



Creativity feeds on limits

MAY 21, 2013
FOR MORE INFO, INTERVIEWS
PLEASE CONTACT: BELINDA BRUCE, PUBLICIST
PHONE: 604-537-7992 | EMAIL: BB@CONSPIRACY.CA

Progress Lab's Obstructions series presents *The Only Animal*
Stupid Is As Stupid Does
a short play about America

Written and Directed by Kendra Fanconi
Text Contributions and Sound Design by Eric Rhys Miller
Technical Direction by Colin Cooper
Featuring Ella Simon* and Stefano Giulianetti*

WHEN: Sunday, June 2, 2013
DOORS: 7:20 pm – bar open
SHOW: 8 PM
RIGHT AFTER: Judging, then *party time!*
LOCATION: PL1422 at 1422 Williams Street, Vancouver [map link](#)
TICKETS \$16 ON SALE NOW [GET TIX](#)



Please note that this play is not suitable for children.

*Appearing by permission of Canadian Actors Equity Association

Mash together the overt sentimentality and big guns drama of the last 10 minutes of Forrest Gump, lather with American jingoism, rinse with buckets of sweat then rev up the chainsaw...

VANCOUVER, BC – On the heels of another sold-out OBSTRUCTIONS show by Leaky Heaven, you are now invited to see *The Only Animal* bare its teeth in ***Stupid Is As Stupid Does***, a short play about America. In this series of 11 events from Progress Lab, each company must create a new piece with specific Obstructions designed to deny habit and ignite the creative fire. *The Only Animal* will be responding to three challenges from their peers on June 2 at PL1422 in Vancouver. Come out and see what they've come up with in this short experimental workshop production. These are TOA's three obstructions:

1. Do a scene using an excerpt from the screenplay of *Forrest Gump* using no more and no fewer words than are in the excerpt.
2. Using only what Kendra Fanconi, Eric Rhys Miller and Colin Cooper can carry in one trip.
3. On a set revealed to us 40 minutes before the performance when the doors open to the audience!

Will they pass or fail in working with these limitations? The audience helps to decide! See the performance and join the post-show discussion.

Obstructions is a radical new initiative intended to rattle the cage of local theatre makers. Inspired in part by the film [The Five Obstructions](#), by Jørgen Leth and Lars Von Trier, **Obstructions** is the latest project from the group of theatre companies known as [Progress Lab](#), producers of the wildly popular and innovative HIVE series. Over a one-year period, each company creates an evening's entertainment based on some creative "obstructions" devised in secret meetings by the rest of the group. Participating companies are forced to create work outside their comfort zone; the result is like nothing you've seen from them before.

About The Only Animal

Founded by Kendra Fanconi and Eric Rhys Miller in 2005, *The Only Animal* creates theatre that arises from a deep engagement with place. The elemental identity of their West Coast home is often the inspiration for their site-specific works. They have worked in water, sand, snow and ice, and with trees. The imagination is the other primal site of their exploration, and we are just as rigorous in our mining of it. The potency of such sites opens audiences to exploring the landscapes of our inner worlds. In this way, *The Only Animal* is all about being human. The work ranges from intimate shows for an audience of one to large-scale spectacles. But all of this work is ambitious. They love the impossible. theonlyanimal.com



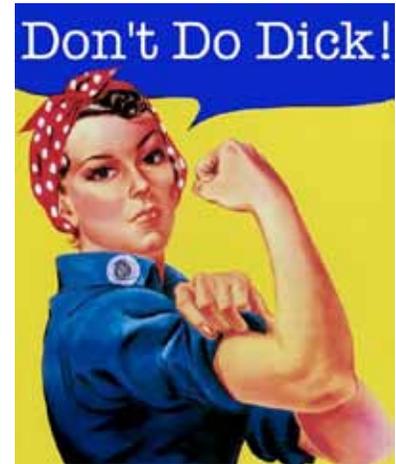
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May 30, 2013
FOR MORE INFO, INTERVIEWS
PLEASE CONTACT: BELINDA BRUCE, PUBLICIST
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Progress Lab's Obstructions series presents Rumble Theatre's
Don't Do Dick!
An original, estrogen-infused, adult rom-com romp!

