



**This Hour Has 22 Minutes  
Season XVI**

**Press Kit**

THIS HOUR HAS



***THIS HOUR HAS 22 MINUTES, Season XVI – Synopsis***

Award-winning hit comedy series *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* returns for a 16th season with audience favorites Cathy Jones, Shaun Majumder, Gavin Crawford, Mark Critch and Geri Hall.

*This Hour Has 22 Minutes* features the social commentaries of Mrs. Enid, political analyses of Rex Murphy, and adolescent insights of teen-correspondent Mark Jackson. Armed with satire, ambush, sketch comedy and parody, 22 Minutes has been a long time favorite of CBC viewers.

*This Hour Has 22 Minutes* is produced by Halifax Film, a DHX Media company in association with CBC Television.

For photography -

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**Cathy Jones - Biography - *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, SXVI**

Gemini award-winning actor and writer and founding member of the award-winning comedy troupe *CODCO*, Cathy Jones is Canada's leading lady in character-driven comedy.

Starring in the 16th season of the hit comedy series *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, Cathy reveals her remarkable ability to portray complex and difficult characters including the sassy suffragette Babe Bennett and the wise Mrs. Enid with remarkable ease.

Over the years, Cathy has had several successful ventures; including her much admired one-woman shows, *Wedding in Texas* and most recently *Me, Dad and The Hundred Boyfriends*. Cathy's film career includes the lead role in the Mike Jones film, *Secret Nation*, which aired on CBC Television.

In addition to earning numerous Gemini Awards, Cathy Jones has earned three Canadian Comedy Awards for Best Writing in a Comedy Series for her work on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*.

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**Shaun Majumder - Biography – This Hour Has 22 Minutes, SXVI**

This Gemini award winning Actor/Comedian starred in the Farrelly Brothers Fox comedy entitled *Unhitched*, which debuted in March 2008. Shaun's Comedy Central Presents special also debuted on Comedy Central in April 2008. Shaun's television career has also included appearances on Fox's *24*, *Cedric the Entertainer Presents*, and he has been a cast member of the critically acclaimed Canadian series *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. Shaun was recently a guest star on *Robson Arms* on CTV, the new series *Less Than Kind*, which will debut this fall on CHUM network, and on *Da Kink in My Hair* on Global TV. His film credits include, *Harold and Kumar go to White Castle*, *The Ladies Man*, *Pushing Tin*, and *Purpose* and most recently, *Bob Funk* alongside Rachel Leigh Cook and Olympia Dukakis. Shaun is also a favorite of Montreal's Just for Laughs Comedy festival having hosted the TV series for three seasons. He now resides in Los Angeles.

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**Gavin Crawford - Biography - *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, SXVI**

Born and raised on the flat fields of Southern Alberta, Gavin Crawford returns as cast member for the 16<sup>th</sup> season of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. Gavin began his career with his unique brand of character stand-up on the Toronto comedy scene.

Gavin has previously performed at the HBO U.S. *Comedy Arts Festival* in Aspen, the Edmonton *Comedy Festival*, the Montreal *Just for Laughs* Comedy Festival. Gavin joined the mainstage cast of Toronto's oldest comedy institution The Second City in writing and performing their 1999 productions *Y2K: The Chip Hits the Fan* and *Nude Beachwear, 100% Off*.

Gavin is co-writer and star of Gemini nominated *The Gavin Crawford Show* airing on the Comedy Network for which Gavin won best actor at the Canadian Comedy Awards in 2003. His one-man show, *Ripe and Red*, broadcast on CTV and Comedy Network's Comedy Now. Gavin's television and film credits include CTV's *Sonic Temple*, WB Television's sketch comedy show *Hype*, the well-known CBC series *The Red Green Show*, and the features *My Dog Vincent* and *Dead By Monday*.

In 2004 Gavin received a Gemini award for Best Individual Performance in a comedy program or series for his work on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. In the past few years Gavin has appeared onstage in Toronto in Sky Gilbert's *Rope Enough* and *Bad Acting Teachers* for which he was nominated for a Dora Award. He has recently appeared on *Robson Arms* as well as the *Murdoch Mysteries*. In summer of 2008, Gavin had the pleasure of hosting CBC's *How do you Solve a Problem like Maria?*. He is thrilled to be back for another season of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*.

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**Mark Critch - Biography - *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, SXVI**

Mark Critch, anchor and roving reporter for the 16th season of the Gemini award-winning *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* airing on CBC Television was born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland. Mark Critch is no stranger to the Canadian Comedy scene.

Mark has made several appearances on CBC radio's *Madly Off In All Directions* and as co-host of the ECMA Awards for CBC television. Mark also appeared on CBC's Winnipeg Comedy Festival and returns this fall as host of the CBC's Halifax Comedy Festival. Mark has also written for the renowned *Just for Laughs* series. Mark has received eight Gemini nominations and was honored with a Canadian Comedy Award in 2002 for his writing on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. He has performed in Russia, China and Afghanistan in addition to Canada and the United States.

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**Geri Hall – Biography –*This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, XVI**

Geri is thrilled to return for the 16<sup>th</sup> season of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*.

After a quick rise to the mainstage of The Second City in 2000, Geri went on to perform in many film and television roles, including Ken Finkelman's *At The Hotel*, *Little Mosque on The Prairie*, *The Tournament* and *The Jane Show*.

