

TORONTO
FRINGE

NEXT STAGE



TEASE

Presented by:
Theatre Lab & Big City Kitties

The Solitudes



photo: Tanja Tuziana

*eight recipes for transforming our solitudes,
and an invitation to sit at the table*



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HAPPY 2020!

Our little theatre festival is now a teenager. In this 13th year of Next Stage, we are presenting a clearer vision than ever before. This line-up offers you personal stories, incredible writing, a full musical, and a Fringe-fave clown duo.



I am so honoured to be able to share this work with you from this passionate group of artists who have worked so hard to bring you their shows. I hope you can pack in as much theatre as possible over the next 12 days and join us for our Fringe Fundraiser, a one-night-only event with Tallboyz, another #StartedAtTheFringe success story, on Saturday Jan 11th at 7:30pm. We will also have treats for everyone in the heated Steam Whistle Festival Tent and a late night party in the Studio theatre so come by then or any other night to say hi to myself and the Next Stage crew.

May this be the start of a 2020 filled with theatre and joy.

All the best,

Lucy Eveleigh
Executive Director



It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the Next Stage Theatre Festival hosted by Toronto Fringe.



Now in its 13th year, the Next Stage Theatre Festival features 11 visionary shows that showcase a vision of innovative styles and formats and represent a vanguard of indie theatre makers in Toronto. These shows range from staged readings to fully realized productions that offer an enriching program while keeping the indie spirit alive.

I am delighted that wonderful events like yours are taking place in Toronto. Events like this festival promote and encourage residents to participate in their community, connect with each other and contribute to the community's strength.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto



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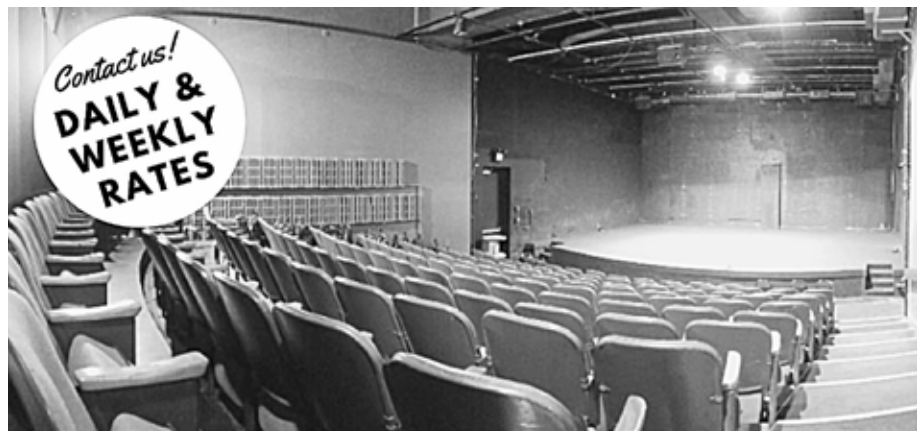
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NEXT STAGE

TEASE

Presented by
Theatre Lab & Big City Kitties

CREATOR/DIRECTOR	Lindsay Mullan
WRITERS/PERFORMERS	Bianca Alongi, Cristina Gonçalves, Lindsay Mullan*
STAGE MANAGER	Anastasiya Popova
CHOREOGRAPHERS	Lindsay Mullan, Cristina Gonçalves, Dana Thody, Oleg Kasynets, Bianca Alongi
PROJECTION DESIGNER	Nigil Vazquez
COSTUME DESIGNERS	Janelle Joy Hince, Anastasiya Popova, Charlie Quinn
PROPS DESIGN	Anastasiya Popova
NEXT STAGE PHOTOGRAPHY	Tanja-Tiziana
PRODUCTION PHOTOGRAPHY	Katherine Fogler
PROMOTIONAL DESIGN	Skyler Thiot
PRODUCERS	Michael Orlando, Lindsay Mullan

**appearing courtesy of CAEA*

LINDSAY MULLAN, CREATOR/DIRECTOR/PERFORMER

Lindsay Mullan is a Canadian Comedy Award nominated actor, improviser, instructor, and creator. She is an alumnus of the Second City Toronto Mainstage, an alumnus of the internationally-acclaimed improvisation theatre, Loose Moose, and a graduate of the Mount Royal University Theatre Arts Acting Program. As an artist Lindsay strives to create original and edgy new works that tickle the funny bone while pulling at the heart strings. This is why she is so thrilled to reintroduce and reinvent her burlesque variety show *TEASE* with the help of Theatre Lab for the 2020 Next Stage Theatre Festival. You can find out more about Lindsay and her work at lindsaymullan.com

