



Introducing Tanya Marquardt!

Blog
Larissa
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Introducing Tanya Marquardt: co-creator and performer for Stray

Tanya Marquardt is a memoirist, writer and performer who lives and works in Lenapehoking (Brooklyn, NY) and on unceded xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Səl̓ílwətaʔ, and Skwxwú7mesh Nations (Vancouver, BC). Her memoir *Stray: Memoir of a Runaway* was published by Little A in September 2018, and was named a Best Queer History and Bio Pic of 2018 by LGBTQ Magazine *The Advocate*. Tanya performed a meta-memoir punk version of *Stray* (co-created with Tim Carlson and Mallory Catlett) at NYC's The Tank, and at SummerWorks before bringing the show to Pi Provocateur Series and Magnetic North. Her performance works have been presented in New York at Dixon Place, Brooklyn Museum, BAX, Soto Clemente Center, Mabou Mines and the Collapsable Hole; and in Canada at PuSh, VIDF, Dancing on the Edge, the Pivot Festival, VIVO, and the Pride Festival. Tanya has been supported by the NY Foundation for the Arts, Poets & Writers, Canada Council for the Arts, and the BC Arts Council. Performance Credits (NYC) include: a *Dying Swan* with Ballez, a brooklyn based LGBTQITS+ ballet company in their show *Sleeping Beauty & the Beast* at LaMama Experimental Theatre; *The Third Man* as part of APAP with Nicolas Norena and Vital Joint; *Canadians Are Mean* (Melanie Jones: BAX); and *BADrum* with HORSE theatre. She has worked as a performer and/or deviser with companies Bluemouth Inc., radix theatre, Mabou Mines, Theatre Conspiracy, the only animal, and The Leaky Heaven Circus, among others. Her play *Transmission* was published in the *Canadian Theatre Review*, and *Some Must Watch While Some Must Sleep*, about her life as a sleepwalker, was the subject of an episode of NPR's *Invisibilia*. A graduate of Hunter College's MFA Program in Memoir and the BFA in Theatre program from Simon Fraser University, Tanya is currently writing a second memoir and collaborating with dancer Deanna Peters and Lighting Rod Special's Alice Yorke (Philadelphia).

A quick Q/A with Tanya:

Pi Theatre: What is your favourite band or song?

Tanya: Current fave is a toss between "Lost on You" by LP and "She Bop" by Cyndi Lauper.

Pi: What is your favourite lyric and why?

T: Leonard Cohen "Love Calls You By Your Name": You thought that it could never happen / to all the people you became / your body lost in legend / the beast so very tame / But here, right here / between the birthmark and the stain / between the ocean and your open vein / between the snowman and the rain / once again, once again / love calls you by your name. It reminds me of the movie "Call me by your name" and of the wild surprising creatures inside us all.

Pi: What is your favourite quote?

T: I am at home everywhere, and nowhere. I am never a stranger, and I never quite belong." -Georges Simenon

Pi: What was the worst job you ever had?

T: Made sammies at Quizno's for two months before I was fired.

Pi: What is your favourite off-time activity?

T: Dress up and dance party solo in my living room.

Pi: What is your favourite book/play?

T: Current fave: A Little in Love with Everyone by Genevieve Hudson & the Dykes to Watch Out For Anthology by Alison Bechdel

Pi: What is your personal philosophy?

T: Don't know: forget.

Pi: What is your greatest moment?

T: Finishing this questionnaire.

Pi: What is something you would rather forget?

T: Don't know; forgot.

Pi: Do you have any other interesting or quirky skills/interests/hobbies?

T: Into geology and know lots about lustre and hardness; like to make perogies from scratch; am into sequins.

[Stray by Tanya Marquardt runs from 14-15 June!](#)
[Tickets available here.](#)

Find Tanya online:

www.tanyamarquardt.com

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