

‘Whores and Weeping Women’ Producing Pack 2022



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Contact Details

Carla Kissane

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New York City: 2022 Proposal

Title of show: 'Whores and Weeping Women'

Name of producer: Carla Kissane

Contact number: 646-617-6793

Contact email: carlakissane@gmail.com

Name of performer: Carla Kissane

Website: <https://carlakissane.com/whores-and-weeping-women-2/>

Shakespearean Cabaret: <https://shakespeareancabaret.com>

Personal website: <http://carlakissane.com/>

Behind the scenes with Carlotta-B:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGR2a1O_02mqVES8EO8sV1Q

Short description:

A cabaret of Shakespearean proportions.

What does it take to be a leading lady? Social Media star and self-appointed Shakespearean legend, Carlotta, has spent her pandemic training to be the ultimate leading lady. By combining the grand dames of classical drama with the pop divas of today, Carlotta sings new life into these historic female roles and makes some startling discoveries along the way. Join Carlotta as she shows us what it takes for women to take the leading role in theatre... or die trying.

Find out what happens when Shakespeare's misfortunate maidens are revealed through the music of *Amy Winehouse*, *Rhianna*, *Florence + The Machine* and then some...

As Ophelia so deftly put it: '*Lord, we know what we are, but know not what we may be.*'

Artistic Statement *Whores and Weeping Women* was born from the immense frustration of two years as an understudy in Shakespeare and Musical Theatre.

During this time, sometimes performing Shakespeare during the day & musical theatre at night, I had the opportunity to question, 'What is it that makes a leading lady?'

This prompted an exploration of 'greatness' in all its forms & guises across the course of history: through the women we exalt as embodiments of the divine-queens in Shakespeare's time to pop divas in contemporary culture.

To my surprise I discovered that these 'perfect women' were hugely flawed. Delving deeper into their flaws and inconsistencies I discovered that their greatest weakness- far from being an obstacle, was also the source of their fame & their greatest strength.

'For her own person, it beggar'd all description...Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety.'

- *Shakespeare of
Cleopatra*

Greatness then, was as simple as making peace with ourselves. And celebrating our own infinite variety.

New York City 2022 Team

Carla Kissane - Performer, Writer and Producer

carlakissane@gmail.com / <http://carlakissane.com>



Born in Perth, Western Australia, Carla moved to New York in 2016 after marrying the love of her life—a boy from Brooklyn. An Actor's Equity Association member since gaining permanent residency in the USA, recent productions include *Medea* in Miriam Grill's directing thesis production of '*Medea*' and *Cleopatra* in '*Antony & Cleopatra*' directed by Miriam Grill. Notable

Australian productions include the Australian premiere production of Stephen Sondheim's '*Saturday Night*' at the Melbourne Recital Centre, six shows with the '*Australian Shakespeare Company*', a 12-month national tour on '*Motherhood The Musical*' for HIT Productions, and regional tours with Complete Works Theatre Company and Lux Radio Theatre. Carla trained at the Victorian College of the Arts (*Bachelor of Dramatic Art-Acting*), and obtained a *Certificate of Music Theatre* from the National Theatre Drama School in Melbourne.

Miriam Grill - Director

mmikiel.grill@gmail.com / <https://www.miriamgrill.com>



Miriam Grill is a theatre and film director with a focus on women and global issues. Recent **NYC stage credits** include *Whores & Weeping Women* by Carla Kissane (Arts on Site, NYC), *Fresh Kills* by Sarah Congress (Downtown Urban Arts Festival), *Pass Over* by Antoinette Nwandu (Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival- winner of 5 Kennedy Center awards), *Medea* (Lenfest Center for the Arts), *War with the Newts* by Sam J Gold (New York Puppetry Festival), etc. **Online credits** include *Angel Manual* (HB Studios), *The Passage* by Delina K. Vasiliadi (Eclipse Theatre & Onassis Foundation at NYU), *It's Not Haunted Real Estate* (Fifth Avenue Theatre of New York Virtual Fall 2020 Play Festival), *If you See Something...* (National Playwrighting Program at Kennedy Center), etc. Miriam served as guest

artist dramaturge at The Juilliard School on their production of *The African Company Presents Richard III* by Carlyle Brown. She produced acclaimed

interactive installation *Frankenstein AI* at Sundance in 2018 and was an acting consultant on Cirque du Soleil founder Franco Dragone's *The House of Dancing Waters* in Macau. Miriam's **Broadway administration credits** include Assistant to Scenic Designer David Korins on *Annie*, *Motown*, *Sonya Vanya Masha and Spike*, as well as the international tour of *Chinglish*, and *Here Lies Love* at The Public, etc. Her love for exploring new expressions of theatre-making has previously brought her to direct a documentary style, all-female theatre piece called *我们 Women* in Taiwan and found a university theater department in Guangzhou, China with a mentorship program for female directors. She received her MFA in Directing from Columbia University, mentored by Anne Bogart and Brian Kulick.

