

Peel brig.

DE ZOTTI, Julian

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# WRITER FROM MISSISSAUGA CO-CREATES NEW SHOW ON CBC'S GEM

## THE SHOW IS A COMEDY THAT CHALLENGES RIGID NOTIONS OF IDENTITY, DIVERSITY, AND FAMILY.

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Mississauga native, Julian De Zotti, is creating a buzz over a new series he has co-created called Ming's Dynasty.

The show, inspired by Candian-Chinese actor Antony Hall's own life scenarios, follows two hip-hop artists Whyte Wyne (Calwyn Shurgold) and Young Riesling (Antony Hall) journey from Toronto to Coaldale, Alberta.

The show incorporates layers of the big city/small

town divide and challenges rigid notions of identity, diversity, and family. Whyte Wyne and Young Riesling quickly learn they aren't the only "woke" artists in the small town after exploring the hip-hop scene in Coaldale.

De Zotti, the child of Italian immigrants himself, wanted to tell the story by showcasing complexities of the immigrant experience, which he does through Hall's character when he returns to Coaldale to look after the family restaurant, Ming Ho Garden, after his father falls ill.

"It's important to encompass the struggle of the child of immigrants," he said. "Where does he belong? Is it in the Chinese culture or Canadian culture?"

While De Zotti found a lot of success in writing - New Year, Menage a quoi?, and Whatever, Linda to name a

few - he is an actor and director as well and says there are a lot more artists like him that come from Mississauga and Brampton.

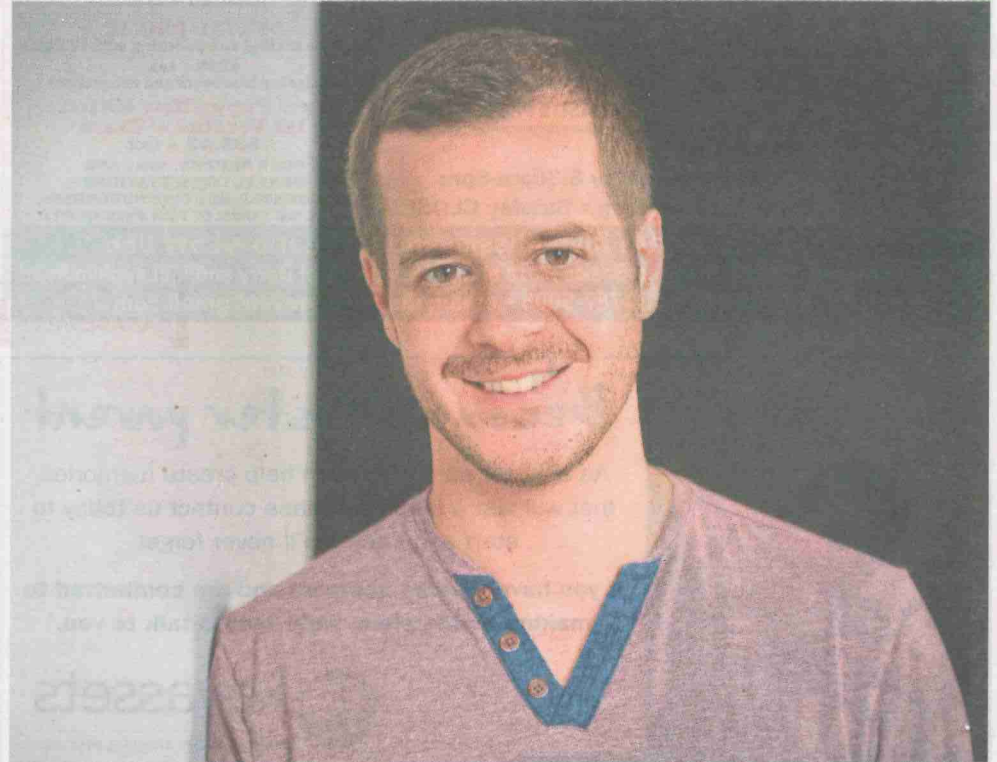
"There is so much talent in Peel - from the new Maitreyi Ramakrishnan to Supinder Wraich - Mississauga has a great talent pool," he said.

De Zotti started off as a delivery boy for the Mississauga News years ago and now has a show on CBC advertised alongside Schitt's Creek, he added.

"There are so many Canadians getting out there and filling the industry, it's all about creating what you want and making your dream happen," he said.

Ming's Dynasty can now be streamed CBC's Gem.

For more information on the show and cast, follow them on Facebook (@mingstings) and Instagram (@mings.tings).



Christian Lloyd photo

Julian De Zotti is the co-creator of Ming's Dynasty which can be streamed on CBC's Gem.