

FAT JOKE

BY CHEYENNE ROULEAU



Photo of Cheyenne Rouleau by Baevocative Photography

A Newworld Theatre Production
Presented by Presentation House Theatre

Apr 16 — 18, 2026

NEWORLD
THEATRE

presentation
HOUSE THEATRE

Fat Joke

A Newworld Theatre Production
Presented by Presentation House Theatre

Dates and Times:

Apr 16 – 18, 2026

Show length:

Approximately 75 minutes with
no intermission

CREATIVE TEAM

Created and performed by Cheyenne Rouleau

Directed by Chelsea Haberlin

Dramaturgy by Jiv Parasram

Set Design: Jenn Stewart

Assistant to the Set Designer: Naju Ururahy

Sound Design: Mary Jane Coomber

Projection Design: Andie Lloyd

Original Costume: Jessie Jade Churchill

Tour Costume Designer & Community Outreach Coordinator: Alexa Fraser

Stage Manager: Jasmin Sandhu

Community Development Consultant: Layla Cameron

Accessibility Consultant: Siobhan Barker

Production Manager: Jasmine Chen

Technical Director: Jamie Sweeney

Assistant Technical Director: Brianna Bernard

Associate Technical Director: June Hsu

NEWORLD STAFF

Artistic Director: Chelsea Haberlin

Managing Director: Alen Dominguez

Producer: Jasmine Chen

Community Engagement Manager: Angelica Schwartz

Resident Technician: Brianna Bernard

Ensemble Producer: Daniela Atencia

ABOUT NEWORLD THEATRE



**NEWORLD
THEATRE**

We create, produce and tour plays and performances that explore who we are through different perspectives, privileges, and lived experiences. We challenge existing systems of oppression by telling stories that are as complicated and contradictory as the world we live in. newworldtheatre.com

ABOUT PRESENTATION HOUSE THEATRE



**presentation
HOUSE THEATRE**

Nestled in the heart of North Vancouver's Lower Lonsdale, Presentation House Theatre is a home for the arts, a neighbourhood creative cultural centre providing the community with a dynamic mix of professional performing arts productions and programs — all just a Seabus away from downtown Vancouver. We are the North Shore's professional theatre company and home to the PHT Creative Hub. We proudly offer programming for children and youth, adults young and old.

SHOW ADVISORY:

Please note that this show contains significant discussion of fatphobia and diet culture. Additionally, it contains sensitive themes, mentions of abortions, complicated pregnancies, slavery, eugenics, racism, systemic oppression, and sexual assault. And it's really funny. Promise.



Canadian Actors'
EQUITY
Association

Presentation House Theatre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the jointly negotiated Canadian Theatre Agreement.



ADC Associated
Designers of
Canada

Presentation House Theatre engages professional designers who are members of the Associated Designers of Canada. These designers appear with permission of the Associated Designers of Canada.

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PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE



I'm not funny because I'm fat, I'm funny because my parents got divorced. That's just science.

What started as a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on Fatphobia meant to educate some shitty coworkers at my shitty office job has somehow turned into this. I'm so grateful to Chelsea for encouraging me to go down the rabbit hole of stories, facts, and introspection that has become *Fat Joke*, made possible by an enthusiastic producing team at Newworld, and made comprehensible by a hilarious and astute dramaturg, Jiv.

If there is one thing I've figured out from writing this play it's that fitness is simultaneously incredibly important and completely irrelevant. And comedy is simultaneously incredibly unimportant and completely relevant.

– Cheyenne Rouleau, *Playwright*

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Melanie Yeats

Dani Fecko

GNW (Leigh, Kyle and John)

Rokko Fabrics

The Cultch

Rumble Theatre

Isobel Bemrose-Fetter

Heather Glasgow

Mikenzie Page

Christine Quintana

Each performance is followed by a facilitated talkback.

PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



Cheyenne Rouleau — *Creator and Performer*

Cheyenne Rouleau is an actor, director, writer, and producer from Burnaby BC. Their smash hit play, ***The After After Party***, has garnered them multiple awards including The Georgia Straight's Critic's Choice Award, Pick of the Fringe, and the CULTCHivating the Fringe Award, as well as 5 stars across multiple national publications, and their play ***SUNRISE BETTIES***, produced by ITSAZOO, premiered this past February at the Russian Hall, to an almost completely sold out run. Their recent acting appearances include Blockbuster (NBC) ***The Good Doctor*** (ABC) and ***Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies*** (paramount +)



Chelsea Haberlin — *Director*

Chelsea Haberlin, BFA (UVic), MFA (UBC) has lived most of her life on the traditional and unceded territories of the Coast Salish people, specifically the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations and is honoured to call this gorgeous place her home. She is the Artistic Director of Newworld Theatre and Associate Artist with ITSAZOO Productions, a company she co-founded in 2006. As a director she has worked with: ITSAZOO Productions, Newworld Theatre, Arts Club Theatre, Firehall Arts Centre, Theatre SKAM, Pacific Theatre, Delinquent Theatre, Studio 58, and many more. Chelsea is forever searching for new ways to surprise and engage an audience and is particularly passionate about meaningful collaboration, immersive environments, community engagement, and reconciliation. She is the recipient of the Sydney J Risk award in directing, the Ray Michal award for outstanding body of work by an emerging director and a two-time winner and five-time Jessie Richardson Award nominee for Outstanding Direction.



