





2013/2014 Season

1 SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI:

Kitt & Jane AN INTERACTIVE SURVIVAL GUIDE TO THE NEAR POST-APOCALYPTIC FUTURE

October 17–26, 2013

Created by Kathleen Greenfield, Ingrid Hansen, & Rod Peter Jr. Produced by SNAFU Dance Theatre Full of ingenuity, humour and music, two socially awkward geniuses share their distress about the world they are inheriting. FREE CAKE! 2012 Best New Play, Critic's Choice Spotlight Award

2 The Skin of Our Teeth

November 7 – 23, 2013 By Thornton Wilder Directed by Linda Hardy *A hilarious and raucous tour through the ages – from glaciers to floods to war – with the average middle class family and their pet dinosaur. How will the human race ever survive?* **1943 Pulitzer Prize**

3

Picnic

February 13 – 22, 2014 By William Inge Directed by Peter McGuire Unfulfilled dreams and repressed desires come to a head when a charismatic young drifter arrives in town and changes the lives of two sisters. **1953 Pulitzer Prize**

4

Unity (1918)

March 13 – 22, 2014

Written & Directed by Kevin Kerr (Assoc. Professor, Writing Dept.) As WWI ends and a mysterious flu pandemic nears, the inhabitants of a small Saskatchewan town deal with the trials of life and death. 2002 Governor General's Award

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WE'RE NOT FOOLING THE CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION

"Hilarious, invigorating piece of theatre*" echoes the real life concerns of today's youth ... and what they're prepared to do about it.

As British Columbia's <u>municipalities call for an end</u> to genetically modified and engineered foods in the province, two angst-ridden teens will be singing about the perils of GMOs and how to survive the impending end of the world... accompanied on their ukulele and glockenspiel!

The University Victoria's Department of Theatre welcomes alumnae Ingrid Hansen (BFA '09) and Kathleen Greenfield (BFA '05) with local comedic talent Rod Peter Jr. to open the Phoenix Theatre's 2013/14 season with SNAFU Dance Theatre's production of *Kitt & Jane: An Interactive Survival Guide to the Near Post-Apocalyptic Future*. Running from October 17-26, 2013, *Kitt & Jane* is this year's Spotlight on Alumni presentation, an initiative that invites theatre grads to present their current work as part of the Phoenix season.

Seen through the eyes of two imaginative teens – the precocious character of Kitt (reprised from SNAFU's award-winning hit, *Little Orange Man* and now a couple years older) and an awkward boy nicknamed Jane – surviving the near post-apocalyptic future is articulated with SNAFU's quintessential hallmarks: playful music, fantastical lighting, shadow and found-object puppetry, and of course, whimsical but poignant humour.

"But this isn't the Rapture, and it isn't zombies. We're talking about the real, true coming-soon-to-a-continentnear you 'apocalypse'," says Hansen about the perils that Kitt and Jane are preparing for. They draw on existing scientific reports in the media about genetically modified foods, technology run rampant, species extinction, and water contamination. As well, they illustrate (literally!) the various possible future scenarios developed by the international think-group Global Scenario Group (gsg.org).

The play then adds a dose of authentic teenage angst, inspired by interviews of real live Victoria and Richmond area students which gauged their concerns about the future of the planet (be it apocalypse or utopia). "You'd need to find people that you can trust, and then start figuring out ways to get water and supplies and stuff, and shelter, and keep bringing in people you know won't kill you . . . " said one Grade 11 student. Another spoke about living in the rafters of Costco. These interviews will be released this fall in a podcast series named "A Teenagers Guide to Surviving the Apocalypse". While the characters of Kitt and Jane believe they will be dead in one hour and the apocalypse will occur for us all in five years, the play echoes the real life concerns about the world that this young generation is inheriting. It's a play, as <u>CVVMagazine.com</u> reviewed*, that will *"follow you home."*

Kitt & Jane is the first of four award-winning plays in the Phoenix Theatre's 2013/14 season. Named the Best New Play in 2012 by Victoria's Critics' Choice Spotlight Awards, it also received dramaturgical support from the Playwrights Theatre Centre's Kathleen Flaherty as part of the Fringe New Play Prize. SNAFU's plays have won many awards including: Best Dance Production and Pick-Of-the-Fringe for *BLINK!* (2006-7); Most Innovative Show, Best Fringe "M" Award and an invitation to Toronto's Summerworks for *Pretty Little Instincts* (2009-11); and the Vancouver Fringe Playhouse Award, the Montreal Fringe Award for Best English show and many Best-of and Pick-of-the-Fringe awards for *Little Orange Man* (2011-13).

Join us Friday, October 18 at 7pm for a FREE preshow lecture with a theatre alumnus. As well, the cast will offer public talkback sessions after the October 15 & 16 Previews. *Kitt & Jane* performances are as follows:

Public Preview Performances 8pm: October 15 & 16 (Followed by talkback sessions) Evening Performances 8pm: October 17 (Opening Night), 18 (Lecture), 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 Matinee Performances 2pm: Saturday, October 26

Single Tickets: \$14 Student /\$20 Senior/\$22 Adult/\$24 Weekends @ 8pm (Previews \$7.00, available after 5pm) Season Subscription: \$36 for 3 plays & \$48 for 4 plays. Details & order forms at <u>www.phoenixtheatres.ca</u> Phoenix Box Office Opens: October 8 in person or by calling: (250) 721-8000.