

Media Kit



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Exit Commander Kitty

TigerMilk Collective Presents a Theatrical Experiment about Loss of Identity

"You know, there are many times when pretending is better for one's health and one's life in general." –Kitty

VANCOUVER, BC: TigerMilk Collective is pleased to present its new work, ***Exit Commander Kitty***, Oct 9-11 and 16-18 at the Carousel Theatre Space on Granville Island. Written by TigerMilk's Stephanie Hayes and Lindsay Reoch, ***Exit Commander Kitty*** is a raw, gritty and comedic look at sexuality, vulnerability and identity.

Commander Kitty is at home making preparations for her own retirement dinner party. A veteran of a post-apocalyptic army, she is forced into retirement at the old age of 25. Her job was to keep the troops happy, which included song and dance, throwing parties and sexual favors—and she was an Army Star. Now that everything she was has been stripped away, who will she be?

Edgy, experimental and pushing the boundaries of the fourth wall, ***Exit Commander Kitty*** is an intimate and no-holds-barred portrait of a woman in the middle of an identity crisis. It includes cabaret, WWII war songs, pop culture, live video, and meta-theatre, all viewed through a political lens.

Written by Hayes and Reoch, ***Exit Commander Kitty*** is directed by Reoch, and stars Kirsten Slenning as Kitty. Original musical composition and performance is by James Coomber as the Musician/Slave. Lindsay Drummond plays the supporting roles of Radio Host, Soldier and Therapist.

TigerMilk Collective is made up of Olivia Delachanal, Lindsay Drummond, Miranda Huba, Lindsay Reoch, Kirsten Slenning and Stephanie Hayes. Their mandate is to tell their own collectively created stories and those of their heroes. They aim to stretch themselves and their audiences through execution of their theatrical ideas. Their past productions include *Apparition*, *stupid little girls*, and *Hospital City*. Recent credits include the HIVE2 bar installation and *Foreshocks and Aftershocks* at this year's Tremors festival.

Exit Commander Kitty runs Thursday October 9 through Saturday October 11 and Thursday, October 16 through Saturday October 18 at 8 pm at the Carousel Theatre Space, 1411 Cartwright St (beside Granville Island Brewing and across from The Waterfront Theatre) on Granville Island. Tickets are \$15. To reserve, please call: Tickets Tonight 604 684 2787 or visit <http://www.ticketstonight.ca>.

www.TigerMilkCollective.com

About Exit Commander Kitty

Synopsis

Commander Kitty is at home making last-minute preparations for her own retirement dinner party – a final hurrah for her years of service as an 'Army Star'. Her orders were not to shoot or kill, but to keep the troops happy; her job description included song and dance, throwing parties and sexual favors.

Forced into retirement at the old age of 25 with nothing to show for all her years of service but a slave (whom she variously uses and abuses), Kitty makes a shocking discovery--a varicose vein. Our heroine is forced to examine her doubts and thoughts regarding her self-worth as she awaits her guests. *Exit Commander Kitty* is an intimate and no-holds-barred portrait of a woman in the middle of an identity crisis.

About TigerMilk

TigerMilk Collective, formed in 2004, is made up of Olivia Delachanal, Lindsay Drummond, Miranda Huba, Lindsay Reoch, Kirsten Slenning and Stephanie Hayes. Trained at Simon Fraser University, the six members have continued to be drawn to each others' working styles and shared artistic vocabulary. Through these projects, the current members of **TigerMilk** allowed each other to explore different roles in the theatre.

TigerMilk tells their our own collectively created stories and those of their heroes. They insert their work into our fast-paced urban environment. They stretch themselves and their audiences through the execution of their theatrical ideas. They examine their immediate landscapes and those beyond their reach and ask themselves why they do it.

About the Authours

Exit Commander Kitty is a show three years in the making. In 2005 TigerMilk began collectively writing *stupid little girls*, from which emerged the first incarnation of the Commander, primarily created by Reoch and Delachanal, and performed by Reoch. During the production in 2006, Hayes approached Reoch regarding a play she was devising and felt the Commander would flush out the character she was working on and round out the play as a whole. In the fall of 2007 they retreated to a castle on the coast of Wales to write the script, then titled *Ills, Drills and Blowjob*s. The play has had two staged readings, one in Stockholm and one in Vancouver. After many edits, TigerMilk is producing *Exit Commander Kitty* as their 2008 fall show.

Exit Commander Kitty Biographies

Lindsay Reoch – Writer, Director

Lindsay is a director, actor, writer and a founding member of TigerMilk Collective. Her recent acting credits include *Apparition*, *stupid little girls* and *Hospital City* with TigerMilk, as well as *Bangs and Buddha* with The Only Animal. Lindsay holds a BFA from SFU's School for the Contemporary Arts. She has also studied Viewpoints and Suzuki techniques with Anne Bogart & The SITI Company on a couple occasions, including their intensive in New York, and she continues to train in these methods. She has spent the past half-year traveling the States and Europe where she studied German, taught drama, created visual art and co-wrote *Exit Commander Kitty*.

