



STRATFORD
Shakespeare
FESTIVAL

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Classical Theatre

MEDIA RELEASE

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Seán Cullen begins Stratford run as Pseudolus

September 8, 2009... **Seán Cullen** stepped into the role of Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at the matinee performance on Saturday, September 5. Bruce Dow, who was originally cast in the role, was forced by injury to withdraw from the season.

Mr. Cullen will continue in the role until the end of the season. Originally scheduled to close on November 1, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* has been extended because of popular demand to November 7.

“I welcome the highly accomplished Seán Cullen in to occupy Bruce’s role at centre stage where he’ll be surrounded by our extraordinarily talented and supportive troupe of players,” says Artistic Director Des McAnuff.

Seán Cullen is a multiple award-winning comedian/actor/writer/producer who has been performing for the past 20 years. He has done numerous feature films, written the award-winning Hamish X trilogy for young adults and played Max Bialystock in the Canadian production of *The Producers*.

Mr. Cullen began his career with Corky and the Juice Pigs, a group that toured extensively around the world, becoming fixtures at the Melbourne Comedy Festival, the Edinburgh Fringe and Montreal’s Just for Laughs festival.

Mr. Cullen starred in his own CBC TV series, *The Seán Cullen Show* and appeared on shows such as NBC’s *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and CBS’s *The Ellen Degeneres Show* and *The Late Late Show*. Last year he was a finalist on NBC’s *Last Comic Standing*.

Time magazine labeled him the “vanguard of comedy’s next generation.” He recently released his second CD *I Am A Human Man* and his fourth novel for young adults, published by Penguin, entitled *The Prince of Neither Here Nor There*. Mr. Cullen has won three Gemini Awards for his work on television and three Canadian Comedy Awards for film and live performance.

To purchase tickets to *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and other productions, call the box office at 1.800.567.1600 or order online by visiting stratfordshakespearefestival.com.

The Stratford Shakespeare Festival's 2009 season runs until November 8, featuring *Macbeth*; *West Side Story*; *Cyrano de Bergerac*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *The Importance of Being Earnest*; *Julius Caesar*; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; *Three Sisters*; *Bartholomew Fair*; *Ever Yours, Oscar*; *Phèdre*; *The Trespassers*; *Rice Boy*; and *Zastrozzi*.

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PHOTOS

Production photos:

<http://www.stratfordfestival.ca/imagegallery/imagegallery.aspx?id=5478>

For more information contact:

Ann Swerdfager

Media Manager

Stratford Shakespeare Festival

519.271.0055 x2297

aswerdfager@stratfordshakespearefestival.com