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 municipalities call for an end 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 alumnus 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-continent-near 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 CVVMagazine.com 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 www.phoenixtheatres.ca
Phoenix Box Office Opens: October 8 in person or by calling: (250) 721-8000.