

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

January 17–February 3, 2019 | pushfestival.ca

Introduction for patrons with sight loss

KIINALIK: THESE SHARP TOOLS by BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE (from TORONTO, CANADA)
Presented with Touchstone Theatre

The stage is about 1 foot high, the front edge of it is bordered with ice. The ice is lit from beneath; throughout the show the lighting colour changes. The ice is melting throughout the show. The deck of the stage where the performers stand is shiny, giving the effect of black ice.

The backdrop are two large asymmetrical screens that meet in the back in the middle. During the performance, different images and animations are projected on the screens. Sometimes, these show images that directly relate to what is being talked about, and sometimes there are more abstract photographic and graphic juxtapositions.

On stage are two microphones in stands beside each other, about 10 feet apart. Attached to the stand on the left side is a half moon shaped knife with a rounded handle. Next to the microphone on the right is a stand with two guitars resting on it; one is an acoustic guitar and the other a blue electric guitar.

There are three performers (and a live projectionist who is mostly unseen) Evalyn, Laakkuluk and Cris.

Evalyn talks, sings, plays guitar, a shruti box (a red squeeze box about the size of a briefcase), and she uses a loop pedal to loop her guitar and her voice during one section of the show. She is wearing seal skin running high top running shoes, jeans with a seal skin belt, a shirt and vest.

Laakkuluk talks in English and Greenlandic/ Inuktitut, throat sings and performs a mask dance. She is wearing seal skin covered high heeled booties, a black dress and sheer black tights that show the tattoos bands that circle her thighs. She also has line tattoos that circle her forearms, and a two lines that tattoo her chin.

Cris plays the cello and various pedals.

As the show starts, the lights go down. During the blackout, the first song begins and the performers take their positions on stage. Evalyn behind the right microphone. Throughout the show, Evalyn stays on the right side of the stage. Laakkuluk is behind the microphone on the left. Even though they each tend to stick to one side, they often sit or stand right next to each other at the centre front of the stage. Cris will sit to the right of the stage, playing the cello, she remains there for the rest of the show.

At one point, Laakkuluk stops speaking English for an extended period. She takes off her shoes, take out a mirror and paints her face black and red. She then performs a Greenlandic mask dance, moving through the audience, dancing around and interacting with audience members. It is sometimes aggressive, sometimes sexual, sometimes playful. In the middle of it, she returns to the stage, picks up two hand knives and sharpens them on each other. At the end of the dance, as the music stops, she return to the stage, and removes her makeup as Evalyn tells the next story. They then both return to their microphones.

Jan 30-31 & Feb 1-2 at 7pm, 2PM matinee on Feb 2 | at Performance works on Granville Island
Price: \$39 | Group Rate: \$28.20

**For more information on shows that are accessible to people with vision loss,
download the info sheet by clicking [here](#) (for the PDF version) and [here](#) (for the DOC version)**

For full details and to discuss accessibility needs please contact:

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