BIANCA ALONGI, PERFORMER

Bianca Alongi is a Toronto based actor, comedian, and dancer. She was a former dance assistant for the Los Angeles Dance Magic Company Conventions. She is a recent graduate from the Second City Toronto's Conservatory Program. This year she was nominated for the prestigious Tim Sims Encouragement Fund Award. While rehearsing *TEASE* she has had the pleasure of performing in Second City's recent family holiday show, *What The Elf*. Her past stage credits include productions with Norwegian Cruise Line, and multiple touring musicals and TYA shows throughout the UK with Creative Sunshine. You can see Bianca on stage at improv shows around the city and in the occasional commercial on your TV screen.

CRISTINA GONÇALVES, PERFORMER

Cristina Gonçalves is a multi-disciplinary artist with a passion for all things unique and bizarre. She danced competitively in Vaughan, Ontario for 11 years in the styles of jazz, tap, ballet, acrobatics, and hip hop. While obtaining a Biology degree at Queen's University, Cristina performed professionally in various physical theatre productions. Since moving to Toronto, Cristina has been recognized for her original short film *Hermit* which won "Best Experimental Short" in the Toronto Short Film Festival. Cristina continues to broaden her artistic endeavors and online presence under her YouTube channel *Cristina Geeze* where she shares original music, sketches, sculptures, and more.

ANASTASIYA POPOVA, STAGE MANAGER

Anastasiya is a recent graduate from York University's theatre production program. She is a Toronto based stage manager with other production, touring and international experience. Anastasiya is thrilled to be working on *TEASE*, a creative, fun and provocative production. Anastasiya would like to thank all the wonderful people in her life for their unwavering support. Select stage management credits include: Dora nominated *Wring the Roses* (madonnanera); *Swan Lake* (Russian Ballet Company); *End/Run* (Newmarket Play Festival); *Masquerade* (Vakhtangov Theatre); *The Red Horse is Leaving* (Moleman Theatre); *4.48 Psychosis* (NSK Theatre); *strangers, babies*, (Theatre Panik).

MICHAEL ORLANDO, PRODUCER

Michael Orlando is a Toronto-based theatre creator. He has worked extensively with both Canadian and International theatre and performance companies. Michael's work has been included in the Toronto International Fringe Festival, Edmonton Fringe Festival, SummerWorks Theatre Festival, and the In the Soil Festival. As Artistic Director of Theatre Lab he has created: *Dead End*, *First Sight*, *Naked Ladies: a play*, *Centre of the Universe*, *You Can Sleep When You're Dead*, *To The Last Cry*, *The Other Houdini*, *Smother*, *Halcyon Youth*, *Warriors*, *Elegy* and *The Son of The Man*. Theatre Lab has won two Canadian Comedy Awards for it's most recent production of *The Adventures of Tom Shadow*. Michael is a core member of The Wrecking Ball and is a graduate of the Humber Theatre conservatory program.

NOTES ON THE PLAY:

Hello Lovely Audience Member, please know you are 50% of this show. So we encourage you to 'cat-call' when you like what you see. But remember, as soon as this show is over, 'cat-calling' is no longer appreciated – because that would make you an asshole. Enjoy the show!

THANK YOU:

This show has been a labour of love that has brought me so much joy. I am so grateful for the fabulous cast, crew, and festival workers that made this show possible. Thank you to my fellow producer Michael Orlando for his ambitious spirit and belief in this show. I would also like to thank the original ladies of *TEASE* (Veronika Slowikowska & Connie Wang) for paving the way for this new iteration. Thank you to my family and friends who have been there for me along this journey. Lastly, I would like to thank Michael Savery for his patience, kindness, and kisses during this all-consuming process.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Mullan

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Our families and friends, the Next Stage Theatre Festival staff and volunteers, the Next Stage Jury (Lucy Eveleigh, Laura Paduch, Derrick Chua, Owais Lightwalla), Factory Theatre patron services and bar staff, Lindsey Cassel at Steam Whistle, Jason Maghanoy at Toronto Life, Christian Ismodes at Now Magazine, Philip Riccio and Janice Peters Gibson at Intermission Magazine, Sean Lee and Kristina McMullin at Tangled Arts, Celeste Sansregret, Rebecca Vandavelde, Kat Germain, Peter Tsatsanis.

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