

History of Collaboration: LADYBROS (which are Amanda Barker and Dale Boyer)

The term “LadyBros” is a response to the numerous directing/writing/producing teams that exist in our city and beyond; many of whom we have both worked with and greatly respect (The Perlorian Brothers, The Salazar Brothers, Aircastle, Adam & Dave, etc..). What we have realized is that female identifying creative duos haven’t existed or we haven’t seen them in the casting rooms we frequent. We seek to change this.

Together we (Amanda and Dale) met in 2004 as employed improvisors at The Second City. We went on to collectively become one half of the sketch troupe “Shame is Right!” which went onto perform across Canada and several times as an official selection of The Los Angeles Comedy festival, where it won the Best of the Fest award. We also went on to win the “Steamwhistle Award of Merit” at the Toronto’s Sketch Comedy Festival with the same group.

Despite nearly two decades of working as theatre writer/performers, we realized that in almost all of our projects they have been the sole female voice in the writing room. That changes with ***Clotheswap***.

We reunited to write, workshop and create some inspiring and provocative theatre while using our comedic toolbox. Most recently, we wrote Jan Arden’s Massey Hall show *Together for the Holidays with CHFI 98.1 FM*; where they also wrote banter for artists like Sarah McLachlan, Johnny Reid, Holly Cole and more.

After career success milestones for both of us (and one too many Walmart commercials), time felt precious and our own stories felt underserved. We had worked in writing rooms as the token woman; we were used to being directed by what felt like a never ending stream of (albeit mostly amazing) white men with ironic t-shirts. So we wrote about what we knew and loved; about what brought us together with the creative women of Toronto - which we realized wasn’t actually creative pursuits but in fact, trading clothing. Ideas emerged. Characters emerged.

Clotheswap received its first reading and talkback in August of 2016 at The Second City in Toronto. We then received two OAC Theatre Creator’s reserve grants to write a second draft - recommending bodies being Mixed Company Theatre and Fixt Point Theatre which we will be forever grateful to. A reading of that second draft was held at Theatre NorthWest in Prince George, BC in December of 2017. Then we took that feedback and input and started in on our third draft. We rented an Airbnb in Hamilton had 2 glorious days with that third draft and this is essentially what you’ll be seeing on stage. From this, we also are the current writers in residence for The Festival Players of Prince Edward County.

We then became very strategic with assembling our cast and crew - made entirely of women who have won numerous awards for their work and are well versed in improv and comedy but also could handle weightier material that this script affords.

CAST AND CREW



Amanda Barker: writer/producer/"Brenda"

Amanda is a 2019 Canadian Comedy Award Winner ("Best Performance in a Web Series") for her work in *A Gay Victorian Affair* and an accomplished writer/performer having written plays and musicals that have toured Canada and the US (*Little Black Dress*, *Spank Harder!*, *Release the Stars: The Ballad of Randy and Evi Quaid*); is a contributor to Chatelaine, Food and Drink and Toronto Life magazines and most recently, with Dale Boyer, co-authored the Christmas special “*Home for the Holidays with Jann Arden*”. Her scripts have been featured at the American Society for Theatre Research, American Theatre Magazine, and have received Ontario Arts Council Theatre Creator’s Reserve Grants. **She is the current writer in residence for Festival Players of Prince Edward County. She is known for her guest and co-starring roles in various series including *The Handmaid’s Tale* (HBO), *Designated Survivor* (ABC), *Frankie Drake*, *Get Set for Life* (CBC), *Bajillionaires*,**

***Star Falls* (Family Channel/NBC), *Saving Hope* (CTV), *Dino Dana* (Nickelodeon/TVO), *Odd Squad* (PBS), *Good Witch* and *The Case for Christmas* (Hallmark).** Her recent films include *Paper Year*, *ZOOM*, *Tactical Girls*, *Buffaloed* and you can also see her in the online series ***A Gay Victorian Affair* (for which she is nominated for a 2019 Canadian Comedy Award)** and The Canadian Comedy Award winning *You Got Trumped!* She toured the runaway hit *SPANK! A 50 Shades of Grey Parody* from 2012-2015 and performed in theatres across **North America, Off Broadway, and as part of Montreal's Just For Laughs festival.** The performance garnered her **3 Broadway World awards; Nashville's "Best Actress", Toronto's "Best Supporting Actress" & Denver's "Best Colorado Debut".**

