to the south-side! Local playwrights from diverse cultural backgrounds will share a fresh crop of three brand new short plays for kids and their families. Presented by FTA's Arts At The Barn Series, please join us in the Westbury Theatre at the ATB Financial Arts Barns and Lobby for two afternoons of storytelling, music, art and theatre.