Stephanie Hayes - Writer

Stephanie recently moved back to the Americas after two years of writing, singing and tending to old people in Stockholm. She recently began her MFA studies in acting at the Yale School of Drama. Stephanie is a theatre graduate of Simon Fraser University.

Kirsten Slenning – Commander Kitty

Kirsten began studying acting at Gastown Actors' Studio and was directed by Mel Austin-Tuck in three plays as a part of their Brave Acts Festival, performing the lead in *Am I Blue*. She went on to complete her BFA in Theatre from Simon Fraser University where she acted in *Laurier*, directed by DD Kugler. She has trained on-camera and is coached by Andrew McIlroy at Second Avenue Studios. Some of her acting credits include *Sky*, directed by Olivia Delachanal; a sixteen-character performance in Miranda Huba's *Hospital City*; TigerMilk's *Stupid Little Girls* (co-written and performed) and recently in TigerMilk's production of *Apparition* by Anne Washburn, directed by Joanna Garfinkel. She acted in UBC's Brave New Play Rites and Playwright Theatre Centre's New Play Festival in Huba's new play *House of Kosa*, which TigerMilk will be producing in fall of 2009. Aside from her work in theatre, Slenning has been on YTV's *Zixx: Level Three* and frequently does voice-over for radio, has taught voice at Methodica Acting Studio and will teach drama this fall.

James Coomber – Composer, Musician, Slave

James is a versatile music/theatre artist. He has collaborated as a musical director, composer, conductor, musician, sound designer and actor throughout the theatre and music community. He also has an interest in teaching integrated singing and voice technique for actors, musicians and young children, with occasional lessons for piano and accordion performance technique. Selected credits include Nicole DesLauriers *Jack or the Submission*, Maya Suess' *Muck*, Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* (Turning Point Ensemble), *The War Lover* (Leaky Heaven Circus: Giant Consortium), and Michael Vincent's *Generation X: The Opera*. He is currently studying theatre performance at Simon Fraser University, where he completed a BFA in music composition and collaboration in 2005. At SFU, he continues to explore the intermingling of disciplines, studying new approaches to opera and musical theatre, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and music pedagogy for non-musicians.

Lindsay Drummond– Radio Host, Therapist, Soldier

An active performer and supporter of the theatre for the past ten years, Lindsay has extensive training in stage acting, film, voice and dance with some of Vancouver's top professionals. She has sung, danced and acted in a variety of genres in everything from Footlight's, *The Sound of Music* to Capilano Theatre Society's classic comedy, *You Can't Take It With You*. Lindsay's latest performances include, S.F.U.'s *Orestes*, Cheshire Cat Theatre Company's *Durang off Broadway*, Sodium Glow's *Freeport, Texas* and TigerMilk Collective's *Hospital City and Stupid Little Girls*. Her film credits include Indie Films *Acts of Imagination* (Official selection of the Vancouver and Toronto Film Festival) and *Reveries and Rocket Ships*. She has also appeared on The Knowledge Networks' *Kid Zone*. Lindsay most recently appeared in TigerMilk Collective's production of *Apparition* by Anne Washburn. Lindsay is a graduate of Simon Fraser's School of the Contemporary Arts. She has worked full time as Moon Stone Theatre Company's Artistic Director and has recently left directing to further her skill in acting and studies under Steven Holmberg in film and television. In addition to her BFA, Lindsay has a diploma in theatre from Capilano College, training from the Cori Caulfield School of Dance in modern, hip-hop and musical theatre and has both classical and jazz vocal training.

Parjad Sharifi - Lighting

Parjad has begun a PhD in scenography at Simon Fraser University. He received his MFA in theatre design from The University of British Columbia. He is a theatre scenographer and director, who was born in Iran. Parjad's interest is dramaturgical approach to scenography, interaction design and exploration of narrative environments in theatre. His last credits are set and projection design for *The Rez Sisters* at Frederic Wood Theatre and lighting design for *The Stone Face* at Waterfront Theatre.

Miranda Huba - Producer

Miranda is a playwright and actor. Writing credits include: *The History Of My Domestication*, commissioned by Playwrights Theatre Centre, *Hospital City* (TigerMilk Collective) *The Tour* (Fringe Tour) *Terrible girls, who are not really terrible* (Walking Fish Festival), and *Victory of Course* (The Ontological-Hysteric Theatre, NYC). She is a founding member of TigerMilk Collective in Vancouver, and was a co-writer of the companies' last creation *Stupid Little Girls*. She recently participated in the Pataphysics Playwriting workshop in NYC at the Flea Theatre. She is a recipient of the Enbridge award for an emerging playwright through ATP.