



*SINNER.* is a bold, hilarious, and deeply moving musical tragicomedy written and performed by Marla Torgerson. Blending virtuosic vocals, razor-sharp storytelling, and irreverent theological commentary, the show traces one woman’s journey from devout Fundamentalist Evangelical upbringing to hard-won self-possession.

Raised in the Alberta Bible Belt, Marla grew up fluent in the language of scripture, purity culture, and patriarchal certainty. In *SINNER.*, she uses that same language, along with her training in opera, to dismantle the systems that shaped her. With a piano, a powerhouse voice, and a disarming comedic style, she revisits the stories she was told about faith, gender, sexuality, and obedience, asking what happens when the belief that once defined you no longer holds.

Through a series of sharply drawn characters and memories, the show moves between biting satire and surprising tenderness. We meet the voices that shaped her world: authority figures who spoke with absolute conviction, a culture obsessed with purity and control, and the quiet personal questions that refused to stay buried. Torgerson’s storytelling shifts effortlessly from laugh-out-loud comedy to moments of startling emotional clarity, revealing the cost of growing up inside systems that demand certainty while leaving little room for humanity.

Original songs weave throughout the piece, ranging from blisteringly funny to hauntingly vulnerable. Performed with the vocal prowess of a trained opera singer and the emotional immediacy of confessional theatre, the music expands the story beyond words alone. The result is a theatrical experience that feels part concert, part stand-up, and part personal reckoning. Like, if *Fleabag* was a musical that went to Bible College.

At its heart, *SINNER.* is not simply about religion, but about identity, belonging, and the courage required to outgrow the stories that shaped us. With wit, warmth, and fearless honesty, Torgerson invites audiences to laugh at the absurdities of dogma while confronting the deeper question beneath it all: who are we allowed to become once we stop trying to be good?

Both cathartic and wildly entertaining, *SINNER.* has resonated deeply with audiences across generations. Audience members have reached out months after the show; one described the experience as “the soul healing I didn’t know I still needed.”

Come for the comedy. Stay for the catharsis.