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buddies

IN BAD TIMES THEATRE

Canada's Home for Queer Culture

BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE ANNOUNCES PROGRAMMING FOR ITS 2009/10 SUBSCRIPTION SEASON

revolutionaries, innovators & provocateurs



Photo by David Hawe

The Creators of 2009/10: Nina Arsenault, Erika Hennebury, Sasha Van Bon Bon, Evalyn Parry, Anna Chatterton, Karin Randoja, Kitty Neptune, Nathalie Claude and Moynan King

Welcome to our 2009/2010 Season: an exceptional line-up of some of Canada's most significant independent performers, award-winning artists and groundbreaking queer creators.

From the carnal drive that beckons us into less *respectable* houses of worship, to the irresistible, siren-calls luring us to the extremes of personal transformation, this season we set our sights on our appetites, fetishes, secret desires and darkest fears – evoking our humanity and inspiring reflection. Titillating, sophisticated and unnerving - this is a journey you will not want to miss.

This season, as we celebrate 30 years of innovative, provocative art, we reflect on three decades of heights conquered, storms weathered, bad times and good. We continue to question our identities, excavate meaning, and venture undaunted into the unknown - with humour and heart. This is the vibrant and dangerous territory in which we thrive and we wouldn't have it any other way.

BUDDIES' MAINSTAGE SERIES

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents
The Scandelles in

NEON NIGHTZ

Created and performed by **Sasha Van Bon Bon & Kitty Neptune**

Live soundtrack performed by **Countess Christmasher**

Directed by **David Oiye**

Sept 23 – Oct 10, 2009

Buddies pops the cork on its 2009/10 Season with this sensational and salacious work by Toronto's premiere burlesque troupe.

In icy wintry Montreal, where's a soul to go for comfort, confession and salvation? As The Scandelles' Sasha Van Bon Bon and Kitty Neptune reveal, the strip clubs of Montreal in the '90s were in as high demand as those more sanctified places of refuge. From the iconic feature dancer, to the lap dance confessional, *Neon Nightz* explores the human side to the world of exotic dancing and uncovers some surprising revelations.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents
The **VenusMACHINE** production of

THE SILICONE DIARIES

Created and performed by **Nina Arsenault**

Directed by **Brendan Healy**

Dramaturgy by **Judith Rudakoff**

Nov 14 – 21, 2009

Buddies is thrilled to host this powerful and intriguing tell-all by local transsexual celeb and queer art goddess Nina Arsenault.

Transsexual Nina Arsenault's sixty cosmetic surgeries and procedures, augmentations and alterations may be "fake" but her diaries are nothing but real. The *Silicone Diaries* presents a full, frank and fierce exploration of the contradictory sensations and the joy and tumult indelibly written on, through and throughout her body. An outrageous, inspirational and often hilarious performance that garnered standing ovations at its World Premiere in Saint John, New Brunswick. Brendan Healy directs as Nina draws the battle lines and wrestles with the conventions of patriarchy to come to peace with her radical, queer body.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents
The **English-language Premiere** of

THE SALON AUTOMATON

A **Momentum** production

A performance for one actress and three automatons

Dec 1 – 12, 2009

Written, directed and performed by **Nathalie Claude**

Assistant director **Colette Drouin**

Automatons conception Raymond **Marius Boucher** and **Simon Laroche**
Automatons Programming **Simon Laroche**
Automatons Voices **Moynan King, Leni Parker, Clinton Walker**
Set design and props **Raymond Marius Boucher**
Costumes **Judy Jonker** Make-up and hair styling **Angelo Barsetti**
Music conception **Isabelle Lussier** Lighting design **Claude Cournoyer**
Technical direction **Geoff Levine**

After a sold-out run in Montreal, Buddies is proud to present the English-language premiere of this exceptional work from one of Montreal's foremost solo artists Nathalie Claude.

Welcome to the Salon Automaton... a literary salon, a burlesque confrontation, an infernal «huis-clos» between a sublime hostess (Nathalie Claude) and her three distinguished guests: The Dandy Poet, The Cabaret Artist and The Drinking Patroness. Three authentic human size automatons, fill an ultra modern solitude with their conversation, talent and wit.

From the company who brought you Clean Irene & Dirty Maxine
Independent Aunties in Association with **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** present
BREAKFAST

Mar 17 – Apr 4, 2010

Created by the company
Written by **Anna Chatterton** and **Evalyn Parry**
Directed by **Brendan Healy**
Featuring **Karin Randoja**, with **Evalyn Parry** and **Anna Chatterton**
Set & Costume Design **Julie Fox**
Sound Design **Richard Windeyer**
Lighting Design **Laird MacDonald**

"Utterly compelling....titillating and threatening" Xtra! Magazine

Nominated for 3 Dora Awards, Buddies is thrilled to present a remount of the Aunties' highly acclaimed and unnervingly intimate production.

