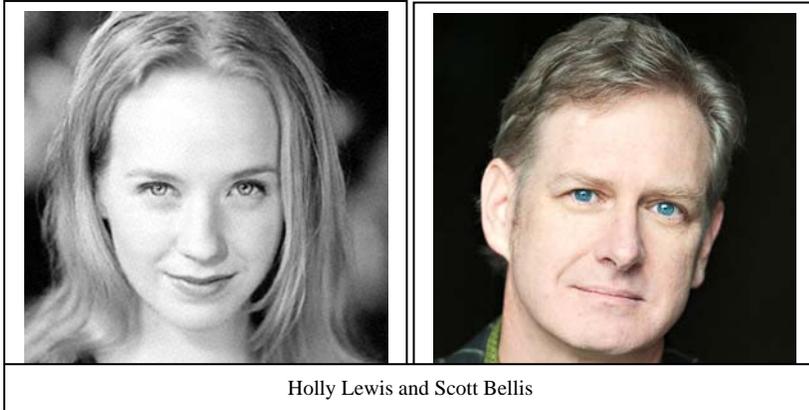


For Immediate Distribution  
February 19, 2013

## *Educating Rita* Showcases Great Canadian Talent



Holly Lewis and Scott Bellis

Beginning Thursday, Kamloops audiences will be treated to the exceptional talents of two actors new to Western Canada Theatre in *Educating Rita*, by Willy Russell, playing at Sagebrush Theatre February 21 to March 2.

We are very excited and honoured that our production of *Educating Rita* stars Holly Lewis as Rita, a feisty hairdresser seeking an education, and

Scott Bellis as Frank, her professor trying to locate the centre of the whirlwind she brings into his life. Both are new to the Kamloops stage but are nationally known and admired for their work on either side of the country. Scott is based in Vancouver, while Holly until recently was in Toronto.

In their respective cities, Holly and Scott are favourites, recognized by both the critics and awards. The “always remarkable Holly Lewis”, as *torontostage.com* praised her, received a Dora Nomination for Outstanding Performance by a Female for her work in *RETURN (The Sarajevo Project)*. Scott’s “top-drawer” performances in drama and comedy in Vancouver – where his *King John* last summer was called a “stellar performance” by the *Vancouver Courier* and his *Buckingham* in the previous year’s *Richard III* was said by the *Vancouver Sun* to be “beautifully expressed” – have earned him 16 nominations for Jessie Richardson awards, which he has won twice.

While both actors are from away, Kamloops has special significance to each of them. Holly now calls the city home, having moved here two years ago when her husband Daryl Cloran joined Western Canada Theatre as the Artistic Director, and her second son was born here. As for Scott, when he was a young actor in 1988 he saw an excellent production of *Prague* by John Krisanc by Western Canada Theatre; it confirmed for him that he had made the right career choice.

Do not miss this fabulous chance to see some of the best acting in Canadian theatre right here in this delightfully funny and moving play!

### **Educating Rita**

By Willy Russell  
Directed by Sarah Rodgers

**February 21 to March 2, 2013**  
SAGEBRUSH THEATRE

Sponsored by



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For more information, contact Catrina Crowe at 250-372-3216 Ext. 304 • Tickets: 250-374-LIVE (548)