

Globe Theatre's new play presents a twisted story with a hint of music



(<http://metronews.ca/author/itsbrowntown/>)By Rob Brown (<http://metronews.ca/author/itsbrowntown/>)
Metro Regina



The Globe Theatre's Shumiatcher Sandbox Series kicks off its new season next week with a twisted love story.

"It's about two people who meet and it turns into something wild — more than your average hook-up," says Michael Scholar Jr., director of *Midsummer* (a play with songs).

"It is raunchy, sweet and freaky."

Scholar Jr. says *Midsummer* promises to be a visual feast.

"It's essentially two actors who are creating the story with voice, body, instruments, song, physically, and acting."

In the play, failing car salesman Bob (Clinton Carew) collides with Helena, a high-powered divorce lawyer, played by Amy Matysio.

"Both bring a lot of mad skills to the story and they're all on display here," Scholar Jr. says.

"The two have never worked together but have really good chemistry — they are at the same time both serious and silly performers. You need that, especially when it comes to creation and comedy."

The script is a collaboration between two renowned Scottish artists — rocker Gordon McIntyre and playwright David Greig.

While a Scottish production has toured North America, including Vancouver and Washington, D.C., Regina's Globe Theatre has the distinction of being the first company in North America to produce the show.

"No one else has produced this in the Western Hemisphere," says Scholar Jr., who added he was looking to bring a previously-produced project to the Sandbox Series this theatre season.

"*Midsummer* takes a passion of mine, music, and strips it down into a two-hander," he says, quick to add while there is music in the production, *Midsummer* is not a musical.

"This is a production about simple theatre magic and the power of performance from performers who can change locations on stage at the turn of a dime.

"It is a benefit for me as a director — I get to tell stories in a low-fi way — with the precision of acting and performance."

Scholar Jr. says with less than a week to go before the curtain is pulled on opening night, cast and crew are ready.

"We start our technical rehearsals on Friday and are starting to feel the crunch. Everyone always likes to have more time to prepare, but we'll be ready."



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