



MEDIA KIT

Media Contact: Rebecca Coleman
778.230.1712
Rebecca@rebeccacoleman.ca



39... And Ticking!

BURNABY, BC: Full Figure Theatre and Shadbolt Centre for the Arts are pleased to present the World Premiere of the new clown musical: ***39... and Ticking!*** A love story about a woman and her issues around dating, aging, raising kids and procreating, ***39...*** runs October 14-17 at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts in Burnaby.

39...and Ticking! is about Rose, whose biological alarm clock has gone off—and it's loud! But that's okay—she's got it figured out. She's just met a guy named Dan. She'll get pregnant the old-fashioned way, then break up with him and have the baby. Then Dan turns out to be this great guy who wants to marry her, but he already has kids of his own. Will she be forced to decide between the man she loves and the baby she wants? The arguments go around and around in her head as she awaits the results of the pregnancy test....

"***39...*** is not your traditional musical," says Sharon Heath, director and writer. "I've had a lot of experience staging shows so, as I wrote it, I generally staged it. The story takes place in Rose's apartment but also in her mind. The clown chorus, her best friend, her mom, her new boyfriend and his two kids, there'll all in her imagination as she takes a 3- minute pregnancy test and then tries to get up the guts to tell her boyfriend the good news. In order to facilitate this, the lines blur. We're in the living room, the bedroom, the kitchen, we're on the seawall, at a restaurant, inside Rose's womb. It's dreamlike at times, it's clown, it's sit-com and it's song and dance!"

39... And Ticking! also features music composed by Ted Hamilton with Joan Maclean, with musical direction by Bill Costin. The cast includes Joan MacLean, Lisa Beley, Lisa Bunting and Cheryl Mullen.

Full Figure Theatre is a small company that supports original works written from diverse perspectives but initiated by and/or about women. In so doing, through various expressions of theatre, music, and movement, Full Figure Theatre's original shows and workshops address both current and historical events.

39... And Ticking! has its world premiere on Wednesday, October 14, at 8 pm, then runs nightly through until October 17. There will be one matinee, on Saturday, October 17 at 2 pm. All performances take place in the Studio at The Shadbolt Centre, 6450 Deer Lake Ave, Burnaby. Tickets are \$20/25, and are available by calling 604-205-3000.

-end-

<http://www.fullfiguretheatre.net>

About *39... and Ticking!*

Synopsis:

39 ...And Ticking! is a love story about a woman and her issues around dating, aging, raising kids and procreating. The style of the piece explores the genre of the clown-musical using direct address, clown lazzes, modern dance, musical numbers, stage fighting and more.

The plot explores one woman's hopes and fears via a chorus of her inner voices, voices in her head that act and sing about her journey. Meanwhile she waits for the pregnancy test results in act one and then gets up the guts to tell her boyfriend in act two. As it unfolds we get an overview of Rose's life, before Dan and then meeting Dan. We learn how she's using his sperm to get pregnant, how he's proposed marriage and how they're falling in love.

The play takes place in three minutes in Rose's apartment which is also a cabaret stage. This helps us change from real time, to the cabaret style in her head, to the exaggerated flashbacks, to the future failures. The chorus introduces the narrative and with Rose, imagines several outcomes.

Is Rose pregnant? Will she be forced to choose between the baby she wants and the man she loves?

Past **Full Figure Theatre** productions include:

- *The 'f' Word*
- *Wumpa*
- *Too Blonde*
- *Way Too Blonde*
- *BusTin ouT FesTival*

Full Figure also hosts yearly forums on women's issues. Some of the fabulous forums in the past:

- Where Did I Spend it All??! (2009)
- Who Am I To Speak? The Value of Truth (2008)
- Balance is for Chequebooks: A Full Figure Forum on the Good Life (2007)
- How Does She Do It: Does Success Mean Never Having to Say You're Happy? (2005)
- Creative and Lucrative: How to be an Artist and Still Maintain a Bank Account (2004)
- The Old Girls' Club: How To Find and Be a Mentor (2003)
- Do I Have the Right Cup Size and How Do I Fit In? (2002)

Biographies

Sharon Heath – Writer/Director

Sharon Heath has been working professionally in theatre since graduating from the National Theatre School back in the day, when she first began writing. Early credits include *too blonde* and her show on Janis Joplin, *Piece of My Heart*. In 1992 she co-founded Full Figure Theatre to write and produce more shows about women. The company toured extensively with *the "f" word*, *way too blonde* and *Wumpa*. In 1999 she began co-writing *The Big Map: A History of Early British Columbia* which tours to schools and communities. She also produces the annual Full Figure Forum at the Vancouver Public Library. Last year's forum was called *Where did I Spend it All?!*

In addition, Sharon enjoys teaching drama to kids and being the proud mother of Logan and stepmother to Teaka and Josh.

