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THE RIOT SHOWGRRRLS CLUB

Touring Spring 2024

'The mixture of comedy, songs and some hard-hitting facts made for an electric evening, and then the space for chats and tunes after was just what I needed, thank you so much for this transformative event – viva la vulva!' Audience Member at The Riot Showgrrrls Club 2022

The Riot Showgrrrls Club is a cabaret show and participatory craftivism event using humour, songs and storytelling to entertain and encourage conversation about how much better than porn actual sex is.

Imagine a club where you are greeted with sparkling wine, a suggestive cake and the feminist hand-stamp of your choosing... In this club you are part of a show that combines Patriarchy Bingo, PowerPoint and madrigals about the vulva in a fast-paced, feel-good (mostly) feminist fling about great sex in an age of terrible porn.

The Riot Showgrrrls Club is run by your hosts, glamorous comediennes and singers who have the truth-telling powers of Cassandra, the political punch of Gloria Steinem and the high quality daftness of Melissa McCarthy (in her great films like the Heat and Spy, not those rubbish ones her husband directs).

How does such a night end? Well, after the show you stay on in the club to listen to the women-only DJ set, make your own club membership card with our Radical Craftivist, have some more drinks and get your conversation on – 'cos in our revolution we'll find sisterhood and there will be dancing!

Originally commissioned for the Gilded Balloon, Edinburgh in 2008, when lad mags were in their heyday, cabaret meant tit tassels and female stripping and porn was being mainstreamed right into our cultural veins, Scary Little Girls bravely took a pro-sex anti-porn show to Edinburgh.

We claimed that 'it's an empirical fact that feminists have the best sex' and used throbbing, electro-pop and gleeful, musical romps to lay out why and how porn ruins this – and what we can do to reclaim our sex lives.

Now in 2023, still putting the "camp" into "campaigning" and the "act" into "activism", our heroines Rebecca Mordan and Christina Li use games, comedy, songs and madrigals to the vulva to look at how we are faring in these days of hyper-social media and Pornhub.

The Riot Showgrrrls Club uses a cabaret format to pack a powerful political punch, while the wrap around activities create a safe space for conversation, connection and creative response.

FORMAT

The Riot Showgrrrls Club's cabaret format enables us to work with venues to determine the best programme for their audiences. The show works best when there is time to talk before the show as well as afterwards, when we've found people love to discuss their own experiences and responses to the show.

We suggest the following as the ideal format:

Pre show

Doors open and drinks & cakes are served, with time for chatting and getting to know each other, craftivism, 30 mins

Show

1 hour straight through

After show

Craftivism, DJ set, conversation, 30 to 60 mins

Our craftivists are professional artists who set up a welcoming participatory space where audience members can try techniques like printmaking and stamping to make radical slogan postcards and banners. We have found this activity section of the event to be an effective way to encourage people to talk about their responses to themes of the show, to build new alliances and to more easily express their desire for change than in more traditional post-show discussions.

We would love to work with venues to find locally based craftivists and dj's to join us, though we have a good network of artists to work with across the country.



Tech

Get in and out

We'd love 2 or 3 hours to get in and can get out in an hour.

Space

We've created The Riot Showgrrrls Club to be versatile enough for all kinds of playing spaces as well as traditional performance spaces. We presented the show in a cafe and gallery last year which had no stage and it worked well having the performances in close proximity to the audience.

Cabaret seating works wonderfully but isn't essential.

A big table in the space, or somewhere very nearby, is ideal for the craft activities.

If there's a bar open after the show for audience members to continue talking about the themes in the show, that's perfect!

On the road

2 performers and a stage manager

Audiences

Our work always attracts first time theatregoers and we appeal to those who attend comedy, cabaret, new writing and literature events as well as traditional theatre audiences. We explore sexuality and feminism so women's groups may be interesting marketing targets as well as students. In general it will be a good night out for all those who are simply up for a good night out and a laugh.

Scary Little Girls... stars of rural touring!
Lyn Gardner, The Guardian on This Evening, Today

Everybody is talking about Scary Little Girls... is it worth the hype? Yes!
The Independent

About Scary Little Girls

Scary Little Girls is a vibrant, hard-working production hub run by Artistic Director Rebecca Mordan. Our commitment and passion for theatrical and artistic storytelling is borne out by the variety of scary little work we have created and the support we have from our scary little artists and audiences.

We are an inclusive, imaginative, ever-evolving feminist production company committed to messages of hope and truth...and in telling them to new, wider and increasingly diverse audiences with casts to match.

We are fascinated by stories that cover a diversity of styles and themes, from political histories and classics to texts informed by the gothic, folklore and fairy tales. We love new writing, plays, cabaret, electro pop, film, photography and much, much more – and the artists who work with us in all these formats!

Previous work includes *Dracula: The Kisses*, at mac in Birmingham, *Minack* in Cornwall, *Lichfield Garrick*, *Landmark Ilfracombe*, *Exeter Northcott* & *The Theatre Chipping Norton*. *The Full Bronte*, which toured small scale venues including the studio at Nottingham Playhouse, Applause Rural Touring and St Agnes Library. And many more versatile shows that we have toured to venues, libraries, rural touring networks, town centres and beaches! See more about our past shows and events [here](#).

We aim for our audiences to have an exceptional time when they experience us and we believe every artist that is part of our artistic community has something unique and exciting to offer.

Our work has been generously supported by Arts Council England, Heritage Fund, Cornwall Council, FEAST Cornwall, Cornwall Community Foundation and People's Postcode Lottery.

The connection the performers from Scary Little Girls have with their audiences is nothing short of magical. Their shows are consistently inspired and innovative with wonderful characters you can't help but love. It's Your Round! was a hit with our audiences!

Karen Kidman, promoter and programmer for Creative Arts East

Scary Little Girls bring a delicious theatrical flair to your favourite pieces of literature and introduce you to works that will become new favourites.

Katy Snelling, Programmer, for Oxford Playhouse on Salon du Chocolat

www.scarylittlegirls.co.uk

Audience and press quotes for The Riot Showgirls Club

From Edinburgh performances:

Clarity and humanity, sensitivity, intelligence and a sense of humour - the two female performers are full of vitality...a musical romp with a message full of life about celebrating ourselves and living life to the full. See it!

Musical Theatre Matters

Two female singer-songwriters with sparkling wit and commanding stage presence. The cabaret elements aren't just a foil to get bums on seats, but a sideways approach to complex issues of the male gaze.

The List

Seamless performers and lovely singers.

The Scotsman

Moulin Rouge meets Angela Carter.

Three Weeks

Audience feedback - Cornwall 2022

'Thank you for such a joyful, treat of an evening'

'I've laughed and cried tonight and cried with laughter! I'll be looking closely at every cake I eat from now on!'

'The mixture of comedy, songs and some hard-hitting facts made for an electric evening, and then the space for chats and tunes after was just what I needed, thank you so much for this transformative event – viva la vulva!'

The Riot Showgirls Club is booking for spring 2024 and we would be delighted to talk to you about bringing the show to your venue. Contact our Producer, Sharon Foster, on 07919 417812 or sharon@sharonfoster.co.uk

www.scarylittlegirls.co.uk