



For Immediate Release
January 4, 2013

Paper Song – Unfolding the Story

[Paper Song – Unfolding the Story Video](#)

Concrete Theatre is proud to present the world premiere of a brand new full length play for young audiences **by Jared Matsunaga-Turnbull**. This exciting new production unites a traditional Japanese folktale with original writing to create a beautiful story that carries a powerful message about transforming oppression into justice, despair into hope.

With **Paper Song**, Edmonton playwright **Jared Matsunaga-Turnbull** delves deeply into his Japanese roots. Originally commissioned as a short play for **Sprout's New Play Festival for Kids 2009**, the now full length play weaves a traditional Japanese folktale about a crane, (Tsuru) with the story of a young mouse and her grandfather, as they struggle against an oppressive overlord, the goblin Tengu. At the heart of the play is the relationship between grandfather and granddaughter, and how their bond can bring light and hope into the darkest of life's moments. *Paper Song* celebrates the transformative power of creativity, ingenuity and love.

Like many Japanese-Canadians whose families who were interned during World War II, Jared grew up with strong feelings about injustice, and feels a need to challenge oppression and racism in all its forms. While Jared's story is entertaining and artistic, it also addresses issues of social compassion, fairness and justice, a universal message suitable for all ages.

"I have learned from my children and from my years of doing Theatre for Young Audiences that young people have a keen sense of justice, possibly because they know what it is like to not have power in our society. But they also have an amazing sense of hope and a desire to create positive change. It is inspiring."
– Playwright, Jared Matsunaga-Turnbull

Paper Song is written by **Jared Matsunaga-Turnbull**, directed by **Caroline Howarth** and features **Ntara Curry** and **Zina Lee**. Production design by **Cory Sincennes**, with sound design and original composition by **Dave Clarke**.

ABOUT | CONCRETE THEATRE is committed to creating, developing and producing artistically excellent and culturally diverse Theatre for Young Audiences that explores issues relevant to the lives of young people and their families.

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES – Part of the Arts at The Barns Performing Series

TransAlta Arts Barns Westbury Theatre 10330-84 Avenue

Friday January 25, 2013 7:00pm

Saturday January 26, 2013 11:00am and 2:00pm

Or bring your students to the Westbury Theatre on **January 24** at **10:00am** and **1:00pm** or **January 25** at **1:00pm**. Group pricing available through Fringe Theatre Adventures 780.409.1910

Tickets available at Fringe Theatre Box Office (service charges apply) **780-409-1910** or www.fringetheatreadventures.ca

Adult \$18.00, **Student /Senior** \$15.00, **Child** (12 and under) \$12.50

This production is suitable for ages 4 and up. *Paper Song* will be touring to Edmonton Area Schools January 28 – February 9, 2013.

For more information contact **Concrete Theatre** at **780-439-3905** or visit www.concretetheatre.ca

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