

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

January 17–February 3, 2019 | pushfestival.ca

Introduction for patrons with sight loss

ADRIENNE TRUSCOTT's ONE-TRICK PONY (OR ANDY KAUFMAN IS A FEMINIST PERFORMANCE ARTIST AND I'M A COMEDIAN) by ADRIENNE TRUSCOTT (from the USA)

This show contains quite a lot of projected text. You can bring a companion to read the text to you or have a volunteer do so. Please contact the Accessibility Coordinator to book the complimentary companion ticket or arrange the volunteer, both are subject to availability.

When the lights go down, music keeps playing. In the darkness, different people come up onto the stage, each time it seems as if it was something small, they forgot to do before the show. It goes on for over three minutes. By the end of it, there is a bar stool with a beer on it on the right and a small table on the left with a cardboard box and on top of that a wooden plate with a pin in the middle holding together a stack of pancakes, it has the rough shape of a record player. After the music stops, Adrienne is still in the dark on the stage, but a dim light appears. She puts the mic on the ground in the dim light then leaves. She comes back and puts a toy pony one foot away from the mic. It is a windup toy and it hobbles over and stops right at the mic.

After “the pony talks” everything goes completely black as the song *Chasing Cars* by Snow Patrol plays. The lights slowly come back on when the singer sings: “If I lay here.” Adrienne is laying on the stage, face down, her arms stretched in front of her. She seems to be naked except for two gigantic white gloves, more like cartoon hands than gloves, like Mickey Mouse’s hands, and black boots. A clothes hanger lies on the back of her neck. Behind her text starts scrolling. The text is included at the end. Though we recommend having someone read it to you during the show.

At the end of the song Adrienne slowly pushes herself up to hands and knees. Then slowly stretches out her legs and starts walking them in closer. As she takes her time to stand up we see that the clothes hanger behind her neck is attached to a sequined dress that lifts up, kind of covering her up in front. Adrienne doesn’t lift up her head till the last moment as she lifts her arms into the air. Her lips look huge and bloated, like a Botox job gone wrong, her hair is dark blond, and she has a platinum blonde ponytail. Once the song is over, she spits out the fake lip piece. The first thing she does is get the bottle of beer, it takes her a bit of effort to pick it up with the gigantic gloves. She keeps drinking the beer throughout the show.

There are a couple of videos, they all feature comedian Andy Kaufman. In the first one he turns on a song on a record player, stands staring ahead nervously, but suddenly becomes very animated, waving his fist in the air when they sing "Here I come to save the day" only to return to looking nervous, waiting for the next "Here I come to save the day" so he can throw his fist in the air again.

At different times texts are projected behind her. There are reviews, often connected to what is happening on stage as if Adrienne is responding to the reviews in the moment. Three of the projections are definitions, namely of "ironic racism," "dramatic irony," and "Indian face paint". At the end of the show song lyrics are projected, like karaoke. They also tell the audience what to do, like "sing along!".

After the pancakes story, Alanis Morrissette's song "Ironic" plays and Adrienne grabs two pancakes from the stack of pancakes on the box and slowly slides into a split while eating the pancakes and drinking her beer. She doesn't quite make it to a full split. Then the lights go out and there is another video titled: "Andy wrestles the ladies", it has the same song as in the video before. In the video Andy is wrestling women to the ground. Then it says, "Adrienne wrestles some comedians" and features her wearing a weird superhero costume, jumping onto two different men, awkwardly wrestling them as they seem unsure if they should fight back or not.

After the wrestling videos Adrienne comes back wearing the top part of the dress, which is hardly an improvement because the back is completely open and now it hangs lower and barely covers her breasts. The golden skirt she has wrapped around her hips, held together on her bum with a platinum blonde 1-foot ponytail clip. She also has black rimmed glasses now. At one point she gives those glasses to someone in the audience.

