



***The Sorauren Book Club*: Book clubs are about so much more than books!**

June 23, 2022 – We are thrilled to announce that the *Sorauren Book Club* has been selected for the **34th ANNUAL TORONTO FRINGE FESTIVAL!** This is the premiere of **Lisa Randall's** play the *Sorauren Book Club*, presented by the Universe Over 50.

What happens when a former member of the book club shows up unexpectedly? Why did she leave book club? Will she be welcomed back with open arms? This comedic and heartwarming play, tells the story of five, strong, fierce, diverse female characters and their relationships. It features **Tricia Williams, Catherine Speiran, Jasmine Sawant, Lisa Randall, Maria Syrgiannis**, and is directed by **Christina Collins** and stage managed by **Marna Ward**.

Collectively, the cast and crew have over 220 years of theatrical experience! They are either really old or started acting when they were really young. Come and see for yourself!

The *Sorauren Book Club* will be playing between July 6 - 17th at the **AI Green Theatre** at the Miles Nadal JCC at 750 Spadina Avenue at Bloor Street.

Performance Dates:

July 6 – 4:00 PM
July 8 – 10:00 PM
July 9 – 5:00 PM
July 10 – 6:45 PM
July 13 – 2:00 PM
July 14 – 1:30 PM
July 16 – 6:45 PM

Opens July 6 – 16, 2022 tickets online at fringetoronto.com,
<https://fringetoronto.com/fringe/show/sorauren-book-club>

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The Universe Over 50

Christina Collins has been acting for over 45 years. With a **Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from New York U**, she has performed in theatres across Canada and the US, with numerous films and television credits. She tutors actors privately and teaches acting for Film and Television at **Humber College** and Toronto Academy of Acting for Film and Television. She has developed numerous acting syllabi for **Humber college**. She has directed over eight Sawitri Theatre productions and freelances as an audition director for casting houses. She is the appointed **Child Advocate** for ACTRA Toronto, from 2019 to present.

Lisa Randall. This is *The Sorauren Book Club* first production. Her play, *Window Treatment* was selected for the She Speaks Festival. With a diploma in acting from Studio 58, Lisa was also singer/lyricist/recording artist with *Against the Grain* and *Freedom Rains* and has acted in commercials and TV/web. Lisa is a Museum Administrator at Todmorden Mills and the Market Gallery. Her work supporting immigrants focused on the arts. On the Board of Studio 180, VP for the Int'l Ctr for Women Playwrights, Lisa is a member of The Playwrights Guild of Canada.

Tricia Williams Bio

Tricia Williams is an actor/singer/writer. Theatre highlights: *The Mary-Go-Round Project*, *Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* and *The Martha Stewart Projects*. Tricia is a founding Member of the Obsidian Theatre Company. As a singer, she sang with the Delightful Divas: *A Tip of the Hat to Lily Tomlin*, *An Evening with Jack Layton*, and the *United Steelworkers Int'l Conference* in Las Vegas. Film/TV highlights: *Da Kink in My Hair*, *Foolish Heart* and *The Dish Show*.

Maria Syrgiannis has been a professional actor for over 30 years. She has been seen and heard in numerous commercials, TV shows and Christmas movies. Selected plays include: Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Centaur), A Guide to Mourning (Globe Theatre), Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean (Grand), Escape from Happiness, the all-female Julius Caesar, and Where There's a Will (Sawitri Theatre). When not performing you can find her at home, releasing her inner Domestic Goddess.

Jasmine Sawant is an actor, producer, writer, manager, co-founder-artistic of the award-winning SAWITRI Theatre. She is recipient of the 2021 Martys Award in the Established Theatre Category. Stage acting credits include: SAWITRI Theatre's *Where There's A Will* (2018 & 2012) select film: *Mum Singh* (2022), *O.C.D.* (2021) & *Depth of Pyar* (2019) that garnered awards. She is ED of Lata Pada's award-winning Sampradaya Dance Creations, on the Board of Cdn Assn. of Fringe Festivals, Mississauga Writers Group, and the Community Panel of Meadowvale Theatre.

Catherine Speiran has had the pleasure of working here and in the UK as an Actor/Writer/Director. Some favorite roles include: Audrey, As you like it; Kate, Taming of The Shrew; Rita, Educating Rita; Actors Nightmare, Sarah Siddons; Underwater, Overseas, Christine; Urban Tales, Phillipa; Dial M for Murder and Margo; Calendar Girls.

Marna Ward with 40 years of stage management with family-run Herongate Dinner Theatre.