Meet Marnie, a woman trying out a self-help program in an attempt to "move ahead" in her life. The audience is invited to her kitchen, as voyeurs to Marnie's morning rituals. "Randoja's absorbing, fearless performance" (EYE Magazine) anchors this surreal and chilling encounter with one woman's psyche, which takes an unflinching look at loneliness, self-delusion and our cultural obsession with self-help and personal transformation. You'll never look at breakfast the same way again...

"One of the top ten shows of 2008" Paula Citron, Globe and Mail

Developed through the Theatre Centre Residency Program

THE FESTIVALS

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents

HYSTERIA

A Festival of Women

Festival Director **Moynan King**

Oct 22 – 31, 2009

North America's largest multi-disciplinary showcase of work by women.

Now in its fifth incarnation, Hysteria has become one of Buddies in Bad Times Theatre's most eagerly anticipated events. Over a ten-day period Buddies plays host to a rapid-fire succession of events ranging from visual art and performance installation to eclectic lineups featuring dance, film, music, spoken word and theatre performances. Hysteria will present the work of 100 female artists from across the globe in the fifth incarnation of this multi-disciplinary, full-facility festival.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents

THE 31st RHUBARB FESTIVAL

Festival Director **Erika Hennebury**

February 10 – 28, 2010

risk riot rejuvenation

For over 30 years The Rhubarb Festival has offered Toronto artists a critic-free environment to experiment with contemporary theatrical explorations. Rhubarb encourages established artists to take new risks and emerging artists to explore the medium of performance creation in an inspired, encouraging space. This year Buddies' entire facility is wide open for a jam-packed three weeks featuring more than two dozen contemporary theatrical explorations. Canada's oldest and largest new works festival is famous for playing fabulous host to the most outrageous acts you'll catch all year round. Rhubarb features one-of-a-kind performances you won't see on any other stage!

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents

SEXY PRIDE

June 16 – 27, 2010

It's that sexy time of year again - when the Gay Village reclaims the title as the only place to be in the city. A two-week, full-facility festival of rapid-fire events to celebrate Pride in Toronto!

We're Funny That Way Foundation presents

WE'RE FUNNY THAT WAY

Executive Producer **Maggie Cassella**

May 13 - 15, 2009

Buddies welcomes back the brash and sassy Maggie Cassella for the 13th incarnation of North America's premiere queer comedy festival. Annually, *We're Funny That Way* showcases the most unique comedic talent from Canada and the U.S.

2009/10 SEASON PASSES

BUDDIES' SEASON PASS REDUX

You asked for it – we listened! Thanks to your valuable feedback we've added exciting new features to our Season Passes. Buddies' Passes are now **100% flexible!** Admission to the **Rhubarb** (Week Pass) and **Hysteria** (Evening Pass) festivals are, once again, included.

Support Buddies proud theatrical tradition by ordering your very own Season Pass. As always, we offer Passholders reserved seating, and a truly unique array of shows to choose from:

Neon Nightz
Devouring Lions
Hysteria: a festival of women
The Silicone Diaries
The Salon Automaton
La Communion
The Rhubarb Festival
Breakfast
Reconciliation
An Untitled New Work

3-night pass \$60 / 5-night pass \$80 / 7-night pass \$100

NEW THIS YEAR: STUDENT/YOUTH PASS

YOUR CHOICE! See any 3 shows in our 2009/10 Season or only \$40! Buddies boasts one of the most youthful audience-bases in Canadian theatre and we've created this special Student/Youth Pass just for you. If you are under 25 or if you are a student, you can get in on this great offer.

Student / Youth (Under 25) Pass \$40

*present your ID or student card to order your 3-night pass

SPECIAL OFFER TO RETURNING SUBSCRIBERS

Return as a Buddies' Season Passholder before June 30, 2009 and receive 20% off your 3, 5 or 7-night Pass. For more details feel free to call the box office at 416-975-8555 or check us out online at artsexy.ca.

THE GUEST COMPANIES

As part of our 2009/10 Season Buddies hosts some of Toronto's hottest indie companies. Our Season Passholders have access to the following shows:

Sore for Punching You presents

DEVOURING LIONS

Nov 5 – 8, 2009

An evening of 3 works melding the heat of Sub-Saharan Africa with the chill of the Canadian Winter.

Works by **Allison Cummings** and **Michael Trent**

Based on a 14 year love affair with West Africa and a 3 year creation process, the title piece, Devouring Lions, investigates the power of personal strength and the sources we seek to gain it. Shown alongside a first time remount of Michael Trent's 2002 solo piece 'that no moon we call new' and the premier of a new trio featuring performers from Ghana, West Africa and Canada.

