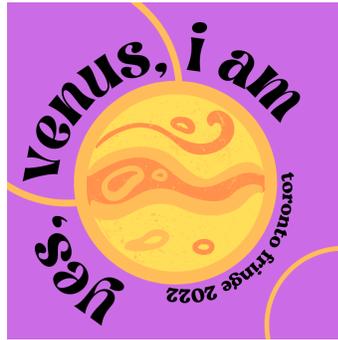


# YES, VENUS, I AM!



TORONTO  
**FRINGE**  
**FESTIVAL**

Cross-dressing! Substance abuse! Assassination! Propaganda! This show has it all! YES, VENUS, I AM is the bold debut by the local-cryptid named meatball. Follow the messy, young Venus who sets out for a better life with the help of a drag queen named Working Lass and their workplace union to prevent their abusive manager from getting a powerful promotion.

meatball pulled the moon tarot card for a writing warm-up and began writing about a person's public front versus their shadow self, like the dark side and light side of the moon. This framework fit perfectly into a narrative about a transgender character, who meatball wanted to show transitioning in phases onstage in real time. meatball gathered a cast of young LGBTQ+ performers in Montréal for a quick and dirty rehearsal run in meatball's dining room. The play was originally set to premiere at the 2020 Toronto Fringe Festival but was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then it has been developed further - eight more drafts to be exact - so much that the original reference to the title of the show has since been phased out!

This show comes hot and ready for you from a scrappy gang of queers from Montréal. This one is for all the working class people who have been brutally exploited by the wealthy during the pandemic. This one is for the angry marginalized people who've had to bite their tongues. This one is for all the genderqueer people who have to stay in the closet for their safety. Solidarity forever!

Dirty Rotten Clowns, in association with **The Toronto Fringe Festival** presents:

*YES, VENUS, I AM*

written and directed by meatball

produced by Lucas McDonell

featuring: Lila Bata-Walsh as Venus and Mercury

Gabrielle Anna Houle as The Manager

Maxen Jack-Monroe as Working Lass

Sayntana Perera and Philip Sawaia as The Chorus of Men

Performances at the Robert Gill Theatre (third floor of the Koffler Student Services Centre, 214 College Street):

# YES, VENUS, I AM!

Wed July 6th 6:30 pm / Fri 8th 9:45 pm / Sun 10th 3:45 pm / Mon 11th 4:15 pm / Tue 12th 9:30 pm / Thu 14th 7:45 pm / Sat 16th 8:30 pm

Tickets: Tickets will go on sale June 22nd and can be purchased online at [fringetoronto.com](http://fringetoronto.com) or by calling the box office at 416-966-1062. Tickets can also be purchased in person during the festival at each venue.

**Toronto Fringe Communications Manager:** Carly Chamberlain  
[communications@fringetoronto.com](mailto:communications@fringetoronto.com)

**Media Rep Contact:** meatball

**Media Rep Phone:** 581-980-2961

**Media Rep Email:** [jesuismeatball@gmail.com](mailto:jesuismeatball@gmail.com)