

Toronto, ON - For Immediate Release

International Content, 5 Star Shows!

With Three New Artistic Directors the Toronto Festival of Clowns is Must See Theatre.

June 8-12th at Factory Theatre

Producer **Dave McKay (Sketchy the Clown)** knew he had some big shoes to fill when **Adam Lazarus** finished his 10 year tenure as the Artistic Director of the **Toronto Festival of Clowns**. To increase the diversity and quality at the curated festival, which focuses on physical, comedy and no-forth wall theatre, he chose **Allan Turner, Jeff Kearns** and **Adam Bailey** to be the new Co-Artistic Directors for the Festival's 11th year, ensuring a must-see lineup of shows from around the country and the world.



Figure 1 LtoR Jeff Kearns, Rebecca Black, Allan Turner, Adam Bailey and Dave McKay (photo Jeremy Gilbert)

The festival continues to highlight local favorites. **Canadian Comedy Award Winner** and **2-Man-No Show** performer **Ken Hall** has teamed with director **Chris Gibbs** to debut **The Ken Hall Show Presents: 12 Angry Clowns**. **Helen Donnelly** returns with a full length version of **The Reverend Foo Revival Time**, after the shorter version she presented in 2015 sold out. Both performers are highly praised with Ken Hall being called “**Hilarious**” by everyone from the **Chicago Tribune** to **Variety.com** while the **Toronto Star** says “**Helen Donnelly... is bold, experimental and on her way to the top.**”

The critically acclaimed show **Snack Music (SNAFU Dance Theatre)**, gets to be seen on a main stage in Toronto after receiving high praise across the country, including **5 Star reviews** from **On Stage Ottawa** and **CBC Manitoba**. But the **Montreal Rampage** says it best, “**Snack Music is a fabulous puppetry-storytelling-improv-dance-music mash up. They bring personal stories to life in a way that is both simple and simply brilliant... Their imaginative canvas seems to stretch ever larger as they make the world a better place one connection at a time.**”

Other touring companies include **Boom Boom vs. The Uncommon Colds – Just Breathe Theatre (Edmonton)**, **The Sama Kutra – Sizzle & Spark (Calgary/Montreal)** and **The Lion Tamer – Ti-Cul & Burn Out (Montreal)**. International content is provided

by the award winning **Catalina Del Castillo** from **Bogotá, Colombia** who presents ***Ferocious, a Clown Tragedy*** a dark solo-show dealing with the relationship between a woman and her predator.

Diversity also comes from Toronto itself with the award winning **Izad Etemadi** who has performed off-Broadway and on ***Definitely-Not-The Opera***, presenting his hit show ***Love With Leila***, the tale of a bearded Persian girl trying to find love. Queer, Muslim and Feminist all at once **“We NEED the kind of rude awakening Etemadi gives us”** (Calgary Sun).

Rounding out the festival, a ***Triple-Bill*** featuring more physical acts including **Cirque du Soleil** alumni **Courtenay Stevens** will play regularly in the Studio Theatre, while The Factory Mainstage will be the home for nightly clown cabaret shows, each one hosted by a different artistic director. Zombie clown and talk show host **Jean-Paul Mullet (Allan Turner)** will hold his ***Mullet’s Night Show*** Thursday, while **Adam Bailey** will be returning to his burlesque roots with Friday’s ***Red Nose District*** emphasising the adult side of clowning. Saturday night will conclude the ***Lunacy Cabaret’s*** 11th season with hosts **Sketchy and Fesso (Dave McKay and Jeff Kearns)**. The final night of the festival features the ***Student Soirée*** – a night of recent workshop-developed performances by promising new clown and physical theatre talent.

Finally the Festival is proud to include internationally acclaimed Canadian clown **Paul Wildbaum** in ***Monsieur Faux Pas’ Aha!*** a culmination of a life’s work in clowning. Mr. Wildbaum has been called **“A Master”** by the **Vancouver Sun**, **“The highlight of the show, this man has to be seen to be believed...”** by **Beat Magazine, Australia**. He has **“stretched the boundaries even further than they’ve been stretched”**, according to the **Winnipeg Free Press** who also calls him, **“knowing and funny”**.

Full 2016 Toronto Festival of Clowns Lineup and Schedule Below



Figure 2LtoR Rebecca Black, Jeff Kearns, Dave McKay, Allan Turner and Adam Bailey (photo Jeremy Gilbert)

Mainstage Theatre

Monsieur Faux Pas' Aha! – Paul Wildbaum (Toronto)

The Reverend Foo Revival Time – Foo Productions (Toronto)

Snack Music – SNAFU Dance Theatre (Victoria)

DOUBLE BILL:

The Ken Hall Show Presents: 12 Angry Clowns – The Ken Hall Show (Toronto)

Boom Boom vs. The Uncommon Colds – Just Breathe Theatre (Edmonton)

Studio Theatre

The Sama Kutra – Sizzle & Spark (Calgary/Montreal)

Ferocious, a Clown Tragedy – Catalina Del Castillo (Bogotá, Colombia)

Love With Leila – Izad Etemadi (Toronto)

TRIPLE BILL:

The Amazing Trevor Presents – Courtenay Stevens (Toronto)

The Lion Tamer – Ti-Cul & Burn Out (Montreal)

Slanted – Bravo and Ink (Toronto)

	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
4:00 PM				Snack Music	Monsieur Faux Pas
4:15 PM				Love with Leila	Triple Bill
7:00 PM	Snack Music	Double Bill	Monsiuer Faxu Pas	Reverend Foo	Double Bill
7:15 PM	Triple Bill	The Sama Kutra	Ferocious	The Sama Kutra	Love with Leila
8:30 PM	Reverend Foo	Snack Music	Double Bill	Monsieur Faux Pas	Reverend Foo
8:45 PM	Love with Leila	Ferocious	The Sama Kutra	Triple Bill	Ferocious
10:00 PM	Opening night party	Mullets	Red Nose	Lunacy	Student

2016 Toronto Festival of Clowns (TFOC)

June 8 – 12, 2016

Ticket Prices \$15-20

Full schedule, ticket purchase information, show descriptions and images will be available at:

www.TorontoFestivalOfClowns.com

Media contact: Dave McKay festival@torontoclown.com 647 504-7873 Media contact:
Dave McKay festival@torontoclown.com 647 504-7873