



▶ VOTE for **DISS** TO WIN THE AVIVA COMMUNITY FUND2



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○ Fall | ○ 2011

Mixed News

Welcome to Mixed Company Theatre's Fall 2011 Newsletter!

Full is always our busiest time here at MCT. Schools are back in session and shows are out on the road, and we're delivering workshops far and wide.

As if that wasn't enough to keep us busy, we've embarked on our first French-language program, *Projet ACTIF*, added two interns and a Co-Op students to our MCT family, and launched a new blog. It's all about progress here at Mixed Company!

All of our new endeavours are meant to extend our reach to new communities and strengthen our presence in existing communities; not to

mention invading cyber-space with our mandate for positive social change!

Want in on the action? Why not share your voice with MCT? Have an idea for our blog? Had a great experience working with us? Write and tell us about your Mixed Company Theatre experience or if you are new to the MCT world, take a walk through our web site and drop us a line.

Join the conversation, SHARE YOUR VOICE at:
www.mixedcompanytheatre.com
info@mixedcompanytheatre.com

MCT TEAM



engage • educate • empower

MIXED COMPANY THEATRE
157 Carlton Street, Suite 201
Toronto, ON M5A 2K3

P: 416-515-8080

F: 416-515-9251

E: info@mixedcompanytheatre.com

www.mixedcompanytheatre.com

Registered Charitable Tax #: 11903 1870 RT0001

THE MCT TEAM

Simon Malbogat—
Artistic Director



Duncan McCallum—
Associate Artistic
Director



Maureen Verboom—
General Manager



Deidre Budgell—
Communications &
Outreach Coordinator



Bilingual Project
Coordinator, *Projet
ACTIF*—Kristin Bartlett

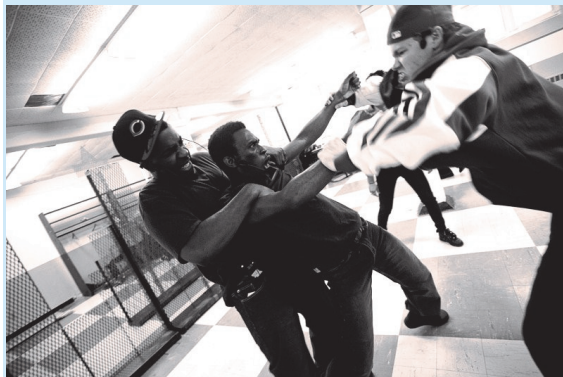
Interns—Carina
Cappuccitti, Janie Pinard

Co-Op Student—
Eslam El-Hamalwy

VOTE NOW!

www.avivacommunityfund.org

Round 3 ends
November 30. Help us
get to the semi-finals!



DISS Cast & Crew: Miguel Anthony (Emjay), Roney Lewis (Sam), Bahia Watson (Tracey), Heather Webb-Cherron (Maisie), Jay Oshawn (Jessie), Nathan Barrett (Tyronne); Duncan McCallum (Director), Rain Chan (Stage Manager), Poe Limkul (Set Designer), Diana Stephens (Costume Designer), Matt Cooke (Sound Designer).

All photos by Kate Heron

Vote For Change:

DISS competes for the Aviva Community Fund

Mixed Company Theatre is battling it out with other ideas from across the country in the Aviva Community Fund contest with our project, ***DISS: from the streets to the stage***. Help us bring theatre for social change to three communities (Hamilton, Brampton and Mississauga) in southern Ontario by giving us your VOTE!

Round 3 of voting is underway and the polls close as of November 30. Check out the [DISS page on the Aviva Community Fund website](#) for information photos and video clips from our DORA award nominated play, ***DISS***, and then spread the word via email and social media and word of mouth. All you have to do is take a moment of your time to visit our profile and VOTE. Your vote means 9,600 underserved students will be given the opportunity to get involved in changing our communities for the better.

"DISS weaves together the socio-political elements of hip hop and forum theatre to create dialogue about youth gangs. My desire is to create an engaging show that reaches students with language they can relate to and then challenges them to get involved in their communities to create safer places for everyone to live."

- Duncan McCallum, Associate Artistic Director, Mixed Company Theatre

How can you help us?

