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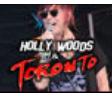
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High Performance Rodeo offers silver lining for Boom creator



BY LOUIS HOBSON, CALGARY SUN

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Rick Miller created and stars in Boom, playing at the High Performance Rodeo.

In discussing how the 2014 High Performance Rodeo snagged the premiere of his newest work Boom, Rick Miller pulled a page from his personal silver linings playbook.

Boom, Miller's multi-media examination of 25 years that make up the Baby Boom generation, was originally commissioned by the Stratford Festival.

Miller and his creative team had been working on the technical components of Boom for almost a year when the artistic administration at Stratford changed and he got word they no longer wanted his show.

"A week after we got that news, Theatre Calgary's artistic director Dennis Garnhum came to Toronto and asked if

he and I could meet.

"He said he was looking for a show for Theatre Calgary to bring in for the 2014 Rodeo and did I have anything in the pipeline," says Miller who wowed Calgary audiences with his powerful one-man show Bigger than Jesus at the Rodeo in 2004.

"The Rodeo is the perfect fit for the first run of a show that promises to have a very long life so I was eager and grateful to work with Theatre Calgary and the Rodeo.

"There's no question Boom will change (before it opens in Toronto in 2015) because it is very much a work-in-progress. The exciting thing for Calgarians is that they will be an essential part of the development of Boom. The feedback we get in Calgary will definitely affect the show.

"What Rodeo audiences can be assured is that everyone associated with Boom is going to give these six Calgary shows everything we've got. It's going to be as electric for us as I promise it will be for the audiences."



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LOUIS HOBSON

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Using his amazing vocal skills as an impersonator, Miller will give voice to 100 international politicians, actors, singers, musicians, activists and revolutionaries who helped shape these decades all of whose images will appear on screens behind him mouthing his words and vocals.

"These 25 years intrigue me because my father was a boomer and I was conceived in 1969 plus I love the 1960s and the evolution of rock-and-roll.

"I don't think we'll ever see again the incredible marriage of culture and politics that occurred in these 25 years."

Boom will run in the EPCOR Centre's Max Bell Theatre Jan. 15 to 19 with evening shows Jan. 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. matinees on Jan. 18 and 19.

For more information on *Boom* and all 20 shows at the 2014 Rodeo check out hprodeo.ca

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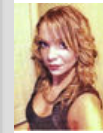
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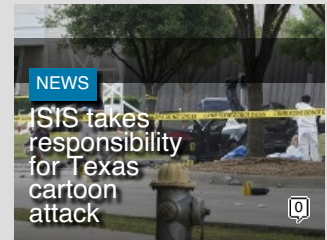
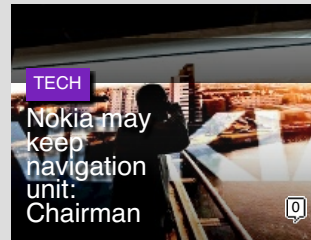
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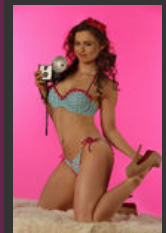
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