

## THE MERKIN SISTERS ~ ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



### **Ingrid Hansen** Co-Creator & Co-Performer

Raised by gregarious Danish immigrants, Ingrid loves climbing trees and talking to strangers. In 2006 she co-founded SNAFU to create unexpected theatre, dance, and puppet theatre. Ingrid was recently invited to a special workshop at Sesame Street in NYC, where she got to hang with Cookie Monster.

She's the Co-Creator of Fringe Cult hits *Little Orange Man*, *Snack Music*, *Kitt & Jane: An interactive survival guide to the Near-Post-Apocalyptic Future*, and *The Merkin Sisters*. She was recently in Ottawa performing SNAFU's *Table Top Tales* at the National Art Centre and *Snack Music* at the Undercurrents bar.

For the past nine years, Ingrid has built an ongoing collaboration with the inmates at the prison theatre company William Head on Stage, the only prison theatre company in Canada that performs for the public. In 2013 she co-directed *The Prison Puppet Project* with Peter Balkwill from the Old Trout Puppet Workshop. On TV, she is a lead puppeteer and voice actor for four seasons of the children's television series *Tiga Talk* on APTN, and the moon monster in *Princess Sparkly Butt and the Hot Dog Kid*. She's also a recurring puppeteer for Theatre Direct's Dora-Award-Winning puppetry piece *The Old Man and the River*.



### **Stephanie Morin-Robert** Co-creator & Co-Performer

Stephanie is a critically acclaimed Canadian artist who successfully and extensively tours to recognized festivals and venues across Canada. Her work as a performing artist has been celebrated by a wide range of audiences, critics and producers with sold out runs, raving 5 star reviews, and multiple awards underlining her outstanding talent, professionalism and charm.

Shortly after graduation, Stephanie's work was programmed in professional theatres and well reputed festival lineups alongside other high caliber artists, such as Edgy Women with Studio 303, Phenomena Festival and WildSide Festival at the Centaur Theatre in Montreal, Chinook Series and Next Fest at the Westbury Theatre and Convergence at the L'Uni Theatre in Edmonton, BC

BUDS at the Fire Hall Theatre in Vancouver, as well as Uno Fest at the Metro Theatre in Victoria.

Stephanie is known throughout the Canadian arts-community for her vibrant spirit and talent to inspire. When she was 2 years-old she lost her left eye to Cancer and has had a glass eye ever since. Through her performances, she establishes a trusting and safe environment by sharing her very own experiences with Bullying and how she managed to work through her insecurities and come to terms with her disability. She also generates inspirational discussions and workshops where she helps her students transform their personal life experiences into performance with students, theatres and parents. Her upcoming Canadian, European and American tours demonstrate her great dedication to share her work internationally. She was recently invited to perform her solo artist at the International Vault Festival in London, UK.