## Lysistrata by how.dare.collective. Synopsis

Civil war has been raging in Greece for far too long, tearing the country apart, and one woman - Lysistrata - has had enough! A secret conference in a bar sparks a revolution that will unite all the women of Greece in a protest to end the violence that is destroying all that they hold dear. In a society where their voices are not heard, they use the last resort a woman has at her disposal: the power of her body, to withhold sex until peace is made. Instead of taking arms, the rebellious group of women, don their corsets, garters, and pasties in a "strike-tease" that will turn the world upside-down for the men, and change life as they know it!

*Lysistrata*, by how.dare.collective., is a reimagining of Aristophanes' tale of resistance and desire that includes not only theatre, but also Burlesque. This feminist work of theatrical art celebrates the liberation of the female spirit through body positivity and the empowerment of sexuality, all while telling the tale of the classic Greek comedy.

Instead of sitting in an auditorium, you are invited into the intimacy of a traditional Burlesque bar, where the fourth wall is torn down as we bear witness to this battle of the sexes. By joining the forces of the timeless storytelling of classical theatre and the theatricality of burlesque, *Lysistrata* proudly rejoices in the strength of the force of nature that is Woman. With choreography by Las Vegas Burlesque Hall of Fame performer St. Stella and script adaptation and direction by Kay Brattan, *Lysistrata* showcases the variety of performance found within burlesque by exploring everything from the vaudevillian strip-teases of Gypsy Rose, to the new wave movement of Neo-Burlesque, along with the classic style of the Can-Can while also embracing the narrative of traditional storytelling. Witness two genres band together for a night of burlesque mixed with theatre, slam poetry and songs that tells the tale of *Lysistrata*.

As we move into an era where people aren't scared to push for greater respect for self-expression through what you do or don't wear, today's feminists understand that femininity is an asset, not a weakness. Feminism and nudity should not be at odds!