Ted Hamilton: Composer

Vancouver based composer Ted Hamilton works in film, TV, modern dance, theatre, and multimedia performance art. His music and collaborative creations have been produced and performed in Canada and internationally for the past decade.

Ted is also a songwriter and a composer of children's music and musicals, jazz, and music for small ensembles. Just over ten years ago, Ted began to write music for theatre and contemporary dance and has never looked back. He continues to develop his skills in the collaborative arenas of the performing arts, as well as in composing film and television scores.

()"I love the collaborative process; working with visionary artists, and challenging myself and audiences with work that has artistic and aesthetic integrity."

Joan MacLean – Composer/Performer

Joan MacLean is really old. She has been an actor for 30 years. She has several fabulous memories of being in wonderful shows (*Mom's the Word*, *Story Theatre Company*, *Brilliant Traces*, *One Morning I realized etc*, *Impromptu at Outrement*).

But that was a long time ago! After she had her babies, her priorities changed and she turned into a piano teacher-bookkeeper-maid. She has been mostly avoiding the stage since 2001.

Until now.

Bill Costin – Musical Director

Since his first gig, a dance at his old elementary school at 14 years old, Bill has been a working musician. Over the past 30 years, his talent has taken him from Florida to the Yukon and back playing piano for cruise ship companies, tourism destinations, theatre venues, concerts, corporate events, house parties, bars, and saloons.

His last performances at the Shadbolt Centre were for Dan Joffre's *Live Comedy Show*, and the Arts Club's *Billy Bishop Goes To War*. Visit his [official website here](#).

Lisa Beley – Rose

Lisa Beley is an actor, voice teacher, and voice coach in Vancouver. She teaches voice and speech at Simon Fraser University and she teaches a voice-over class at the University of British Columbia. Her voice can be heard in numerous cartoons including *Transformers: Cybertron*, *He-Man and the Masters of the Universe*, *Hot Wheels*, and *Bratz*.

Lisa trained at UBC where she received her BFA in acting. Five years later she received her MFA from York University. Her first love is the theatre and she is thrilled to be a part of *39...and Ticking*. After ten years of teaching in the studio she is excited for her students to see her practice what she preaches.

Lisa Bunting – Performer

Lisa Bunting has a happy history with this company of clowns and is delighted to be invited to play with them on stage!

Recent stage appearances include at Theatre Northwest (*How It Works*) and Carousel Theatre (*The Odyssey*, *Silverwing*), where she is also an instructor. She can be seen in on screen in *Iron Road* and *The Imaginarium of Dr. Parnassus*.

She thanks everyone ever involved in the evolution of *39...and Ticking!* and her family, Richard and Sofia Newman.

Cheryl Mullen – Performer

The best thing about working on a new piece is wading around in the pure pleasure of play through discovery and trust, so kudos to our creative team for their determination, humour and risk taking.

Past favorite roles: Arlene in *Baby* (Skycorner Productions), Mrs. Demerse in *City Workers In Love* / Gisela in *Gisela In the Bathtub* (Middle Distance Productions), Mrs. Dilbert and others in *Christmas Carol* (Carousel Theatre), Bloody Mary in *South Pacific* (RCMT), Hortense in *The Boyfriend*, Ado Annie in *Oklahoma* (TUTS) along with odd little characters on *The Guard*, *The 4400*, *Dead Like Me*, and one particularly memorable role as 'Sal, the woman flasher' in *Millennium*.

Cheryl wouldn't have found the true road to the 'Dan' without the influence of her own patient, unassuming, loving hubby. Tick, tick, tick!

Tara Cheyenne FriedenberG - Choreographer

Tara has been a professional dancer and actor for the past 10 years. She has been practicing Yoga since her introduction to it in 1975. Tara has been teaching Ashtanga (sometimes referred to as power yoga) for the past 5 years.

She has studied Yoga with some of the most influential and celebrated teachers in the world, including; Sharath Rajaswami (the Grandson of Patabi Jois and most advanced Ashtanga practitioner in the world), Dona Holliman, Rishi Scariya (Chile), and at Jiva Mukti (New York).

[Visit her website](#)