

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**

July 22, 2008

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Fringe Announces Record Breaking Ticket Sales**

**Windsor, ON** – The Windsor International Fringe Festival today announced that ticket sales for show performances have exceeded all expectations. With sales of 1,194 tickets in the first three days, the Windsor International Fringe Festival is on track to surpass tickets sold by the London Fringe during its inaugural year.

Who would ever have thought that the community's response to a new festival would have been so overwhelmingly positive," said Mona el Baroudi, Artistic Director of the Windsor International Fringe Festival. "Downtown was buzzing with activity last night. It is simply amazing that we have so many shows tied for Top 5 Box Office Sales!"

Last night, *Type 2: A Tragic Comedy* played to a sold-out theatre. The show is a realistic portrayal of the highs and lows of bipolar disorder, and chronicles the career of a standup comic suffering from the illness. Featuring the award winning team of Michelle Mainwaring and Jason Gale, *Type 2* is a rags-to-riches to reality tale that pulls no punches. The five top selling shows are:

1. *Type 2: A Tragic Comedy*
2. *A Trois* (Royal Oak, Michigan)
3. *Confessions of a Baby Boomer Bombshell; Tippy Seagram's Happy Hour*
4. *The Spirit of Harriet Tubman; The Girl in the Mirror Hangs Up the Phone*
5. *Not Neil Young; The Dark I Know Well; and Meaning*

The sleeper hits of the Fringe are based on show buzz. el Baroudi believes these are emerging as the Santa Class and Shavirez Tsigane des Mers.

### **The Santa Class**

Presented by: David Bartlett (North Carolina, USA)

Venue: The Art Gallery of Windsor; 90 min; English – Theatre - Drama; Audience: General

In the vast library of Christmas stories, on key character has never gotten the spotlight, the guy who plays Santa. The Santa Class hopes to fill that void with a warm, funny glimpse of what Christmas looks like from behind the beard. The show completely reveals Santa Claus so please, no children. Lets all "Keep 'Em Believing".

### **Shavirez, le Tsigane des Mers**

Presented by: Belzébrute (Montreal, Quebec)

Venue: The Room; 60 min; French – Theatre - Comedy; Audience: General

Belzébrute is back on the Fringe Tour with a epic show on an econo-budget! Join Shavirez, the inveterate water gypsy, as he traipses the seven seas. Vengeance, sex, decapitation, bloody duels, naval combat, the movement of the tectonic plates and a yellow ducky all figure prominently. Your basic Broadway blockbuster on a dime...