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## WE AREN'T FOOLING THE CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION

*"Hilarious, invigorating piece of theatre\*" echoes the real life concerns of today's youth ... and what they're prepared to do about it.*

**Montreal (May 22, 2014)** – As Environment Canada approves fish farming genetically engineered salmon for human consumption, two socially-awkward fourteen-year-olds will be singing about the perils of GMOs and how to survive the impending end of the world... accompanied by ukulele and glockenspiel, and giant low-fi music videos.

The show is *Kitt & Jane: An Interactive Survival Guide to the Near-Post-Apocalyptic Future*, by West Coast theatre company SNAFU, and it's kicking off a cross-country tour at the **Montreal Fringe Festival June 13–21** at MAI (3680 rue Jeanne-Mance). SNAFU is known to Montreal audiences for their sold-out show *Little Orange Man*, winner of the 2013 Montreal Fringe Festival's Centaur Theatre Award for Best English Language Production. *Kitt & Jane* is the stand-alone sequel to their cult hit *Little Orange Man*.

*"But **this isn't the Rapture, and it isn't zombies.** We're talking about the real, true coming-soon-to-a-continent- near you 'apocalypse',"* says Hansen about the perils that Kitt and Jane are preparing for. They draw on existing scientific reports about genetically modified foods, technology run rampant, overpopulation, species extinction, and the end of cheap oil. As well, they illustrate (literally!) the various possible future scenarios developed by the international think-tank Global Scenario Group (gsg.org). Add a dose of authentic teenage angst inspired by **interviews of real Victoria teenagers** who voiced their own concerns about the future of the planet. *"You'd need to find people that you can trust...people you know won't kill you,"* said one Grade 11 student. Another spoke about living in the rafters of Costco. SNAFU is releasing the interviews this May 2014 in their podcast series "A Teenagers Guide to Surviving the Apocalypse".



Ingrid Hansen & Rod Peter Jr jam out in *Kitt & Jane* - Photo by Jam Hamidi

### Synopsis:

The show begins with the two grade-eights presenting to the audience, purportedly as part of a school assembly. Very soon, the students go off-script, barring the doors and hijacking the presentation to deliver an important message: **They will be dead in an hour, the apocalypse will occur in five years**, and they're here to train you how to survive. Seen through the eyes of two imaginative teens – the precocious Kitt and an awkward boy with the unfortunate nickname 'Jane' – apocalypse survival is articulated with SNAFU's quintessential hallmarks: playful music, fantastical lighting, shadow and found-object puppetry, and of course, whimsical but poignant humour. The play echoes the real life concerns about the world that this young generation is inheriting. It's an experience, as CVVMagazine.com reviewed, that will *"follow you home."*

WWW.SNAFUDANCE.COM

### **ON CREATING *KITT & JANE*:**

Inspiration for *Kitt and Jane* germinated in co-creator Ingrid Hansen's mind when she was 12 years old and flipping through dog-eared copies of *National Geographic* magazine, "I remember adding up all of the looming catastrophes of the world and coming to the conclusion that I probably wouldn't survive long enough to be an old person, or if I did the world was going to be a very, very different place," explains Hansen. "And at age 12 that didn't intimidate me. I thought, 'Bring it on!'"

When asked why she thinks people should see this show, Hansen says, "Come if you find yourself wondering what wilderness will be left for your grandchildren, if you have kids, if you WISH you had kids, if are wary of raising kids on an overpopulated planet, if you like adventure, if you're sick of hearing people complain about our destructive culture and need to laugh about it for a change, if you read George Orwell, Margaret Atwood, David Suzuki, or, best of all, if you want free cake," because they show features free cake for the audience. "No one really knows what life on earth is going to look like 50 years from now," says Hansen, "We're living in the most exciting time to be alive."

### **PERFORMING BEHIND BARS: *Kitt & Jane* tours to a Victoria Prison**

When *Kitt & Jane* premiered in 2012, SNAFU packed up their ukulele and glockenspiel and drove out to prison to test their show out on the inmates. With the help of inmate theatre technicians, they performed in the prison gym for a 'captive' audience. "The inmates still talk about it," says Hansen, who does ongoing work with the prison theatre company, "they always ask me how 'Jane' is doing."

Named the Best New Play in 2012 by Victoria's Critics' Choice Spotlight Awards, *Kitt & Jane* also received dramaturgical support from the Playwrights Theatre Centre as part of the Fringe New Play Prize. SNAFU's plays have won many awards including: an invitation to Toronto's Summerworks for *Pretty Little Instincts*; the Vancouver Fringe Playhouse Award, the Montreal Fringe Award for Best English show and many Best-of and Pick-of-the-Fringe awards for *Little Orange Man*.

Created by Kathleen Greenfield, Ingrid Hansen & Rod Peter Jr.  
Performing at the **Montreal International Fringe Festival**

Fri June 13<sup>th</sup> @ 23:30 H  
Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup> @ 20:00 H  
Monday June 16<sup>th</sup> @ 18:00 H  
Wed June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 23:15 H  
Friday June 20<sup>th</sup> @ 14:15 H  
Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup> @ 21:45 H

Fringe Venue # 9 MAI (Montréal Arts, Interculturels)  
3680 rue Jeanne-Mance  
\$10 Tickets at [montrealfringe.ca](http://montrealfringe.ca)

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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*Ingrid Hansen feeds Koolaid to Rod Peter Jr in Kitt & Jane, photography by Jam Hamic*

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