



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 8 – November 7, 2010
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THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS DE TORONTO PRESENTS
LES FRIDOLINADES
BY GRATIEN GÉLINAS

FRIDOLIN: BELOVED CHILD OF THE MASSES

Toronto, September 8, 2010 - Théâtre français de Toronto (TfT) is pleased to present *Les Fridolinades* by Gratien Gélinas. Born 100 years ago this year, Gélinas is considered to be the father of Franco-Canadian playwriting. His play *Tit-Coq*, the "foremost French-Canadian dramatic work," was the first Franco-Canadian play to be performed on Broadway. An original coproduction by Théâtre français de Toronto and Théâtre La Catapulte (Ottawa), *Les Fridolinades* will be directed by Perry Schneiderman. ***Les Fridolinades*** will be presented at the Berkeley Street Theatre from October 27 to November 7, 2010.

DRESSED IN HIS TRI-COLOUR HOCKEY SWEATER, cap askew, Fridolin is an impish boy who says out loud what everybody else is thinking quietly. This *enfant terrible* draws a critical portrait of Canadian society with humour and insight. His mischievous and twinkling chronicles do more than bear critical witness to a transformation in Québec society: they speed it up. Gratien Gélinas, nicknamed "The Father of Québec Dramatic Art," created the character of Fridolin for radio in 1937, then for theatre the following year. *Les Fridolinades* immediately became revues or series of sketches, songs, parodies, and monologues on such varied topics as the second-class status of French-Canadians and World War II.

Featuring Lina BLAIS, Nathaly CHARRETTE, René LEMIEUX, Michel SÉGUIN and Jocelyne ZUCCO
Directed by Perry SCHNEIDERMAN · Set Brian SMITH · Costumes Nina OKENS · Lights Margaret CODERRE-WILLIAMS · Soundscape Claude NAUBERT · Stage management Gabriel DUBÉ · Stage management on tour Tina GORALSKI · Surtitles™: Gunta Dreifelds.

A coproduction by THÉÂTRE FRANÇAIS DE TORONTO and THÉÂTRE LA CATAPULTE (OTTAWA).
Théâtre français de Toronto thanks this production Presenting Sponsors: the Consulate General of France in Toronto. SURTITLES sponsored by Sun Life Financial.

***Les Fridolinades*, by Gratien Gélinas**
October 27 to November 7, 2010

Théâtre français de Toronto | Berkeley Street Theatre Upstairs – 26 Berkeley Street in Toronto.

Opening: Friday, October 29 at 8pm | **Previews:** October 27 and 28 at 8pm.
Evening performances: Wednesday to Saturday at 8pm | **Saturday matinée:** November 6 at 3:30pm | **Sunday matinée:** October 31 and November 7 at 2:30pm.
Performances with English surtitles: October 27, 28 and 29 (opening night), November 3 and 5 at 8pm; November 6 at 3:30pm.
Tickets: Adults: \$33 to \$57 | Students, Seniors and groups : \$28 to \$57. **PWYC** Wednesday evening performances.
Box Office: (416) 534-6604 or 1-800-819-4981 and www.theatrefrancais.com