

Grow, Grow, Grow by Tololwa M. Mollel

An orphan girl named Rukia working as a maid is treated awfully by her rich and cheap lady employer Mamsa. Rukia seeks daily comfort in the remembrance of her late mother. A dream in which her mother appears to her results in a fabulously fruitful magical mango tree for Rukia. When Mamsa and her only child Petro attempt to claim the mango tree, Rukia uses its magical power to teach the rich lady a lesson, one that may lead to spoiled little Petro becoming a better person and the orphan girl's friend.

Tololwa Mollel has written over sixteen children's books, among them award winning titles such as *The Orphan Boy*, *My Rows and Piles of Coins* and *Big Boy*. Some of his books have been translated into various African languages and into Korean. He has written several plays, including *A Promise to the Sun*, for Concrete Theatre.

Mollel's passion for writing grew out of his childhood love of books. This early love of books, and later theatre performance, grew out of life with his grandparents in Tanzania within a storytelling culture, where words were and are all important. In Tanzania where he grew up he worked as a university lecturer and actor. He continued acting in Edmonton where he and his family live. In the 1990's Mollel served as President of the Writers Guild of Alberta and writer in residence for the Edmonton Public Library. Find more formation about Mollel at: <http://www.tololwamollel.com>

Hot Head by Valerie Mason-John aka Queenie

Hot Head is a story about a young girl Mary who works herself up into temper tantrums. Her mother and her brother Johnny try their hardest to make her happy. The only people who can help her to cool her hot head is the singer Justin Bieber and a fairy who teaches her to take ten deep breaths and think happy thoughts. This play was developed from workshops with grade 1 students from Victoria School of the Arts.

Dr **Valerie Mason-John** aka Queenie is an expert in conflict transformation. She is the author of several plays including her acclaimed fairy tale, *The Adventures of Snow Black and Rose Red*. She is author of six books including her award winning novel *The Banana Kid*, and her self help book *Detox Your Heart: Ways of working with anger, fear and hatred*. She is currently a conflict resolutions and leadership consultant with Edmonton Public Schools, and Artist in Residence at Victoria School of the Arts. Thank you to Grade 1 students at Victoria School of the Arts, and to the Grade 1 teachers, Jennifer Jones, David Stawn and Ange Nyznyk.

Minosis Gathers Hope by Christine Sokaymoh Frederick

Minosis is a nine-year-old Métis girl staying with her Cree grandparents, Kokum and Moosum. Having experienced the pain of racism and the challenge to find friendship, she discovers her own power to create hope when she travels the Four Directions of a Medicine Wheel in her grandparents' yard and thereby initiates a friendship with one of the mystical Little People.

Christine Sokaymoh Frederick is the co-founder/co-director of Alberta Aboriginal Arts, and is the Aboriginal Leadership Academy Coordinator for the Centre for Race & Culture. She is a Métis, Edmonton-based artist with many years experience as an actor, writer, singer/musician, dancer, community developer, facilitator and producer. She has an arts & culture administration background with many connections to the local and traditional community in Alberta. Christine has written *Hope*, monologue for *AIDS* play, AIDS Network of Edmonton, *Legend of White Buffalo Calf Woman*, a dance-theatre piece for the 2004 International Folklore Festival in Gangneug, Korea, *Flint and Feather: Takahionwake, the Story of E. Pauline Johnson*, a play, co-written and performed in 2004 Edmonton Fringe Festival, and *Closer*, a song for the Honour Song project which was part of the Edmonton Poetry Festival. She is the recipient of the 2007 Esquao Award in Arts & Entertainment, sits on the board for the Edmonton Arts Council, and is president of the Aboriginal Justice Forum. Her children's book, *Minosis Gathers Hope* is in development including adaptations to the stage for this Sprouts Festival and for Full Circle Performance's Talking Stick Festival in Vancouver, BC. You can find out more about Christine and other Aboriginal artists at the 3rd Annual Rubaboo Arts Festival at Catalyst Theatre June 2011!

Radio Waves by Kevin Kerr

1948. Fun loving Roberta schemes with her kid sister Georgina to acquire a new radio. They dream of tuning into a world flooded with fantastical stories in order to add a little colour to their home and their out-of-touch dad who is 150 years old and very crusty. But when the device swallows their father in its magical spell and creates a rainstorm that threatens to wash away their home, the girls must take charge, act fast, and get serious!

Kevin Kerr has recently taken on the role of Artistic Director of Vancouver's Electric Company Theatre, an organization he co-founded in 1996 with his Studio 58 theatre school classmates Kim Collier, Jonathon Young and David Hudgins. With Electric Company he has collaborated on the creation of numerous plays including writing the script for *Studies in Motion* seen last season at the Citadel Theatre and Toronto's Canadian Stage Company, and co-writing *Brilliant! The Blinding Enlightenment of Nikola Tesla* which was seen in Edmonton during the 2004 Magnetic North Theatre Festival and has toured nationally and internationally. Beyond his work at Electric Company he's written such plays as *Skydive* (for Realwheels Theatre), an adaptation of Pierre Berton's *Secret World of Og* (Carousel Theatre), and *Unity (1918)*, a play premiered by Vancouver's Touchstone Theatre, which earned the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama. From 2007 to 2010 he was the Lee Playwright in Residence where he wrote *Spine*, a co-production between the university and Realwheels. Recently he collaborated with Jonathon Young on the writing of *Tear the Curtain!*, a film/theatre hybrid which premiered at the Arts Club's historic Stanley Theatre in Vancouver last fall. He lives with the poet Marita Dachsel and their two sons Atticus and Avner to whom he dedicates this play!