

Vidéotron presents the  
**JUST FOR LAUGHS FESTIVAL**



## ***Hoodwinked: Prepare to be Conned***

Hoodwinked is the newest show from Mills Entertainment and BASE Entertainment. It's the most unbelievable and hilarious show you've ever seen!

*Hoodwinked* is the first show of its kind. The cast of "con artists", cheats and swindlers expose the secrets of the streets in a wild night of schemes and scams. Throughout the show, volunteers from the audience will be invited on-stage to participate and at times the entire audience will be conned. Think you have what it takes to spot the scams and outsmart the pros? The laughs come fast and furious, and by the time the evening is over, pockets will be picked, minds will be read, and someone's gonna get scammed. The cast features four of the most renowned international con artists: **Bob Arno**, **Banachek**, **Todd Robbins** and **Richard Turner**.

**Bob Arno** is the world's most famous pickpocket. Years of research and first-hand observation of real street crime have made him an authority frequently consulted by police, security experts and television producers. Bob artfully blends the comedy and tragedy of thievery in his outrageous performances. Bob has been featured on ABC's 20/20, CNN, the BBC, and National Public Radio, and he has been profiled in the New York Times and USA Today.

**Banachek** is a leading expert on psychological manipulation. At 18 he became a test subject at a heavily funded university psychic research facility. For two years, scientists closely studied and tested his "psychic" abilities. Using only his skills of deception, Banachek astounded the researchers and made them believe he truly was psychic. His live performance features demonstrations of subliminal influence and "cold reading" that are at once hilarious, fascinating and, at times, disturbing.

A well known authority on all things deceptive, **Todd Robbins** has been called the "king of New York con men" by the New York Times. He has used his expertise, gained by walking down the shady streets of fraud, on numerous TV programs and has consulted on various articles, documentaries and films. In April, Bloomsbury Books released his book *The Modern Con Man: How to Get Something for Nothing*.

**Richard Turner** is an expert on card cheating and sleight-of hand and has been profiled on over 100 TV specials world-wide and profiled in numerous news publications. He is respected within the international casino industry as one of the most skilled cheaters ever. Richard travels the world demonstrating his ability to cheat with cards undetectably. Endless practice and years of training result in card table mastery that is unsurpassed, and which can now be shared in *Hoodwinked* through the use of live video projection.

A prominent and award winning Canadian director and writer, **Jim Millan** has had productions at Radio City Music Hall in New York, Off Broadway and on four continents. He has directed 80 original productions ranging from the avant garde to musicals seen by over 4 million people. He presently has shows running in the UK and New York City. As the Director of the Kids in the Hall since 2000 he has directed and designed 3 North American tours and they headlined the Just for Laughs Festival last year with a show of all new sketches prior to their just completed full North American tour. Other significant comedy direction includes the Marijuanalogues with Tommy Chong, Arj Barker, Doug Benson and show doctor work with comedians in New York and Las Vegas.

*Hoodwinked* was created by Michael Mills of Mills Entertainment and developed in partnership with BASE Entertainment. According to Mills the show offers “a rare glimpse into the shadowy world of cons and deception”. Mills Entertainment’s current projects include producing and managing several touring properties including Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood, *Tony n’ Tina’s Wedding*, *Jungle Jack Hanna*, *Comedy Central on Campus*, and NBC’s *Last Comic Standing Live Tour*. BASE Entertainment’s current production activity in Las Vegas includes *Jersey Boys* at The Palazzo Resort – Hotel – Casino, *Phantom –The Las Vegas Spectacular* and *Wayne Brady: Making It Up* at The Venetian Resort - Hotel -Casino, *Stomp Out Loud* at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino, *Defending the Caveman* at the Golden Nugget. In New York, BASE is a co-producer of the new Cirque du Soleil holiday show *Wintuk*, which premiered at the Theater at Madison Square Garden in Winter 2007. In addition, BASE operates the Showroom and The Theatre for the Performing Arts at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas.

*Don't miss this rare chance to enter the world of shadows, secrets, and scams.  
Getting duped was never this much fun.*

### **Hoodwinked November Show Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Time</b>
11/17/08	Tech day	Easton, PA	TBD
11/18/08	State Theater	Easton, PA	8:00 PM
11/19/08	Lyman Center	New Haven, CT	TBD (1 show)
11/20/08	Proctors Theater	Schenectady, NY	8:00 PM
11/21/08	Tarrytown Music Hall	Tarrytown, NY	8:00 PM
11/22/08	City Stage	Springfield, MA	3:00 PM & 8:00 PM