Geri has been nominated for Canadian Comedy Awards, notably for co-writing the CBC comedy special *To Die Four*, and she shared the award for "Best Improv and Sketch Troupe" with her Second City castmates. She was also nominated for a Gemini Award for her role on *The Jane Show*.

Look for her in the upcoming hockey comedy *Puck Hogs*, directed by Warren Sonoda.



## **STEPHEN REYNOLDS - Director**

Stephen Reynolds has extensive Director and Producer credits for all major Canadian broadcasters. Reynolds is currently directing the 16<sup>th</sup> season of the award-winning hit comedy series, *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, his 5<sup>th</sup> season with the show. As well he directed for Series I of *Hatching, Matching & Dispatching* starring Mary Walsh.

Reynolds began his career producing music videos for well-known artists such as Corey Hart, Glass Tiger, Rush and Kim Mitchell. He continued to distinguish himself as Producer for his work in Nova Scotia on *Mary Silliman's War* (aka *The Way of Duty*) and CBC's comedy series *CODCO* for which he received two Gemini Awards. Reynolds has worked with numerous Directors including Daniel Petrie Sr., Alan Moyle, Patricia Rozema, William Shatner and Paul Donovan.

Stephen Reynolds directing credits include *The Eleventh Hour*, *Snakes and Ladders*, *Made In Canada*, *LEXX* and *Black Fly*. Reynolds made his feature directing debut with the award-winning film *THE DIVINE RYANS* garnering him a Claude Jutra nomination. Stephen Reynolds is a graduate of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. He lives in Halifax and has a number of television and film projects in development.

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**MICHAEL DONOVAN - Executive Producer**

Michael Donovan, co-founder of Halifax Film, a DHX Media company has over 20 years experience creating, financing, producing and marketing Canadian film and television programming. He co-founded the Canadian production company Salter Street Films in 1983, which merged with Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. in 2001.

His work in the Canadian television and film industry has been recognized with numerous Gemini Awards, three International Emmy nominations, a Primetime Emmy nomination and an Academy Award for the feature documentary *Bowling for Columbine*.

Mr. Donovan is currently the Executive Producer of the hit comedy series *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, the motion-capture CG animation pre-school series, *Bo on the Go!*, the CG animation pre-school series *Animal Mechanicals*, the live action puppet series *The Mighty Jungle* and the upcoming kids spelling challenge series *Canada's Super Speller* for CBC Television. As well, he is Producer for the recently released feature film *Shake Hands with the Devil* based on retired General Romeo Dallaire's award-winning book of the same name.

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**MARK FARRELL – Executive Producer**

Mark Farrell is Executive Producer for *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* SXVI, a position he has held for the past 3 years. Prior to this position, Mark was the Showrunner for *22 Minutes* beginning in Season VII.

Mark Farrell grew up in Halifax and moved to Toronto in 1988 to become a stand-up comedian.

He helped Brent Butt develop the CTV sitcom 'Corner Gas' and along with Kevin White and Paul Mather serves as one of the Executive Producers for 'Dan for Mayor' a comedy pilot recently commissioned by CTV.

Mark also spent a year as a series regular in the first season of CBC's *The Newsroom*.

He was won seven Canadian Screenwriting Awards and nine Gemini Awards.

He lives in Halifax with his wife and two children.

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## **JACK KELLUM – Executive Producer**

Jack Kellum returns as Executive Producer for the 16th season of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. Previous to his retirement in August 2002, he was Executive Producer of Arts and Entertainment programs for CBC Television in Atlantic Canada. Jack Kellum has numerous Gemini Awards, two Wilderness Awards and two East Coast Music Awards.

Jack Kellum graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in 1966 and joined the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Toronto as an assistant producer and was soon promoted to the position of Producer/Director on a new television documentary series called *This Land of Ours*. In 1973 he moved to Newfoundland for one year to produce the local version of This Land, titled Land and Sea. The one year turned into twenty. During this time Jack Kellum produced and directed a diverse set of television programs; from documentaries, to serious music, to children's, to Celtic music, to drama, to a Pope's visit, to the local news. It was in Newfoundland that Jack started working with Tommy Sexton, Greg Malone, Cathy Jones, Mary Walsh and Andy Jones, collectively known as *CODCO*, on a very successful local series called *Wonderful Grand Band* or *WGB*.

In 1986 Kellum teamed up with independent film producer Michael Donovan of Salter Street Films to bring the *CODCO* comedy series into the CBC production studios in Halifax. This was one of the first independent co-productions set up using CBC staff and facilities working with an independent producer in a CBC plant. *CODCO* was produced at CBC Halifax from 1986 to 1992. In January of 1993, Jack and his family moved from Newfoundland to Nova Scotia and immediately began working again with Michael Donovan on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. As well as his Senior Producer duties on *This Hour* Jack was also responsible for many of the CBC regional and national variety programs coming from the East Coast. He was instrumental in starting the *East Coast Music Awards* television broadcast and *The Halifax Comedy Fest*. These popular shows still continue.

Most recently Jack Kellum produced a new national series for CBC Television called *Songwriters Circle* hosted by Bruce Guthro, a new comedy series from Newfoundland called *Buddy Wasisname and the Other Fellers*, and a classical music special for Opening Night called *MacKinnon's Brook Suite*, and has directed twenty-six episodes of Mary Walsh's, *Open Book* show.