



Mom's a Medium

Which is crazier: juggling a husband and six-child family and farm full of animals, or talking to dead people? Carmel Baird manages to do both. For most of her teens and twenties, the Edmonton resident feared she was truly insane, hearing voices in her head and suffering anxiety so extreme that she didn't leave the house for two years. When a psychic revealed the truth—that Baird is a medium, and the voices are actually spirits who have passed on to the other side—Baird's response was emphatic: "No way! I am *not* talking to dead people!" Gradually she accepted her role and started developing her psychic abilities. **Nowadays, she compares being a medium to getting on a rollercoaster: terrifying at first, then exhilarating.** On the second season of her TV show, *Mom's a Medium*, which began airing last month, Baird helps clients receive messages from spirits. "It's kind of like I play charades with a body of light," she says. "The client is trying to remember, the spirit is trying to convey a message, and I'm trying to be the middleman." It sounds like a tough job, but some days being a parent is the more difficult role, and the TV cameras capture it all: the good, the bad and the downright eerie. *Mom's a Medium* airs Saturdays to Jun. 6 on CMT (www.cmt.ca). Visit www.carmeljoybaird.com for more info.—*Sheri Radford*

W-Sa 8 pm. Matinees W and Sa-Su 2 pm. \$29+. Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, 2750 Granville St. at 11th Ave. 604-687-1644. www.artsclub.com & **Map 4: D3**

MISS SHAKESPEARE AND J. CAESAR Running in repertory, two bold new all-female shows playfully redefine gender roles in Shakespeare (**May 5-17**). Performance Works, 1218 Cartwright St. Tickets 1-877-840-0457. www.escapeartists.ca **Map 6: B7**

THE SENSATIONALISTS The artists explore concepts surrounding various sensory phenomena, transforming the theatre to play with proximity and interactivity in an immersive performance space, at times placing the audience inside the action (**May 12-16**). 8 pm. Orchestra participation seat \$38, balcony non-participation seat \$19. The Historic Theatre at The Cultch, 1895 Venables St. at Victoria. Tickets 604-251-1363. www.the.cultch.com & **Map 4: D4**

SWEENEY TODD The indelible cast of characters and the evocatively grimy setting combine with Stephen Sondheim's unmatched lyrics and complex orchestral score for a rich theatrical and musical experience (**to May 3**). Queen Elizabeth Theatre, 630 Hamilton St. at Dunsmuir. Tickets 604-683-0222. www.vancouveropera.ca & **Map 1: C6**

ATTRACTIONS

CAPILANO SUSPENSION BRIDGE Vancouver's oldest attraction has thrilled visitors since 1889. Cross the swaying planks of the bridge suspended above the Capilano River and wander among towering evergreens in a West Coast rainforest. Get a squirrel's-eye view at Treetops Adventure: seven suspension bridges in the trees take you high above the forest floor. The newest attraction is Cliffwalk, an adrenaline-pumping series of narrow suspended stairs, bridges and walkways (**year-round**). 3735 Capilano Rd., North Vancouver. 604-985-7474. www.capbridge.com **Map 4: B4**

SCIENCE WORLD AT TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE Explore interactive exhibits, watch live science demonstrations, catch a show in the Science



BOOGIE ROCK If Rick James somehow had a baby with Led Zeppelin, the result would be The Bright Light Social Hour. Catch the Austin band May 6 at The Media Club (page 73).