Aluna Theatre presents

LA COMMUNION

Jan 12 - 31, 2010

Written and Directed by **Beatriz Pizano**

Starring **Carlos Gonzalez-Vio**, **Rosa LaBorde**, and **Marilo Nuñez**

Scenography by **Trevor SchwelInus**, Sound Design by **Thomas Ryder Payne**

"War is easy. It's what I know." -- Pantera (real name withheld).

In search of an escape from poverty, an eleven-year-old girl leaves her village to join the insurgent Guerilla deep in the jungles of Colombia. After six years of fighting she flees to Toronto under an assumed identity, where she confronts an even greater challenge: life as a civilian.

Cabaret Company presents

RECONCILIATION

Apr 14 – 25, 2010

Written and directed by **Sky Gilbert**

Starring **Wes Berger** and **Jason Cadieux**

What would happen if Sky Gilbert wrote The Drawer Boy? RECONCILIATION is the story of two brothers: Blake is a country boy who lives on a farm and Jared is a city boy who teaches linguistics. One crazy night out by the screen door they get roaring drunk and wrestle -- not only with each other -- but with the issues that divide them: sex, love and broken dreams. When country meets city (and sex is involved) it takes the Ghost of Dad to straighten it all out. But can anybody make it straight?

hum presents

AN UNTITLED NEW WORK

In co-production with **Studio 303, Théâtre LaChapelle**
and created in collaboration with **Le Groupe Dance Lab**

April 29 – May 9, 2010

Choreographer/Co-composer/Performer **Susanna Hood**

In Collaboration with and performed by **Alanna Kraaijeveld** and **Dan Wild**

Co-composer & Sound Designer **Nilan Perera**

Dramaturge **Jennifer Tarver**

Set & Costume Designer **Julie Fox**

Lighting Designer **Rebecca Picherack**

Three figures – witnessed and witnessing – are bound, blurred and melded together to reveal a portrait of a dismantled family, its pigments violently peeled away and reapplied. Toronto choreographer Susanna Hood uses the canvases of Francis Bacon to forge, with her performers, a work of missed connections that evoke sensuality, brutality and loneliness. Theirs is a grotesquely beautiful and disarmingly intimate encounter.

YOUTH

QUEER YOUTH ARTS PROGRAMME

September 2009 – June 2010

Youth Programme Coordinator **Chy Ryan Spain**

Young Creators Unit Director **Evalyn Parry**

QUEER YOUTH ARTS PROGRAMME LAUNCH EVENT

Wednesday September 9, 8pm

YEAR-ROUND WEDNESDAY EVENTS (free)

Buddies invites queer-identified youth ages 15 to 25 to take part in free weekly Wednesday night events. Youth can take workshops with some of Canada's finest theatre artists, see shows on Buddies' mainstage, and get onstage at QueerCab, Buddies' monthly open-mic.

Fall Wednesday youth events will be posted online as of September 2, 2009.

www.artsexy.ca/youth

THE YOUNG CREATORS UNIT

Under the direction of Evalyn Parry, a select group of young creator/performers develop and workshop 30 minute, solo performances to be presented as part of The 31st Rhubarb Festival.

Deadline for applications to the 2009/10 YCU is October 1, 2009.

PRIDECAB

Be part of a unique, creative, queer ensemble experience.

In April, May and June, a select group of youth programme participants work with Chy Ryan Spain and Evalyn Parry to create an all-original, multi-disciplinary cabaret which is showcased as part of Buddies' annual Sexy Pride Festival.

Applications to participate in Pride Cab 2010 will be online in January 2010.
www.artsexy.ca/youth

Visit www.artsexy.ca/youth for more info or email youth@artsexy.ca

So long, farewell ...

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre bids a fond farewell to long-time Artistic Director David Oiye.

Artistic Director David Oiye announces his departure at the end of the current season after a fulfilling decade at the helm of the world's oldest and largest queer theatre. During Oiye's tenure, Buddies has positioned itself as a hub for queer Canadian culture and an International destination for innovative contemporary performance, having presented over 35 productions, including 20 Toronto premieres of queer Canadian work (and countless short works as part of the nine Rhubarb and four Hysteria Festivals). During this time Buddies productions have garnered 18 Dora Mavor Moore Award nominations and have captured six of the statuettes. Although this year's Pride Festival will mark the end of his term as Artistic Director (and a fitting farewell at the final Lady Oiye's Tea Dance on Pride Day afternoon), Oiye will be returning in September to direct *Neon Nightz*, the first show of the 2009/2010 Season. So please join us on Pride Day and raise a glass with David and the staff in celebration of a fruitful and exciting chapter in Buddies' rich history.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre: Canada's Premier Queer Theatre Co & Home for Queer Culture

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