Katherine McClintic- Choreographer

katherine@katherinemcclintic.com / <https://katherinemcclintic.com>



Katherine McClintic is a Choreographer in NYC and LA. A curious communicator who believes everyone can dance, she enjoys making work that is poetic, imaginative and visceral. Katherine's favorite choreographic credits for stage include; "Instrumental Storytellers"(Symphony Space), "Medea" for Columbia University's MFA Directors program(Lenfest Center for the Arts), "Spy in the House of Love"(Columbia University) "Into The Woods"(Dover Little Theater), for film; "Queen of the Mold"(Lizzy Bryce) "Spies?"(Becca Co), "Under the Sky of Your Tough Love"(Meia), "This is B.S." Episodes 1-8 (Ella Smith/Lindsey Bristol) and several concept videos she produced. Katherine McClintic is grateful for the training, collaboration, and mentorship she has received from Dance Lab New York, Galen Hooks, Gibney Dance, Miriam Grill, Plu Sayampol, and Columbia University. KatherineMcClintic.com IG: [@KgMcClintictock](https://www.instagram.com/KgMcClintictock).

C.S.E Cooney - Dramaturg

clairedelune@mac.com / <https://csecooney.com>



C.S.E. Cooney is the author of World Fantasy Award-winning *Bone Swans: Stories*. Her short novel *The Twice-Drowned Saint* is included in Mythic Delirium's anthology *The Sinister Quartet*. Her forthcoming novel *Saint Death's Daughter* will be out with Rebellion in Spring of 2022.

Other work includes Tor.com novella *Desdemona and the Deep* and a poetry collection: *How to Flirt in Faerieland and Other Wild Rhymes*, which features her Rhysling Award-winning "The Sea King's Second Bride." Her short fiction and poetry can be found in Jonathan Strahan's anthology *Dragons*, Ellen Datlow's *Mad Hatters and March Hares: All-New Stories from the World of Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland*, Rich Horton's *Year's Best Science Fiction and Fantasy*, and elsewhere.

Australian Original Team

Andrew Blackman- Original Direction/ Dramaturg

andrew@completeworks.com.au / <https://completeworkstheatre.com>



Andrew graduated from NIDA in 1990 with a Bachelor of Dramatic Art (Acting) and has worked across television, stage and screen in Australia since that time as an actor, director and producer. In 1999, he founded *Complete Works Theatre Company*, widely regarded as one of Australia's leading education theatre companies. The company performs productions of contemporary and classical theatre to over 34,000 Victorian secondary school students annually.

Andrew Patterson - Original Musical Direction, Composer, Arranger

itstranger@yahoo.com



Andrew Patterson is the co-author of the acclaimed musical *'Eurobeat'* and it's soon to be released sequel. Andrew has written six original musicals and been instrumental in the workshopping and production of new Australian works including *'Dream Song'* and *'Eureka.'* A much sought after accompanist for auditions and performers, Andrew has also toured extensively with cabaret superstars Paul Capsis and Rhonda Burchmore. He is also a skilled arranger/orchestrator and was once a fine clarinetist. Andrew lives in Melbourne with his beautiful wife Helen and their four amazing children.

Press, Links and Reviews

Website: <http://carlakissane.com/whores-and-weeping-women/>

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/shakespeareancabaret/>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/shakespeareancabaret>

Previous Seasons: <http://carlakissane.com/whores-and-weeping-women/>

Press

Broadway World, October 14th 2021:

<https://www.broadwayworld.com/cabaret/article/Shakespearean-Cabaret-Co-to-Present-WHORES-AND-WEEPING-WOMEN-20211014>

The Age, Life & Style, 23rd Nov:

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/theatre/tame-or-otherwise-the-bards-women-shine-20131121-2xwx5.html#ixzz2lRFiJ4i4>

Pop Culture-y, 14th Nov: <http://popculture-y.com/2013/11/interview-carla-kissane-in-whores-and-weeping-women/>

The Age, 12th Nov: <http://www.theage.com.au/entertainment/stage/stage-treading-the-boards-20131111-2xcfs.html>

Past Publicity: Eleanor Howlett at Sassy Red PR www.sassyred.com.au

Previous Seasons

Arts on Site, 12 St Marks Pl, NY 10003 USA / October 21st, 6.30pm and 8.30pm / Tickets: \$30 / Website: <https://www.artsonsite.org>

Downstairs at the Maj, His Majesty's Theatre, Perth / 14th-15th November 2014 @ 7pm & 9pm / Tickets: \$30/\$35 / Website: <http://www.hismajestystheatre.com.au/>

The Owl and the Pussycat, Melbourne / 3rd November 2014 @ 8pm / Tickets: \$15/\$20

The Butterfly Club, Melbourne / 19th - 24th November 2013 @ 8pm (9pm Thurs - Sat) / Tickets: \$18/\$23 / Website: www.thebutterflyclub.com

ASCOT VALE

Between rock and a Bard place

CARLA Kissane has combined her two great loves – William Shakespeare and cabaret.

