

What Makes You Vibrate?



an original solo play by Becca Bernard

The Fainting Room is an original solo play that explores the effects of the mental/physical diagnosis of hysteria on our understanding of mental and sexual health today, while celebrating self love and agency over the care of our own bodies.

Paired with a companion workshop and/or talkback discussion, The Fainting Room is a fun, interactive, educational experience for your students.



www.beccanoelbernard/shows

 @the_fainting_room

#thefaintingroom

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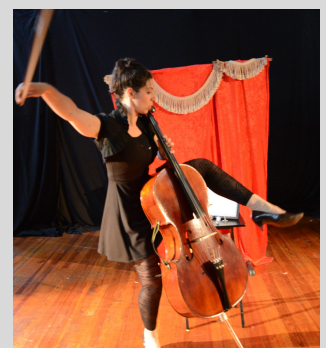
The Fainting Room

an original solo play
by Becca Bernard

*What Makes
You Vibrate?*

The Fainting Room is a critically-acclaimed solo performance inspired by historical sources. It is a vibrant, one of a kind celebration using music, comedy, larger than life characters and audience interaction to discuss issues of gender, mental health, sexuality and body positivity.

The work incites critical conversations to engage and enhance how we co-construct consent culture and non-violence.



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"Pro independence, pro critical thinking...an honest look at the struggles womxn have faced through the ages and still face today..."
-sayentirely.com



Synopsis

Inspired by true historic events, *The Fainting Room* follows the hilarious and heartfelt journey of a young woman who after fleeing her own wedding ceremony finds herself transported in time to an 1890's medical facility.

There, a doctor diagnoses her (and the entire audience) with the catch-all disease hysteria. The play chronicles her encounter with different doctors, exposing her to some of the absurd medical treatments and anatomical misunderstandings of the age. It explores how internalized sexism and social constructs have shaped reality and led to gender violence, delivering a unique message of positivity and agency over the care of our own bodies.

Past Performances Include



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POST-SHOW Options To Empower The Community:

- Group dialogue, facilitated by a faculty, staff member, or local expert or Becca who is certified by the Planned Parenthood of Massachusetts Sexuality Education Certification Series and as a Rape Crisis Counselor with The Anti-Violence Project
- Workshops that target specific ideas and/ or use performance and writing as a tool. Appropriate for all ages and adapted specifically for your institution's unique programming.



Fast Facts:

- The play is 60 minutes long
- It resonates well with audiences large and small
- Requires minimal tech support.

DOWNLOAD [The Fainting Room](#) Technical Rider [HERE](#)

Praise for the Show:

“Brilliant comic timing,”
delivered by a “one woman
dynamo.”

-Cincinnati City Beat

"An orgiastic encounter with wit,
silliness, song, finding self confidence
and a cello. It should not be missed."

-Elgin Walkabout

"Educational and entertaining."

-Nichole Hamilton

“Bernard has something to say.”

-Cincinnati CityBeat

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About the Artists

Becca Bernard (Writer & Performer) is an Off-Broadway performance artist who blends physical comedy, music and dance to communicate her ferociously optimistic perspective of the world. She works onstage as an actor, specializing in both ensemble and solo devised theatre with such companies as three- time Drama Desk Award nominee Parallel Exit in a special collaboration with Metropolis Ensemble, Animal Engine and The Celebration Barn Theatre. Her solo show The Fainting Room has toured to 5 different cities. As a clown she has worked with Clowns without Borders, The Zany Umbrella Circus, and the hospital organization Lev Leytzan. Becca studied Commedia Dell' Arte, mask performance and clown at the Accademia Dell Arte in Arezzo, Italy and has an MFA in theatre pedagogy, directing and choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is certified by the Planned Parenthood of Massachusetts Sexuality Education Certification Series and as a Crisis Counselor with The Anti-Violence Project.



Melinda Ferraraccio (Director) holds a BFA in physical theater studies from Niagara University and an MA in expressive arts therapy from the European Graduate School in Switzerland where she studied with the founding members of the Pan Theatre. She also attended intensives at the School of Physical Theater in London and the New York Goofs ultimate clown school. She was a founding member and artistic director of the award-winning Brass Tacks Theatre Company in NYC. Melinda has clowned around with Clowns without Borders and Clowns Ex Machina. Melinda is currently creating and devising with Animal Engine, and Here There Be Fools. She is also the director of sibling support at Friends of Karen, a not for profit organization supporting families of children battling serious or life threatening illnesses. Check out more about her work at Healingwitharts.com.



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