

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



17 August 2011

Clown Lights Stage

A quirky and whimsical physical comedy.

Clown Lights Stage is a quirky and touching solo physical comedy theatre work by Sydney-based artist and producer Alice Mary Cooper.

The work is a playful fusion of sincerity and humour - think an Amelie style clown meets Greek Tragedy and classic BBC comedy.

Through the Clown's inquiring mind bank statements, tea bags and Nutella- become sources of great wonderment and humour.

The show plays for 5 nights at the Tuxedo Cat on Flinders Lane.

The show's creator Alice Cooper says the show's focus on everyday objects stems from a deep concern for our planet's future. "Though it may not be immediately apparent, the show was made with a view to express something I feel at the very core of living more sustainably - the need to change our perception of the world. One way of doing this is through play. "I aim to address our Western consumptive behaviour by proposing a more imaginative way of seeing, one that seeks to shift the ground on which current unhelpful, unsustainable perceptions are based".

Creating the show involved a lot of experimentation over an eight month period. Alice says she was very lucky to have initially been able to develop the idea through an artistic residency and mentorship called Artslab at the renowned youth theatre co-operative Shopfront Contemporary Arts and Performance in Sydney's south west. "When I began investigating the ideas I had no idea what it would become, I just knew I wanted to work within the modality of clown and investigate our relationship with the objects we have around us, but never truly look at. I was very fortunate to have the support of director and mentor Michael Piggot who continued to act as dramaturg on the work several months after the official mentorship was over.

I became truly fascinated by the objects we have around us and how we respond and relate to them. The creation of the work involved months of experimentation with individual objects. For example I decided to work with keys. This meant, I threw them up in the air and copied the shape they landed in with my body, I drew them and recorded an interview on camera with my house key!"

"Alice Cooper is mobile and articulate, expressive and immaculately nuanced." - Rip It Up, Adelaide

"Jawbreakingly hilarious...Like The Simpsons, the humor is multilayered." - Daniel G Taylor on Stagewhispers

"I was...seduced by the clever writing and charm of the performer." - Kevin Jackson

<http://alicemarycooper.com/>

<http://alicemarycooper.com/CV%20&%20Showreel>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lgk-gxRdT3Y>

Clown Lights Stage

VENUE

The Tuxedo Cat
335 Flinders Lane
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

DATES: 21 - 24 and 27 Sept

TIME: 10.15pm (45min)

TICKETS

Full: \$20

Concession: \$15

Tightarse Tuesday: \$15

Group: \$15

TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

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