

For immediate release: Oct 23, 2023

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***The Rocky Mountain Special* makes a stop at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, November 14-19**

Tickets & info: <https://buddiesinbadtimes.com/show/the-rocky-mountain-special/>

“...a stunning story that takes audience along on the journey to self-discovery”

— *Calgary Herald*

Buddies' 45th anniversary season continues next month with *The Rocky Mountain Special*, written, composed, and performed by Calgary-based songstress, theatre maker, and artist activist **Tiffany Thomas**. Tiffany (The Stratford Festival, Lunchbox Theatre, National Arts Centre, Musical Stage Company) brings a new iteration of her musical to the iconic Tallulah's Cabaret at Buddies. Soaring vocals, stirring lyrics, and scathing self-expression collide onboard *The Rocky Mountain Special*, a legendary bus tour through mountains, memes, displacement and dreams.

Searching for her Ancestors aboard a dilapidated Greyhound bus in a post-Wexit wasteland, an aging transfeminine songwriter is haunted by her cringeworthy younger self. Waking dreams, ancestors, and the pavement beneath, this one-woman musical tour-de-force takes audiences along for an epic, musical ride.

The Rocky Mountain Special was presented as *Zach (she/her)* at Intrepid Theatre Club and the National Arts Centre, and received further development support through Buddies' Seeding Work program in the 2022/23 season. The piece was first conceived in a residency at The Sunset Theatre in Wells BC, and various iterations of the story and songs appeared as *Kohkum & me* at the Calgary Fringe, and later as a concert confessional called *Zach (she/her)*, at Intrepid Theatre and The National Arts Centre. In *The Rocky Mountain Special*, Tiffany fully reimagines the story and characters into a brand new musical with designs by Anna Dalgleish and Kat Armstrong, transforming this memoir fantasia for the Buddies space and an audience old and young. Each performance will also be accompanied by a different local musical act following the play.

MEDIA INFO

INTERVIEWS – Listed artists are available for interviews in English. Contact aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com to arrange.

REVIEWS – Opening night is **Wednesday, November 15 at 7:30pm**. Contact Aidan at 416-975-9130 x 40 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com for accreditation, or to inquire about attending another performance.

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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ACCESSIBILITY + SPECIAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Performance atmosphere - While there is no designated 'relaxed performance' for this run, the show will allow latecomers, and coming and going. However, house lights in the space will be kept dim/off during the show.

Deaf-interpreted performance - Thursday, November 16 at 7:30pm: This performance will feature ASL interpretation by Deaf interpreter **Jaideep Goray**.

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR LISTINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents

The Rocky Mountain Special

by **Tiffany Thomas**

An elderly trans woman is haunted by her cringe-worthy younger self aboard the Rocky Mountain Special, a luxury coach from Calgary to Vancouver that she's been riding for the last forty years.

A guitar-driven, one woman musical tour-de-force about the quintessential Canadian urge to run from your past, *The Rocky Mountain Special* is a prayer for healing, a love letter to the lost kids of fragmented diasporas, and a playlist for the road-trip home.

Tiffany Thomas // Writer/Composer/Performer

Anna Dagleish // Production Designer

Kat Armstrong // Sound Designer

Performance information:

Previews: November 14

Opening Night: November 15

Closing Performance: November 19

Runs: Tues-Sat 7:30pm, Sun 2pm

Tickets: Sliding scale (\$10 / \$25 / \$40 / \$70)

<https://buddiesinbadtimes.com/show/the-rocky-mountain-special/>

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Tiffany Thomas is a songstress, theatre maker and artist advocate motivated by diasporic longing, disability justice, racial equity, and trans femme magic. She has appeared in theatres and daydreams across so called Canada, and is thrilled to bring this new iteration of her constantly evolving Greyhound musical to Buddies.

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.

buddiesinbadtimes.com

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