

ERICA MEETS SMOOTH STRANGER CANADIAN IDOL'S SEBASTIAN PIGOTT TO STIR UP CBC SERIES

By SANDY CAETANO

Erica Strange's quest to come to terms with life and relationships – in the past and present – continues, as *Being Erica*'s sophomore season is under way.

When we first met Erica (Erin Karpluk), viewers were taken on a journey, as Erica, with the help of the mysterious therapist Dr. Tom, would gain new perspective on past regrets and apply it to her present life.

In its second season, Karpluk says her character is more worldly and more experienced in exploring time travel's dynamics.

"She uses all of her experiences from season one to start to help other people in her life," says Karpluk in an interview.

"Every episode is really unique and funny. It's the same show, but it's been elevated."

Now that everything seems to be coming together – her publishing career is taking off, she's building stronger relationships with family and friends, and she's finally with the love of her life, Ethan (Tyron Leitso) – something strange is happening.

But an encounter with a smooth, captivating new stranger (Sebastian Pigott of *Canadian Idol* fame) – someone who shares a secret with her – could change it all.

Karpluk says besides his brilliant acting, fans can look forward to a little singing from Pigott as well.

"I'm willing to place bets that people are going to go gaga," she says. "Well, Erica's in a relationship with Ethan still in season two, so her relationship with (Pigott's) character will kind of develop as the season



Erin Karpluk returns as Erica Strange in season two of *Being Erica*.

goes along.

"I'm reluctant to go into it at all, but there's a couple of surprises that come with that. And maybe they're not what you think. I was really surprised."

Being Erica airs tonight at 9 p.m. on CBC.

CRAIG FERGUSON DEFENDS LETTERMAN

NEW YORK – Of all of those reacting to David Letterman's situation, Craig Ferguson had a unique perspective.

As the host of the *Late Late Show* on CBS, he follows Letterman's *Late Show*. Letterman is also his boss, since Letterman's production company, *Worldwide Pants*, produces the *Late Late Show*.

Yet it's the Scottish-born Ferguson's job to make fun of the biggest news stories of the day. And, lately, his boss qualifies.

Since announcing on *Late Show* last week that he had had sex with female members of his staff and had been the victim of a \$2-million (U.S.) blackmail threat,

Letterman has played prominently in the news.

Ferguson pointed out his awkward position yesterday, asking his audience to "put yourself in my position."

"The person you work for, the person you admire and respect, is caught in an embarrassing situation," Ferguson said. "And your job is to be funny about that, whilst trying to keep your own job."

"So this is my last show," he joked.

Ferguson did make light of the situation, joking that it had now been revealed how he got the job in the first place.

But Ferguson defended Letterman, calling him "the king of late-night television.

"If we are now holding late-night talk show hosts to the same moral accountability as we hold politicians or clergymen, I'm out," said Ferguson.

"I'm gone."

Ferguson has never claimed to have a perfect past.

He recently released a memoir (*American on Purpose*) reflecting on his struggle with alcoholism.

"I quite like my entertainers to be dangerous. I like my musicians to be kind of drug-fuelled," Ferguson said.

"Cause if you want entertainers to be squeaky clean, then who are you going to be watching? *Jonas Brothers*."

Associated Press

THIS WEEK'S NEW MOVIE RELEASES

Year One	Holly
My Life in Ruins	Visioneers
The Brother's Bloom	Scooby-Doo: The Mystery Begins
Trick 'R Treat	Dark Country
Imagine That	Children of the Corn

PRIMETIME LINEUP

8PM	CBC: <i>Rick Mercer Report</i> (N) CTV: <i>So You Think You Can Dance Canada</i> (N) Global: <i>NCIS</i> (N)
9PM	A: <i>So You Think You Can Dance</i> (N) CBC: <i>Being Erica</i> (N) Global: <i>NCIS- Los Angeles</i> (N)
10PM	CTV: <i>Law and Order- SVU</i> (N) Global: <i>The Good Wife</i> (N) W: <i>How to Look Good Naked</i> (N)

REALITY-CHECK NEWS

THE BIGGEST LOSER: A medical condition sidelines one contestant; the contestants learn how to make healthy choices when eating out.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE CANADA: The Top 8 perform.

DANCING WITH THE STARS: Queen Latifah performs; *JabbaWockeeZ* performs; one celebrity is eliminated.

LATE-NIGHT GUESTS

Jay Leno	Abigail Breslin
The Hour	Nick Hornby
Jon Stewart	Ray Mabus
Stephen Colbert	Lara Logan
Conan O'Brien	Edward Norton
David Letterman	Paul Shaffer
Jimmy Kimmel	Patricia Heaton
Jimmy Fallon	Peter Sarsgaard
Craig Ferguson	TBD