"Reporting on the Fringe"

ISSUE#1 Friday, July 16, 2010

Plan 19 from Outer Space!!

People of Earth, we are among you. We look like you, talk like you, drink beer like you, but we are not you. We are the Jenny. Prepare to be assimilated.

What the?... Stupid (**whack!**), infernal (**Bang!**) universal (*yeah*, *right!*) language translation program. (Note to self: Don't buy technology from the **Jauas**).

OK, it's true that we ARE the Jenny. And we DO plan to assimilate you but only in the nicest possible way and only with your cooperation.

For those of you who have been living on another planet for the past 18 years, the Jenny Revue is the original Fringe media. Long before the big press outlets gave ink or airspace to any Fringe shows not originating from the UK or the US, we were burning the midnight oil to churn out pieces of paper much like the this one, wherein Fringe denizens of all origins and species are encouraged to extol the virtues or bemoan the foibles of the entertainment—or anything else—on offer at the 2010 Winnipeg Fringe Festival.

Assimilate me—So how do you become part of the Jenny mind meld?

Simple. Become one with the Fringe. See a show. Sample the outdoor entertainment. See the sights and hear the sounds. Then take pen and paper or sit down at a convenient computer keyboard and write about it. Of course there are some rules to this, and they are:

1. If you are commenting on a show you've seen, write the word REVIEW somewhere on the paper or in the body or the subject line of your email so we don't confuse it with...

2. Shameless Self Promotion (SSP). That's for Fringe performing companies to lure ticket buyers into tractor beam range of their shows. (There's a minor galaxy of 'em in today's and tomorrow's issues. But if your show isn't among them, shoot your 80-word pitch into our orbit. Your rules are in the performer's letter that came from us via the Fringe Festival office).



3. Sign your name. We treat anonymous comments much like we treat junk mail, be they good or bad. We shoot em out of the nearest garbage vent and they become space debris.

4. If you aren't emailing us from an address that we can contact you at by just hitting reply, then give us some the contact info we need if we have to clarify something. (You might have been very clear and precise, but as the festival wears on the editor begins to suffer space psychosis. Or at least that's what we're calling it this year).

5. If you're emailing us, send your reviews, SSPs, letters and other submissions to jennyrevue@ shaw.ca.

You can also connect to that directly from our web site at www.jennyrevue.ca where you can also peruse the Jenny once we've gotten the paper version out on the street. Those who use earthbound tools like pen and paper, can get your comments to us by putting them in a Jenny Box. You will find list of where all the Jenny boxes are located throughout the Fringe federation in a little section on the back page of any issue. The Jenny boxes are colourful looking wooden edifices where you can pick up the paper, leave your submissions and contribute (much needed) monetary donations.

6. Finally, you can find us every night at the King's Head pub (along with a large menu of British and Canadian beers, pub grub and delicious Indian fare). We're usually identifiable by the tuquoise and white, aged clamshell ibook computer taking up most of the table space. Drop by. Say hi. Give us you reviews and letters, and tell us your stories. And, what the heck, buy us a beer. You don't have to do that last one, but we're never so rude as to refuse generous offerings of any kind.

If you follow the rules, we'll soon see your literary efforts shining like stars in the Jenny universe. By the way, if you write something for any other publication or web site, that's

fine, of course, but do not a) ask us to find it and print it. (We won't), or b) send us a copy of it. Our space is too limited to use on submissions that are already accessible elsewhere. If you want to write something original about the same show for us, we're down with that.

Business—Please note that Die Rotten Punkte is 75 minutes long, not 60 minutes as per the program. So take that into account when planning your Fringe schedule. The same is true for Inland Ocean's Three Snapshots of Death, whose running time is an hour, not 45 minutes as per the program shedule.

Now I must power down for a while so I will be able to answer to the cries of the collective Fringe consciousness in issues yet to come...

Coral McKendrick

The Jenny Revue is a proudly independent publication NOT affiliated with the Winnipeg Fringe Festival

.....