Directed by Stephen Drover
Written by and featuring Evelyn Chew, Emmelia Gordon,
Christine Quintana, Pippa Mackie and Lindsay Winch

WHEN: Saturday, June 8, 2013
DOORS: 7:20 pm – bar open
SHOW: 8:00 pm, 8 PM, following by judging and a party!
LOCATION: PL1422 (1422 William St. Vancouver), [map link](#)
TICKETS \$16 ON SALE TUESDAY APRIL 23 [GET TIX](#)



VANCOUVER, BC – The Obstructions series rolls on! Rumble Theatre presents a new romantic comedy based on parameters tailor-made by their peers.

Hazel works at Gangbuy, a company aspiring to be the next Groupon. She dreams of something bigger and better, full of love and opportunities. When a promotion becomes available, she comes head-to-head with her office nemesis, Robin. Pretty soon sparks fly, insults are slung and desks get wet. See what happens when Hazel discovers what she really wants.

Last November, Rumble Theatre was handed these Obstructions by our peers with the challenge of building a show around them:

1. You may not use any set blocking or seminal text from previously published plays or other forms of literature.
2. The piece must be an original collaborative creation with the text drawn from the group and must be in the form of a romantic comedy using an all-female cast.
3. You may not use any ideas that are formulated outside of official rehearsal hours.

Will they pass or fail in working with these limitations? The audience helps to decide! See the show and join in the post-show discussion.

About Rumble

Rumble Theatre produces contemporary plays from the Canadian and world repertoire, commissions & produces new Canadian adaptations of outstanding stories and fosters meaningful interactions between emerging and established artists. www.rumble.org

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April 20, 2013
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PLEASE CONTACT: BELINDA BRUCE, PUBLICIST
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Progress Lab presents as part of the **OBSTRUCTIONS** series:

i am all my sons
created by Leaky Heaven

With sound design by Nancy Tam and video projections by Parjad Sharifi.

WHEN: Saturday, May 11, 2013
DOORS: 8:30 pm – bar open
SHOW: 9:00 pm
RIGHT AFTER: Judging, [Theatre Replacement](#) gets their obstructions, then *partytime!*
LOCATION: Russian Hall, Strathcona (600 Campbell Avenue, Vancouver), [map link](#)
TICKETS \$16 ON SALE TUESDAY APRIL 23 [GET TIX](#)

EXTRA: At each **OBSTRUCTIONS** show the next theatre company on the list receives their obstructions, delivered under a spotlight by a shadowy emcee. On this night **THEATRE REPLACEMENT** will be on the hot seat!



A solo flight, genre-free fall (gulp) over Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*

VANCOUVER, BC – What kind of theatre piece do you make when instructed to perform solo, take directly from the text of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* and use no known genre? These are the challenges put to Leaky Heaven in creating a new work, as part of fun and fertile **Obstructions** series. Leaky Heaven's answer: *i am all my sons*.

There have been five **Obstructions** shows to date. In December, Theatre Conspiracy rocked their obstructions, singing a song of love and redemption in the big-box store. Now Leaky Heaven has created something from these obstructions:

1. Steven Hill [Leaky Heaven artistic director] must perform either solo or as a featured performer. If other actors are incorporated they must have recently worked for Bard on the Beach – but NOT Lois Anderson.
2. All text must be excerpted from Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*. No rewrites.
3. The piece cannot comment upon or use any known genre in any way. No play on tragedy or circus or greek comedy or French farce etc. It must be genre free and therefore a genre of its own.

Will they pass or fail in working with these limitations? The audience helps to decide! See the show and join in the post-show discussion.

About Leaky Heaven

Leaky Heaven is an interdisciplinary theatre company creating work that questions conventions of social relations, performance modalities, and event structures. We create hybridized work that examines and plays with the act of viewing, often through experiments with the locations and perspective of the audience. leakyheaven.ca

progresslab.ca

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