

A UNIQUE COLLABORATION BRINGS NORTH AND SOUTH TOGETHER TO TACKLE OUR CULTURAL CLIMATE – KIINALIK: THESE SHARP TOOLS PREMIERES AT BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE, OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 5

A Buddies in Bad Times Theatre and Theatre Passe Muraille co-production

KIINALIK: THESE SHARP TOOLS

written and performed by Evalyn Parry + Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory

Buddies in Bad Times' 39th season kicks off in October with a timely and exciting collaboration between Buddies artistic director **Evalyn Parry** and Inuk artist **Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory**. A concert and a conversation, *Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools* is the meeting place of two people – and the North and South of our country – at the confluence of colonial legacies and a changing climate.

Williamson Bathory and Parry met on a ship on an Arctic expedition from Iqaluit to Greenland, and now share a stage at Buddies. An experiment in form as much as content, *Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools* sees these two artists grapple with and reclaim the sharp tools of art and tradition that have been handed down to them – Parry's unique style of musical storytelling, alongside Williamson Bathory's *Uajeerneq*. This Greenlandic mask dance, which audience members will recognize from Williamson Bathory's performances with Tanya Tagaq, asserts Inuit identity through expression of sexuality, humour, fear and joy. In a time when parts of the world we know are beginning to melt, Williamson Bathory and Parry chart new territories and relations in this polyformal reflection on identity, nation, ancestry and land.

Parry (*SPIN, Gertrude and Alice*) and Williamson Bathory (*Tulugak Means Raven*) are joined for this production by an impressive group of artists. Directed by **Erin Brubacher** (*Concord Floral, 7th Cousins*), *Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools* features live video and projection by **Elysha Poirier** (*Seeds, BOBLO*), live music by Parry and Juno-Award-nominated musician **Cris Derksen**, lighting design by **Rebecca Picherack** (*The 20th of November, Tom at the Farm*) and set design by **Kaitlin Hickey** (*Counting Sheep, John and Waleed*).

Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools is the latest offering in an ongoing project in development by Parry since 2013, *To Live in the Age of Melting*, which has been presented in various incarnations at the Summerworks Festival, The Planet in Focus Festival, and as part of Theatre Passe Muraille's *BUZZ* series. This mainstage show is being produced in partnership with Theatre Passe Muraille as part of a new initiative between the two companies to share resources and introduce their audiences to work being done on other stages in Toronto. This partnership continues in January 2018, when [Acha Bacha](#), a new play by Bilal Baig (Buddies Emerging Creators Unit 2017) about the intersection of queerness, gender identity, and Islam, premieres on Theatre Passe Muraille's stage.

Accessible Performances

Buddies and Theatre Passe Muraille will be offering **relaxed** and **audio-described** performances of *Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools*.

Relaxed performance:

Sunday, October 29, 2:30PM

Pay-what-you-can tickets available at the door

Audio-described performance:
Sunday, November 5, 2:30 PM

Pay-what-you-can tickets available in advance for patrons wishing to access audio-description services.
Please call the box office at 416-975-8555 to reserve a headset.

MEDIA INFO

INTERVIEWS – Listed artists are available for interviews in English. Erin Brubacher and Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory are available for interviews in French, and Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory is available for interviews in Inuktitut. Contact 416-975-9130 x35 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com to arrange.

OPENING NIGHT – Opening night is **Thursday, October 26**. Contact Aidan Morishita-Miki at 416-975-9130 x35 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com for accreditation.

ON-LINE RESOURCE – The Buddies website includes a Media Centre that houses press releases, images and other pertinent information for easy download. www.buddiesinbadtimes.com/media

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A **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** and **Theatre Passe Muraille** co-production

Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools

written and performed by **Evalyn Parry + Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory**

directed by **Erin Brubacher**

live video by **Elysha Poirier**

music by **Cris Derksen + Evalyn Parry**

lighting design by **Rebecca Picherack**

set design by **Kaitlin Hickey**

Previews: October 24 & 25

Opening Night: October 26

Closing Performance: November 5

Runs: Tues-Sat 8pm, Sun 2:30pm

Tickets: PWYC - \$40

Box Office 416-975-8555 or buddiesinbadtimes.com

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander Street, Toronto ON

Established in 1979, **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre** is Toronto's leading destination for artistically rigorous, alternative theatre and a world leader in developing queer voices and stories for the stage. Over the course of its history, it has evolved into the largest facility-based queer theatre company in the world and has made an unparalleled contribution to the recognition and acceptance of queer lives in Canada.

Founded in 1968, **Theatre Passe Muraille** is Canada's original alternative theatre company, currently developing and producing new Canadian plays, striving to articulate a distinct Canadian voice that reflects the complexity of our intercultural society