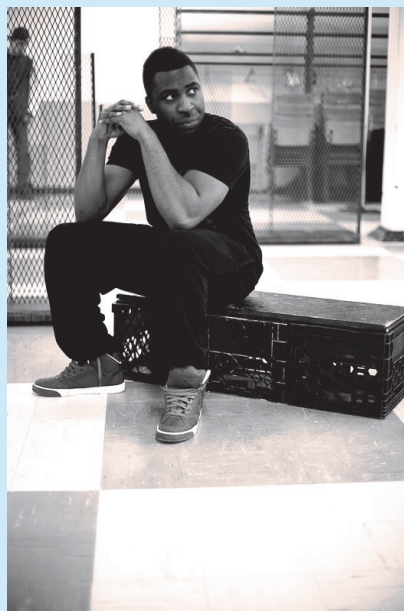
VOTE

Visit [<http://www.avivacommunityfund.org/ideas/acf11689>]

1. Sign in (if you haven't already) or/ Log on
2. Vote for **ACF11689 DISS: from the streets to the stage**
3. Repeat the next day (each voter has 15 votes – one for each day of the contest)

SPREAD THE WORD

1. Email: send along our communications to your friends and colleagues
2. Social Media: Re-post and share our communications on facebook, twitter, Reditt, etc.
3. Word of Mouth: Share the project idea with people face to face. Join us in creating a change in our communities. VOTE and be part of the **DISS** movement.



MCT Takes On Techno-Bullying with *Showdown 2.0*

Students in the GTA, Hamilton, Peel, Halton, York and Durham are getting the chance to confront cyber-bullying head-on this fall, thanks to MCT's new, interactive theatre production, *Showdown 2.0*. In fact, the fall tour has been so successful, a **tour extension** has been planned for **February 6-24, 2012**.

Showdown 2.0 is an interactive, Forum Theatre performance that tackles the issue of bullying in a hyper-connected, ever changing technological landscape. Developed in consultation with high school students, *Showdown 2.0* is a hard-hitting and realistic portrayal of bullying, presenting how technology is influencing the actions and outcomes of violence and harassment.

MCT originally created *Showdown* in 2001 to address the growing problem of bullying in Toronto area schools. In the ten years since, *Showdown* has been seen by over 100,000 students across Ontario. This season's re-development and creation of *Showdown 2.0* is a direct response to feedback from students and educators concerning the rising rates of cyber-bullying.

"In light of all the recent incidents of bullying in the news, we felt a strong sense of urgency to get this message out to students and educate them with intervention strategies when faced with bullying, either from a victim or bystander's perspective," shared MCT's Artistic duo, Artistic Director, Simon Malbogot and Associate A.D., Duncan McCallum. "In a recent study, 34% of intermediate and high school students reported being cyber-bullied, while 20% of students admitted to being the ones doing the bullying. When compounded with traditional forms of bullying, the numbers skyrocket."

For *Showdown 2.0* updates and information on all of MCT's programming, visit www.mixedcompanytheatre.com. Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mixedcompanytheatre or follow us on Twitter at [MixedCTheatre](https://twitter.com/MixedCTheatre). You can also check out our performance at HWDSB's Go Girls Event on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...).

Want to bring *Showdown 2.0* to your school during the tour extension?

February 6-24 2012?

Contact us at
416-515-8080 or
info@mixedcompanytheatre.com
Space is limited so don't delay!

COMING SOON! *Showdown 2.0* featured in an upcoming CBC documentary about GOSSIP airing in 2012. Keep your eyes peeled for updates!



Showdown 2.0 cast: Above (L-R) Giovanni Spina & Jason Siks' Below (L-R) Amy Myers, Giovanni Spina, Sarah Sherman





It *IS* Easy Bein' Green— The Epic Eco-Adventure Returns in Spring 2012

When Kermit the Frog infamously proclaimed “it’s not easy bein’ green,” he obviously hadn’t taken part in MCT’s Elementary School eco-show, *Plastico: The Epic Eco Adventure!* After a hugely successful run last spring to coincide with Earth Day celebrations, the performance (previous known as *The Green Show*), has been re-worked, re-vamped and re-adjusted based on feedback from our pilot tour.

Plastico: The Epic Eco Adventure! is touring to Elementary Schools in the GTA, York, Halton, Peel, Durham and Hamilton regions from **March 24—April 27, 2012**. Performances can help schools gain Eco certification or aid in reinforcing eco-principals. Schools can book by calling **416-515-8080** or emailing info@mixedcompanytheatre.com



All photos by Maya Rabinovitch

MCT is Blogging!

