

## **Not just for the dogs: after a sold-out premiere in Ottawa, *Raising Stanley / Life with Tulia* combines storytelling and paintings at the Next Stage Theatre Festival**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - TORONTO October 26, 2018** – After a completely sold-out premiere in Ottawa, a new multi-disciplinary collaboration is coming to the Next Stage Theatre Festival. *Raising Stanley / Life with Tulia* uses storytelling, painting and theatre to beautifully illustrate the journey from puppy to working guide dog for the blind. A collaboration between blind storyteller Kim Kilpatrick (disability rights activist and host of CKCU's *Welcome to My World*), painter Karen Bailey (the artist behind the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean's unconventional official portrait), and director Bronwyn Steinberg (Artistic Director of TACTICS and recent GCTC production *The Drowning Girls*), *Raising Stanley / Life with Tulia* offers a fully accessible experience with a visual effects video of Karen's paintings and audio descriptions integrated with Kim's performance. *Raising Stanley / Life with Tulia* runs in the Studio Theatre at Factory from January 11-20.

*A consistent theme throughout Karen Bailey's work is the celebration in art of the under recognized and unheralded members of society.*

**—Jane Heintzman, *New Edinburgh News***

A shared connection with guide dogs brought the two creators together: Kim was born blind and has handled four working guide dogs over the years, most recently Tulia; and Karen raised three guide dog puppies for Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind, including Stanley. That shared connection served as the foundation for this ground-breaking production aimed at inspiring future collaborations between artists working in various art forms and of differing abilities.

*Kim Kilpatrick is one of Canada's most extraordinary storytellers.*

**—Dan Yashinsky, *Festival Director, Toronto Storytelling Festival***



### **ABOUT RAISING STANLEY / LIFE WITH TULIA**

What is life like working with a guide dog? How was that dog raised? Storyteller Kim Kilpatrick, painter Karen Bailey and director Bronwyn Steinberg vividly document the journey from puppy to working guide dog for the blind. Delving into issues of identity, accessibility and canine service, this storytelling show incorporates original paintings through video with audio description and music. Plus, you can't go wrong with a dog on stage.

### **CREATIVE TEAM**

**Karen Bailey:** Painter/Co-Creator

**Kim Kilpatrick:** Storyteller/Co-Creator

**Bronwyn Steinberg:** Director/Co-Creator

**Trudy Wohlleben:** Visual Effects

**Seth Gerry:** Lighting Designer

**Angela Schleihau:** Composer

**Tulia:** Guide Dog

**Stanley:** Model and Muse

**TICKETS**

Tickets are available at [fringetoronto.com](http://fringetoronto.com) or  
416-966-1062.  
Tickets are \$15.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

*Raising Stanley / Life With Tulia* presents an innovative model demonstrating how multidisciplinary art forms can take a lead role in changing attitudes towards disability and accessibility.

Audio descriptions throughout the performance are accompanied by original music and integrated into the video component of the show.

Two performances will have ASL interpretation.

Factory Theatre is an accessible venue with accessible elevators and seating.

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**For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:**

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