The Ascot Vale writer and performer will present a mashup of Shakespeare and contemporary music in her show *Whores and Weeping Women*.

Kissane, 33, will play seven female Shakespeare characters and sing music from the modern-day equivalent of his archetypes.


"I was interested in the idea of the female role models we have. When we're looking at Shakespeare's queens and high status women, today that would be a rock star like Rihanna or Miley Cyrus," she said.

"I started looking at the stories we tell about these women and the ways that we're obsessed with their flaws and inconsistencies. "We love to search for vices and I was looking through Shakespeare's literature and I found that's exactly what he did. He didn't hold these women on a pedestal." The likes of Amy Winehouse and Rihanna will be mixed with Cleopatra and Ophelia.

"It's a mashup of Shakespeare and contemporary pop music that allows us all to connect with weaknesses of life that gives us a bit of a laugh," she said.

Kissane, who saw her first show *Anthony and Cleopatra* at age 10, said it felt like "growing up". "It's petrifying because it's so close to my heart and because I've really been living this for such a long time," she said.

Kissane has performed in HIT Production's tour of *Motherhood the Musical* and Lux Radio Theatre's *Gone With The Wind*. The show will run at the Butterfly Club, 5 Carson Place, Melbourne, November 19-24.



Carla Kissane's show *Whores and Weeping Women* will be at the Butterfly Club. Photo: ADAM ELWOOD

Review Andrew Fuhrmann, 22nd November: The Age:

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/theatre/bard-heroines-in-mashup-at-butterfly-club-20131121-2xyjo.html>

Other Relevant Websites

<https://completeworkstheatre.com>

<http://www.dherdeeast.com>

<https://jijgnotzphotography.com>

Technical Specs & Touring Info

Running time: 50 minutes no interval

Bump in/out times: Ideally 30 mins either side with a 2 hour technical rehearsal

Staging: This production is very adaptable to various performance spaces.

The show is a solo performance by Carla Kissane: actor/singer, writer, producer.

Either: Run on a professionally recorded, mixed & mastered backing track, digitally. Or using a live band- depending on space and venue capacity. It requires two technicians to operate lighting & sound.

Touring Info

Minimum: There is one member of the touring party, Actor/Singer: Carla Kissane and a venue technician to assist with bump in & operate lx & sfx throughout the show. (*This was achieved successfully at His Majesty's Theatre*)

Set/Props: Minimal. Microphone and stand, one music stand and book. Small table with glass of water onstage.

Lighting: Ideally a 10 channel lighting plot. Basic warm/cool, red & blue wash, center spot, spotlight downstage prompt side, and general wash.

Audio: Headset microphone would be ideal, patched into the sound desk.

Potential to perform without amplification depending on the space.

One standing microphone that is amplified for one musical number (*Back to Black*) Small venue would be appropriate. (*80-100 seats optimal*)

Accompaniment: The show is performed either with live band (minimum piano) or on a professionally recorded backing track.

This worked well at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth and Arts on Site, New York.

Dressing rooms: One dressing room is necessary, due to partial nudity at the close of the show.

Content Information

The show does NOT contain the following elements:

- strobe lighting
- smoke or haze effects
- loud noises
- smoking
- violent scenes
- drink on stage
- Hazardous materials
- Flame effect

Whores and Weeping Women is recommended for 15 years or older and contains some adult content coarse language and partial nudity.

Additional Press & PR -

Stills Photography of October 21st 2021 courtesy of [@jjignotzphotography](https://www.instagram.com/jjignotzphotography)



Social Media Shoot October 2021



Original Production images courtesy of Tony Rive @ triggerpoint photography



OCTOBER 21ST

WHORES & WEEPING WOMEN

A CABARET OF SHAKESPEAREAN PROPORTIONS

ARTS ON SITE, 6.30PM & 8.30PM

12 ST MARKS PL, NY 10003 TICKET LINK IN BIO:

[HTTPS://ARTSONSITE.TICKETLEAP.COM/STUDIO-3R/](https://artsonsite.ticketleap.com/studio-3r/)

whores and weeping women

October 21st 6.30pm & 8.30pm

<https://artsonsite.ticketleap.com/studio-3r/>

Arts On Site - 12 St Marks PI NY 10003