Well boys and girls, it’s the moment you’ve all been waiting for – yep, that’s right, the new MCT blog has finally arrived! We’ve spent months pouring over social media strategies and creating a brand new show that’s jam packed with technology (Showdown 2.0) so it seemed like an opportune time to launch our new blog.

MCT’s blog will feature content from interns-extrodinaire, Carina & Janie; super enthusiastic co-op student, Eslam; and of course yours truly, MCT Communications & Outreach Coordinator, Deidre.

Stay tuned for lots of content on our shows, the tour, and thought-provoking discussion about social issues around bullying, environmentalism and our goal to bring theatre for social change to communities, schools and businesses across Ontario.

If you have ideas for a blog post or have anything to contribute, email us at info@mixedcompanytheatre.com



Check out our blog at

www.mixedcompanytheatre.wordpress.com

C'est Excellent! Mixed Company Remounts Project ACT— en Français!

Ministry of Health Promotion & Sport funds *Projet ACTIF* for Franco Ontarian students

Mixed Company Theatre (MCT) is proud to announce funding support from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport, Healthy Communities Fund, to deliver its highly successful healthy living program, *Project ACT* – which toured to over 80 schools – to French language students in the Northern and Western regions of the province. The new French initiative – and MCT's first French production – *Projet ACTIF*, will educate students in the issues of healthy eating, physical activity and substance misuse prevention.

The two-year funding will allow MCT to translate and adapt its English-language play that successfully toured Ontario during the 2010/2011 season, and offer the French production to Francophone school boards in North Bay, Sudbury, Timmons, Windsor and Welland, as well as select French schools in the GTA.

Projet ACTIF is an interactive, theatrical presentation that helps students in grades 6-9 recognize and overcome the blocks, excuses, barriers and deflections that prevent youth from leading active, healthy lives. Partnering with health professionals in each community, *Projet ACTIF* encourages students to incorporate the *Foundations for a Healthy School* into their lives and school community. MCT's initiative is three-tiered including a presentation of a worst-case-scenario play, student interaction with MCT cast and facilitator in conjunction with public health professionals, and post-show activities that allow students and teachers to continue the conversation and create events and projects in their own school.

Research and development with youth in both regions of the province took place this fall (October 24th – November 4th) and the pilot phase begins in early 2012 (January 23rd – February 3, 2012). The full tour will coincide with MCT's fall 2012 educational tour season. Educators and community partners interested in bringing *Projet ACTIF* to their students are encouraged to **contact MCT at 416-515-8080** or actif@mixedcompanytheatre.com.



Just a few spaces remain for the *Projet ACTIF* pilot tour!

If you're in the Windsor/Welland or North Bay/Sudbury/Timmons area and would like to bring *Projet ACTIF* to your school from

January 23—February 3, 2012

contact Kristin at 416-515-8080 or actif@mixedcompanytheatre.com

Interested in *Projet ACTIF* in Fall 2012? Call today and get on the waitlist!

Pour en savoir plus de *Projet ACTIF* en français visiter: www.mixedcompanytheatre.com/project-actif

Mixed Company Theatre Announces OAC Theatre Creators' Reserve Recommendations

Mixed Company Theatre (MCT) is pleased to announce its recommendations for OAC Theatre Creators' Reserve funding.

MCT has recommended that *Concord Floral*, by Jordan Tannahill; *Boys With Cars*, by Anita Majumdar; and *Lily*, by Jonathan Seinen share the funding, furnished by the Ontario Arts Council.

"We received many deserving applications," notes MCT's Artistic Director, Simon Malbogat, "however we really felt like these three applicants and their projects showed a strong commitment to using theatre as a vehicle for social change, which has been Mixed Company's mandate for the past 28 years."



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

For the third consecutive year, Mixed Company Theatre (MCT) was named a recommender for the OAC's Theatre Creators' Reserve program. Through funds from the OAC program, MCT can assist Ontario-based professional theatre creators, and informal collectives of creators, by funding them to create work.

Mixed Company Theatre thanks all applicants for their submissions and recognizes the generous support of the Ontario Arts Council.

For more information about the Ontario Arts Council's Theatre Creators' Reserve program, [click here](#).