www.amandajbarker.com Insta: @amandajbarker Twitter: @amandaisariot



Dale Boyer: Writer/Producer/Director

Dale is an actor, writer and improviser based in Toronto. **She wrote four mainstage reviews with The Second City Toronto Mainstage where she won a Canadian Comedy award for Best Sketch Show.** She has written award winning comedy for “Just for Laughs, L.A.Comedy Fest, Chicago Improv Festival and Toronto Sketch fest. **She was overjoyed to write the now published “Night of the Living Dead Live” that went on to win 5 Broadway WorldAwards including Best Play and Best Actress for Dale. Currently she is a playwright in residence with The Festival Players.** Other writing credits include. **Fool Canada (The Comedy Network) and Deal With It (The W Network) and the Canadian Comedy Award nominated web series Live from the CenTre” which has become a podcast featured on the Sonar network.** Dale also currently writes and co-hosts “Hype Night” (Amazon US&UK)- a weekly series which celebrates women in Canada. She also produces the equally popular web show “Vito’s Basement” (HighBallTV) Dale has been in more than 50 Can/US/Worldwide commercials, she’s good at selling things in 30 sec increments. **A few TV and Film credits include Workin’ Moms (Netflix original/CBC), Suits (Showcase), Layla and Jen (CBC), Odd Squad (PBS), Man Seeking Woman (FX) and “Sunset Channel” a short film currently in the festival circuit. Upcoming appearances in Bajillionaires (Family Channel) and Nurses (Global/Corus).**



Julia Beaulieu: Stage Manager

Julia is a **Dora nominated actor** and theatre graduate. **She co-founded Theatre Georgian Bay, where she directed, stage managed, produced and performed.** Stage Management credits include ***The Really Real Adventures of Scott Free and Will Do, Alex in Wonderland, Ugly Duckthing (Solar Stage), A Christmas Carol (No Porpoise Productions), Between the Sheets (Theatre Georgian Bay), A Number (Lunar Stage)*** and many more. She is ecstatic to be a part of this important empowering show. This wouldn't be possible without the support of her fur/scale family or Corey, thank you endlessly.



Cassie Cao: "Erin"

Cassie is a **Canadian Comedy Award winning (2019's "Best Taped Live Performance")** **standup comedian** and improviser based in Toronto. **She was a recipient of the 2018 NBC Second City Diversity Fellowship**, and she is now teaching and understudying with the Second City Education Company. Cassie performs standup across Canada with Yuk Yuk's and has been featured on **Sirius XM's Top Comic, Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival, Toronto Sketchfest, Big City Improvfest, Camp Wavelength Festival, the Mirvish CAA Theatre, and the National Arts Centre in Ottawa**. Her satirical writing can be seen published on CBC Comedy. Follow her on social media [@thecassiecao](#)www.cassiecao.com



Ashley Comeau: "Krimp"

Ashley Comeau is a 2019 Canadian Comedy Award Winner ("Best Live Ensemble") an actor, producer, and writer hailing from Brampton, Ontario. Ashley is a **Second City alumna** who wrote and starred in three revues which garnered her a Dora nomination and a Canadian Comedy Award nomination. **She was named Best Female Improviser from NOW Magazine's "Best Of Awards 2015"** and her comedy troupe The Lusty Mannequins were just named 'Best of the Fest' at the 2018 Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival. The Lustys have toured Europe, North America and have been to South Africa three times for the Mama City Improv Festival (which Ashley co-founded!). Select theatre credits include: **She The People, Little Black Dress The Musical, People Suck, Songbuster: An Improvised Musical, Noises Off & Girls Night Out!** She writes, acts and produces for TV and stage now, used to be a tour guide, and almost became a funeral director. That pretty much sums her up. She's very grateful to you for coming and to everyone who made this happen. and will take **Second**

City's She The People to Just For Laughs in July and the Lusty Mannequins to the Edinburgh Fringe this August. Social Media: IG: @ashco Twitter: @ashleycomeau



Tarah Consoli: "Geri"

