



LUNCHBOX
THEATRE

Media Release

Lunchbox Theatre brings to life the multidisciplinary storytelling show about living and working with guide dogs, *Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia*. Tickets on sale now.

CALGARY, AB – January 11, 2023 — Lunchbox Theatre kicks off 2023 with a new play that is sure to warm your heart, *Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia*. Created by **Kim Kilpatrick, Karen Bailey and Artistic Director Bronwyn Steinberg**, this play is a co-presentation with Inside Out Theatre and is presented as a part of the High Performance Rodeo. The play features storyteller Kim Kilpatrick, visual artist Karen Bailey, as well as Kim's guide dog, Ginger! The show will be live and in-person in the Studio Theatre at Vertigo. This production will preview on February 1 and run until February 19, 2023. The official opening show is on February 2.

Tickets are on sale now, range in price from \$21-\$31 per performance, and can be purchased at LunchboxTheatre.com.

Quote from Artistic Director Bronwyn Steinberg:

“I could listen to Kim’s stories of navigating the world with Tulia and her other guides for hours, and the colour, curiosity and pure doggy joy of Karen’s paintings are equally captivating. Working with Kim, Karen, Angela and Trudy on the original development of this piece back in Ottawa in 2018 was a beautiful chance to connect with artists from other disciplines, to learn from each other while also discovering just how much we all have in common.”

“I am so grateful to be able to bring this show here to Calgary now, with the support of Inside Out Theatre and One Yellow Rabbit’s High Performance Rodeo. Collaborating with other companies to present this piece feels like a natural extension of the beautiful collaborative energy that helped to create it.”

Kim Kilpatrick (Storyteller)

Kim Kilpatrick is a storyteller, former Paralympian and disability rights activist who has handled five guide dogs. As a woman who was born blind, she brings a fresh and unique approach to the art of storytelling. Kim has over twenty years of experience as a storyteller and has performed on the NAC fourth stage, at storytelling and theatre festivals across Canada since 2004.

She has two additional one-woman shows “*Flying in the Dark*” (2010) and “*Dangerous Touch*” (2022). She also performs regularly in schools and for seniors groups.

Kim is known for autobiographical material—humorous, entertaining, and engaging stories about living as a person who is blind, as well as folk and epic tales and historical material. Kim regularly performs with MASC (Multicultural Arts Schools Communities).

Synopsis:

A multidisciplinary storytelling show about living and working with guide dogs. Blind storyteller and disability rights activist Kim Kilpatrick tells charming, insightful and surprising stories about Tulia and her other canine companions alongside acclaimed visual artist Karen Bailey's beautiful paintings of Stanley, a guide dog puppy she raised. This collaboration documents the journey from puppy to working guide dog for the blind, incorporating storytelling, painting, video, audio description and music. And yes, Kim's dog Ginger will be onstage!

Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia will be performed by Kim Kilpatrick (storyteller) and Ginger (guide dog).

The creative team for *Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia* includes Bronwyn Steinberg (director), Carissa Sams (Stage Manager), Michael Luong (Apprentice Stage Manager). Visual art by Karen Bailey, Sound Design and Composition by Angela Schleichauf and Visual Effects by Trudy Wohlleben.

PLEASE NOTE:

In order to protect our performer (who is immunocompromised) and to provide options within the audience environment for all our patrons, audience members are requested to wear a mask if they would like to sit in the front two rows of the theatre. Masking is strongly encouraged for all performances, but it is not mandated in an effort to keep Kim as healthy as possible. If you have purchased tickets and are feeling unwell the day of your performance we will gladly exchange them for another date for you!

Masked Performances – Feb 7 and 14

Our priority is providing a safe environment for our patrons, staff, volunteers and artists. In an effort to support the comfort levels of all our guests, Lunchbox Theatre has made the decision to offer select Masked Performances this season. This decision was made to address the accommodations requested by some of our patrons, either for preference or personal health reasons.

We hope this option gives reassurance of Lunchbox Theatre's support of all our patrons, and ask that all in attendance respect these special accommodations for these performances. The masked performances for *Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia* will be at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Tuesday, Feb. 14.

Relaxed & ASL Performance – Feb 5

Lunchbox is partnering again with Inside Out Theatre with their Good Host program to provide a Relaxed and ASL performance of *Raising Stanley/Life with Tulia* on Sunday, Feb. 5 at 12 p.m..

A relaxed environment is a great way to introduce kids to theatre without the classic theatre etiquette, allowing for more wiggling and giggling. We suggest this show for 12+ but if you have a child younger than that, then this performance is an option for families.

Open audio description is integrated into the production, so all performances are accessible for blind and visually impaired audience members.

Note: All reviewers need to book tickets for the 1st week of the run. No exceptions.

Kim and Ginger are available for interviews on January 26.

About Lunchbox Theatre

Lunchbox Theatre presents an enriching and engaging theatre experience with an emphasis on accessibility for audiences and artists. We create and produce one-act plays primarily at noon, focusing on entertaining new Canadian works that examine and explore socially relevant issues. The theatre seeks to provide rewarding and memorable experiences to its audiences, casts, and supporters by delving into a variety of works that reflect our audience and their particular world, as well as works that will offer fresh experiences and new understandings. Lunchbox is a hub for artistic development—for artists as well as plays, with emerging artists working alongside established professionals.

For ticket and season pass information, please visit LunchboxTheatre.com

###

For interview requests or more information, please contact:

Melanie Erickson

marketing@lunchboxtheatre.com

403-816-5657 (Text is preferred)