

Company Info:

Founded by award-winning actress, comedienne and clown Rachelle Elie in 2001, Crowning Monkey has produced Fringe hits *Sticks and Bones*, *Big Girls Don't Dry* and *Joe: The Perfect Man*. Combining physical comedy, acting and storytelling, works are rooted in the art of play, clown and bouffon. Drawing on sources and instruction from the Ecole Philippe Gaulier, Mump & Smoot's Mike Kennard and John Turner, Sue Morrison and Francine Cote, Crowning Monkey produces original, unique and high-quality comedy/physical theatre that challenges and delights the audience. In 2006 **SEE MAGAZINE** voted JOE: The Perfect Man one of the top ten shows to see at The Edmonton Fringe Festival and most recently Crowning Monkey won an **"Outstanding Comedy Award"** for *JOE: The Perfect Man* at the Ottawa Fringe Festival. Rachelle has been producing Cabarets in Toronto since 1996 and recently Luke Jackson and rachelle started co-producing the Rag Bag Cabaret and started writing cheeky songs for the cabarets. The show evolved out of Rachelle's stand up and these bawdy songs.

Rachelle Elie- This year Rachelle did a sell out run in *Edinburgh Fringe Festival* of her one woman show *S#!t I'm In Love with You Again* and was part of the off *Broadway Encore Series*. She also participated in the *Women In Comedy Festival* in Boston. She is known for her boundless energy, fearlessness & dynamic stage presence. A graduate of *Bishop's University* and Vancouver's *Studio 58*, Rachelle has been studying and performing comedy for over twenty years. She has written and performed five one woman shows and was recently nominated for a *JFL Comedy FRANKIE Award* at The *Montreal St Amboise Fringe Festival*. Elie recently moved to Ottawa after living in Toronto for twenty years and is comedienne in residence for the *Alterna Savings CrackUp Comedy Festival*. She hosted both gala shows at Algonquin college this year and was a regular opening act for Canadian Comedy

Legend Mike McDonald. Her CD SIILWYA is playing on SIRIUS XM Canada Laughs and this year Rachelle Is nominated for a Canadian Comedy Award as "BEST BREAKOUT artist". She is also founder of the Imani Artists Collective in Eldoret, Kenya wher she worked with her Obstetrcian Gynecologist husband.

www.crowningmonkey.com

Luke Jackson-Luke Jackson has three solo albums out, the most recent of which "And Then Some" was given four stars in Mojo Magazine who declared it an album that was "impossible not to love".

www.lukejackson.com