

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

little orange man - a playdate with Destiny

Award-winning edible puppetry show tours to Regina after performing in prison

BC-born, Viking by blood, Ingrid Hansen is fueled by a love for talking with strangers. She is often found at bus stops, grocery lineups or theatres, attempting to create temporary communities out of groups of strangers. This October 15th - 25th she is touring her edible puppetry show *Little Orange Man* to the Artesian Performance Venue in Regina. *Little Orange Man* has sold out at theatres and festivals across the country, and this will be Hansen's Saskatchewan debut.

Little Orange Man is the story of Kitt the Kinder-Whisperer, a high-octane Danish girl whose greatest delight comes from reenacting her grandfather's grisly folk tales to young neighborhood children. Everything unfolds in real time, with Kitt as our twelve-year-old host.



In Kitt's world, stories produce reality. Stories come from everywhere: suitcases, shadow puppets, songs, and the bits of leftover food she saved from lunch. There is light and darkness. Attention Deficit Disorder. English and Danish. A maelstrom of dreams. Food goes in, gets chewed, and is spat back out. In and out of worlds we drift: Kitt's subconscious, her dreams, her family's history, her inability to make sense of her place in the world. What emerges through the humour is the honest efforts of an outcast child, who entrusts a group of strangers to help fight her darkest battle. It's an experience rated E for Everyone, which audiences have said is "a little bit **like watching Pixar movies . . . on acid.**"

"Unbelievably funny" — *PLANK Magazine*
"Remarkable feats of puppetry" — *CBC*

"Magical and touching" — *The Ottawa Citizen*
"A must see" — *Monday Magazine*

Artistic Director of Regina's Hectik Theatre Kenn Mcleod first saw the piece at the Vancouver Fringe Festival and wanted to find a way to bring this experience to Regina. "Once I had seen it, all I could do was recommend it to others," says Mcleod. "It is beautiful, heart-warming, hilarious, and has stuck with me for years, exactly what I hope for when I witness theatre." Hansen is working with Regina puppeteers to build an interactive play space where audiences young and old can get a hands-on experience after the show. "I've always wanted to offer a free post-show puppet workshop, and now we can," says Hansen.

Puppets in Prison: One stop on the *Little Orange Man* tour was a special behind-bars performance for the inmates at a Federal Prison in Victoria, British Columbia. “Touring takes on a whole new level when your **puppets have to get cleared through prison security first,**” says Hansen, “**the inmates were, by far, my favourite audience.** After performing *Little Orange Man* live in the prison gymnasium, we had an informal discussion with the inmates who watched. The guys seemed to really connect with the story of a kid retreating into fantasy when things got tough in real life. I'm used to performing at Fringe where people laugh the whole show through - but these guys were silent. Most of the guys had just never, ever, seen anything like it. **They also think I'm nuts**--in a good way,” says Hansen. Hansen spent last fall co-directing *the Prison Puppet Project* with the inmates at William Head Prison in Victoria, BC, working with 27 men at the prison to craft their own true-life stories into a full-length puppet play, which the inmates performed for the public.

“A huge part of me wishes people could be this nuts in real life without being institutionalized”
— *The Marble*

“The sort of girl that director **Terry Gilliam** might have dreamed up” —*Calgary Herald*

“The artists create an unpretentiously surreal landscape in which the contents of Kitt’s lunch box—lettuce, celery, an apple, and slices of bread—become some of the puppets she uses to tell her story.” — *The Georgia Straight*

Presented by Regina’s Hectik Theatre
Created and produced by Victoria’s SNAFU Dance Theatre
Co-created and Directed by Kathleen Greenfield
Co-created and Performed by Ingrid Hansen

<i>Best Production (English Language)</i>	<i>Montreal Fringe 2013</i>
<i>Outstanding Overall Production</i>	<i>Ottawa Fringe 2012</i>
<i>HELD OVER - Pick-of-the-Fringe</i>	<i>Vancouver 2011</i>
<i>Pick-of-the-Fringe</i>	<i>Victoria 2011</i>
<i>Vancouver Playhouse Award</i>	<i>Vancouver 2011</i>
<i>Volunteer’s Choice Award</i>	<i>Vancouver 2011</i>

WHERE - The Artesian Performance Venue,
2627 13th Avenue, Regina

TICKETS \$25/\$15 Online & at the door www.hectik.ca

Wed Oct 15th @ 8PM (PWYC)
Thurs Oct 16th @ 8PM
Fri Oct 17th @ 8PM
Sat Oct 18th @ 2PM & 8PM



Wed Oct 22nd @ 8PM
Thurs Oct 23rd @ 8PM
Friday Oct 24th @ 8PM
Sat Oct 25th @ 2PM & 8PM

VIDEO TRAILER - vimeo.com/30887899

PHOTOS - www.snafudance.com/little-orange-man

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WWW.SNAFUDANCE.COM

WWW.HECTIK.CA