Tarah is an actor and voice performer based in Toronto and Los Angeles. She's an alumna of the **Second City Touring Co.** where she performed in The Best of Second City and Abbreviation Nation. She also co-wrote, produced and starred in the Award-Winning web series So Awkward. Selected Film & TV credits: **Running Mates (opposite Henry Winkler and DJ Qualls, where she won Best Supporting Actress - MockFest Film Fest), Impulse (NBC Universal/YouTube Originals), Flatliners (Columbia/SONY), The Cat in The Hat Knows A Lot About That! (PBS Kids), Get Blake (Nickelodeon), SuperWhy! (PBS Kids), Crash Canyon (MTV), Breathing Through A Straw, Best Ed, Dan For Mayor (CTV), Train48 (Global), Run Robot Run, and The Ron James Show (CBC).** She also lends her voice to the audiobook trilogy **Masterminds by Gordon Korman, and R.L. Stine's**

Goosebumps. She has performed at various comedy venues in Los Angeles such as iO West and The Upright Citizens Brigade with her improv troupe, Brunch. Tarah is a graduate of York University. She sends love and thanks to her husband Paolo and her two daughters Illiana and Mattea, Butler Ruston Bell, Aligned Entertainment, her parents, and the entire badass dream team that made this show possible. @TarahConsoli



Melissa D'Agostino: Dramaturge

Melissa is an award-winning actor, writer, and producer well-known for her live performances as the character Lupe in the hit shows **Lupe: Undone** (**Best of Toronto Fringe, Critic's Pick, Canadian Comedy Award Nomination**), **A Very Lupe X-Mas**, and **Lupe's Next Top Lupe**. In addition to her extensive theatre resume, Melissa can be seen in the newest series from Internext Studios, [Prelude to the Six Day Road](#) (2013), and the viral sensation [Wolverine vs. Gladiator in: Les Miserables](#) (2012). Melissa is also an acclaimed satirist, having recently produced the short film [Ca\\$hi - 7 Grains... Lying to You](#) (2012), which garnered much

attention during the 2012 US Election in relation to Prop 37 in California. **Melissa is a co-creator of Pandemic Theatre's "Daughter", which continues to tour worldwide to critical acclaim and her streaming platform "Highball.TV" has changed the face of Independent Film in Canada and Worldwide.**



Karen Parker: "Renata"

Karen is a 2019 Canadian Comedy Award winner ("Best Live Ensemble") in addition to 3 other Canadian Comedy Award wins and is a Dora nominated actor and an alumnae of the Second City Toronto Mainstage (Facebook of Revelations, Tazed and Confused, Barack to the Future). Most recently she was the director for the Second City House Company and Assistant Director for their MainStage productions: The Hotline Always Blings Twice and Party Today, Panic Tomorrow! She is currently the director for the Second City Touring Co. She has performed with theatre companies across Canada. Selected film and television credits include: **People of Earth, Baroness Von Sketch Show, Hemlock Grove, Beauty & The Beast, The Firm, Saving Hope, Being Erica, The Jon Dore Show and**

Instant Star. When not performing she is an acting and improv instructor at the Second City Training Centre, Making Box Theatre and Social Capital Theatre. Karen also travels the world teaching and performing with The Lusty Mannequins and will take **Second City's She The People to Just For Laughs in July and the Lusty Mannequins to the Edinburgh Fringe this August.**



Vanessa Wishart: Set/Costume Design

I am an avid observer of social trends, the media, and, of course - fashion. I moved to Toronto to study at the International Academy of Design. This is where I discovered a “boldness” in high fashion that had inspired and liberated my creativity. And as a result, I have made a 20-year career out of my skills and passion. This venture had resulted in the creation of my first luxury collection in 2003 called, '**Vicerra**'. My company, that proudly creates clothing from upcycled material. Vicerra is an eco-friendly clothing and accessories line made from recycled, reclaimed and repurposed materials. We thrive on creativity, originality, and social

consciousness. Our aim is to provide fashion forward and innovative garments with a social message. My interest in fading artisanal handicrafts and historical costume led me to seek involvement in theatre and film. This experience and continued specialized training had inspired me to launch my second business venture, an ultra-exclusive line of coats and accessories made with shredded currency, called '**LUUT**'. This current project is the ultimate in upcycling. On stage, I have worked with **Obsidian Theatre Company, Starvox Ent, Mirvish Productions and Cirque du Soleil**. Working on Clotheswap, The Toronto Fringe Festival, and The Textile Museum of Canada is an invaluable resource of inspiration, shared knowledge, and collaboration with like-minded artists who foster and encourage my creativity. Thank You!