When the recording of Chris Rock plays the lights go out completely. Then there is a spotlight on Adrienne's crotch. She has pulled the dress aside and we only see her pussy, it has 1 foot long blonde hair. Afterward the dress swings back into place, Adrienne reaches under the dress, pulls off the blonde pussy wig and throws it into the audience.

Later Adrienne talks about a woman she met at a festival. To describe her she puts on makeup, red streaks on her cheeks and a brown one on down the bridge of her nose and thin headbands with embroidered flowers. She pulls out feathers but decides against putting them on.

Adrienne will bring a man onto the stage and tie a rope to his hand that is hanging down from the ceiling. She then plays a video clip and at strategic moments pulls the other end of the rope to lift the man's hand into the air like a puppet. After that Adrienne comes back and she is finally wearing the dress how it is supposed be. It is a burlesque

dress with a sparkly black bodice which barely covers breasts and little golden chains in front of her crotch, but we now see that the golden skirt part is supposed to go in the back, not the front, leaving the legs bare in the front. She invites everyone to sing along to a song (mostly through instructions in the projections). She grabs more pancakes, gives one to the man who is still on the stage and invites him to do the splits with her as they eat a pancake. Meanwhile the projections still invite the audience to sing along to the chorus of the song, telling them to sing like they are drunk. During the chorus Adrienne starts wrestling the man, each new chorus announcing a new round of wrestling. It is a weird rambunctious finale filled with either homages to Andy Kaufman or just plain stealing his material.

See below for the scrolling text at the beginning of the show.

JAN 18 at 9:30PM | at the ANNEX at 823 Seymour street | admission to this show is FREE

For more information on shows that are accessible to people with sight 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:

Accessible PuSh Coordinator, Anika Vervecken
access@pushfestival.ca | 604.605.8286 ext 204

ADDITIONAL INFO: The scrolling text at the beginning of the show.

We provide this text in case you prefer not to have it read by a friend or volunteer. If you do prefer to have it read, contact Anika (details just above). This text has been copied exactly as it is in the show except that the blank space between the lines is sometimes longer, but that would have taken 10 pages. It scrolls quite slowly.

In 2013 a somewhat-well
known cabaret and circus
artist made her first ever
stand-up comedy show...
about rape.

And she didn't wear pants

And it was filled with
gimmicks and nudity and

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puns
and worse!

She wanted to be a
comedian...

Sorry...

comedienne.

but wrestled with the fact
that she might just be
a
feminist
performance
artist

with a point to make. And
an average and much
maligned

vagina.

She wrestled with her
options.

She wrestled with doubt.

And with her identity.

She wrestled with friends
and strangers

And online stalkers and
trolls.

She wrestled with critics
and
With other comedians.

And with whether this
overuse of the word

'WRESTLE'

'WRESTLE'

'WRESTLE'

at the top of the show
would stay in the
audience's minds

for later.

This is her second show.

It's a love letter to her
favorite dead comedian.

She'll beg, borrow and steal
from him if she can.

The lights come up on a
comedienne known for
being gimmicky

lying on the ground naked

but for a sparkly dress

on a hanger around her
neck.

She is both dressed and
undressed.

Splayed and contained.

Suddenly worried that it seems too serious

she changes the font.

[font changes to the Comic Sans MS font]

She just lays there

literally boring everyone
silly

she hopes

using her idiotic body to ask
a question no tasteful
listener ever wanted asked

or answered

but which was asked
nonetheless

on uk charts
for 166 weeks
between 2006 and 2014
by a Grammy Award-winning
band...

There's her ass.

What an ass!

As she slowly, rises the
dress arrives precariously in
front of her body and you
can almost see

her gimmick!

What a cunt!

In a minute she'll get up
and tell dick jokes, but if
for some reason you don't
know who Andy Kaufman is
but you do know who
Snow Patrol is

you should get out your
phone and Google him now

because he is a genius
who might be dead but was
and is forever
a genius
who might come save the
day.

AND...

Snow Patrol
was mediocre shit from day one...

AND..

There's another 30 seconds
to this fucking song.

(wrestle)