

## Houdini



The Leanor and Alvin Segal Theatre, in association with The Montreal Highlights Festival and Ernst & Young, proudly presents **Houdini** – a world premiere musical about the life and magic of America's first great popular entertainer. For the first time in the Festival's nine-year history, a Segal Theatre production will be one of the showcased productions. **Houdini** features some of the legendary escape artist's most famous routines. Don't miss this entertaining, musical ride through Houdini's life- from his humble vaudeville beginnings to the heights of his fame. Director **Bryna Wasserman**, recognized for her staging of large-scale musicals, was eager to bring Harry Houdini's story to a bigger audience after the success of the Dora Wasserman Yiddish Theatre's *The Great Houdini* in 2000. The book for this all-new

production is by **Ben Gonshor**, with music and lyrics by **Elan Kunin**. For Wasserman, the story speaks to modern audiences: "This is a throwback to the turn of the twentieth century, a time when theatre was there to involve and engage the public." For this very physical production, Wasserman is joined by a dazzling cast comprising **Kevin Kraft** in the title role, along with **Valerie Boyle, Rod Campbell, Gab Desmond, Gabrielle Maes, Paul McQuillan, Christopher Ryan** and **Lauren Stanford**. This production will also present a live, six-piece band with such well-known Montreal musicians. **Houdini plays at the Segal Centre for Performing Arts at the Saidye Bronfman Centre from Feb. 10 to March 2. 5170 cote St. Catherine Rd. Montreal (514) 739-7944 or [www.segalcentre.org](http://www.segalcentre.org)**

*Photo: by Randy Cole. L to R: Kevin Kraft and Gab Desmond in Houdini*