

WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL  
**FRINGE FESTIVAL**  
July 18 - 27, 2008



LE FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL  
**FRINGE DE WINDSOR**  
Le 18 au 27 juillet, 2008

**Focus on Fringe**

**Pleins Feux Sur Fringe**

**For Immediate Release**

June 27, 2008

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Actor's Theatre Unveils Fringe Festival**

**Windsor, ON** – The Artists Theatre of Windsor today unveiled details of Windsor's first annual International Fringe Festival to be held July 18 - 27, 2008. A co-operative theatre and performing arts festival, with indoor theatre performances at six downtown venues and four outdoor associated festivals, the Windsor Fringe Festival is an exciting and important artistic event encompassing the Visual Fringe Festival, the Chalk & Chocolate Festival, Buskin' to the Beat, and the Windsor International Buskers Festival.

Inspired by the theatre phenomenon that gripped western Canada in the early eighties, Fringe Festivals foster economic tourism and cultural growth in numerous cities including New York, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, and San Francisco. The addition of Windsor as a stop on the North American Fringe Summer Tour provides local independent theatre artists with an affordable and accessible avenue to showcase their skills and their talents.

The Windsor International Fringe Festival is a 10-day performing arts event, where live theatre and other performing arts are presented in an informal, inexpensive environment providing accessibility to all. Audiences are invited to experience the work of seasoned veterans alongside that of emerging artists.

"Fringe Festivals have traditionally been incubators for new work and new artists" says Mona el Baroudi, ATW Artistic Director. "Windsor's participation affords local artists with the opportunity to network with and be exposed to artists from across North America."

The Actors Theatre of Windsor also announced the launch of the festival's website. The site, located at [www.windsorfringe.com](http://www.windsorfringe.com) lists artists, venues, shows, schedules, box office information, and posts information on how to get involved. ATW is currently calling for volunteers interested in helping with festival organization, logistics, hospitality and operations as well as individuals interested in hosting a Fringe artist.

Established in 2006 by Mona el Baroudi and Gordon Mackenzie, the Actors Theatre of Windsor (ATW) is a professional not-for-profit theatre company aimed at developing a viable professional entertainment industry in Southwestern Ontario and Southeastern Michigan. ATW's public programming has two primary components: ATW Main Stage - professional theatre featuring seasonal shows; and ATW Actors Umbrella - community outreach programming encompassing the production of the Windsor International Fringe Festival, and the regional What's On! arts and cultural calendar.

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