Jiv Parasram — *Dramaturg*

Jivesh (Jiv) Parasram is a multidisciplinary artist of Indo-Caribbean descent. He is the founding Artistic Producer of the (once less unfortunately titled) socio-political collective “Pandemic Theatre” which he runs with close collaborator Tom Arthur Davis, and the Artistic Director of Rumble Theatre. These days he is based primarily on the Unceded Coast Salish Territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓íl̓wətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations, as well as the waterways of the Stol:o people – AKA Vancouver. Jiv has received numerous awards and nominations for his work both in terms of artistic output and community service over the years. He is a recipient of Two Harold Awards, a Herald Angel from the Edinburgh Festival, and the Toronto Arts Foundation Emerging Artist Award.



Jenn Stewart — *Set Designer*

Jenn Stewart is a multi-disciplinary theatre artist working on the unceded lands of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓íl̓wətał (Tseil-Waututh) peoples. Selected credits include: **Selfie** (Seizieme, set and costumes), **Wet** (Itsazoo, set), **Kuroko** (VACT, props), **She Mami Wata...** (Frank, set) and **S'effondrent les vidéoclubs** (Seizieme, set). She has been part of the stage management team at Bard on the Beach since 2013 and has worked in a variety of roles at Caravan Farm theatre. Jenn is excited for her first collaboration with the artists at Newworld. She studied at Studio 58 and UBC and is a member of CAEA and the ADC659. www.jenniferannstewart.com

PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM



Mary Jane Coomber — *Sound Designer*

Mary Jane Coomber {they/them} is a collaborative music and sound artist who primarily works on the unceded, sovereign territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh people. Recent theatre collaborations include ***Hurricane Mona*** (Touchstone), ***How Black Mothers Say I Love You*** (Frank), ***The Tempest*** (Studio 58), ***Division Infinity Saves The World!*** (Newworld), ***Rubaboo*** (Grand/Arts Club), ***My Little Tomato*** (vAct/ZeeZee), ***Me Love Bingo*** (Arts Club), ***In My Day*** (ZeeZee), ***YAGA*** (Touchstone), ***To Perfection*** (Shameless Hussy), ***Kindred*** (Belfry), ***White Girls in Moccasins*** (Frank Theatre), ***Oz*** and ***Ladies & Gentlemen Boys & Girls*** (Carousel Theatre), and ***Beautiful Man*** (Pi Theatre). They are a member of ADC and graduate of the School of Contemporary Arts at SFU.



Andie Lloyd — *Projection Designer*

Andie Lloyd is a queer & disabled interdisciplinary artist and community advocate. They work in a multitude of capacities, including, but not limited to: lighting and projection design, interaction development, digital platform consultation, production management and interdisciplinary collaboration. Andie studied Theatre Production at Studio 58, and is currently a Co-Digital Technologist at Progress Lab 1422. Notable recent projects include: ***LAKBAY*** (Joshua Ongcol, Rumble Theatre), and ***whip*** (Montréal, arts interculturels, FakeKnot). In 2022, they will be working on the world premiere of ***Clean/Espejos*** (Newworld Theatre), and presenting a full-length hybrid production of ***Selfie***, both written by Christine Quintana. ***GFHG SDGM. Land Back.***



Alexa Fraser

— *Tour Costume Designer & Community Outreach Coordinator*

Alexa Fraser is a performer, director, designer, producer and facilitator who creates and lives on the unceded and occupied territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliiwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations colonially known as “Vancouver, British Columbia”. They are co-founder of theatrecorps, a design based contemporary theatre company with Matthew Winter. Alexa is a self-identified plus sized queer artist and proud performer, producer and historian within “Vancouver’s” burlesque and cabaret scenes. They are a graduate of Simon Fraser School for the Contemporary Arts, holding a BFA in Theatre Performance (2018). They are artistic director and founder of Juicy Gems, an all fat and plus sized cabaret collective, that was recently featured and became an award winning group at Fatlesque Northwest (Seattle, 2024). Recent theatre work includes: Divine Figures (Newworld Theatre, 2023), Blood Wedding: A Trans Fantasia (Angelica Schwartz, 2023), SUPER HEAVY Pop III **Death** (Jarín Schexnider, 2023), Archive (The Darlings, 2023), Gestural Symphony No.1 (theatrecorps, 2022), Are You Watching? (Eve Middleton- Meyer, 2021), New Societies (Summerworks, In The Soil, Kick & Push, rEvolver, SFU SCA 2019-2023), Juicy Gems (2021), Richmond Maritime Festival Featured Storyteller (2020), The Democratic Set (Back to Back Theatre, PuSh Festival 2020), These Violent Delights (Cole Lewis, SummerWorks Festival, 2017).

Alexa’s other interests reside in researching and sharing “Vancouver” nightlife and sex work history, collecting vintage cabaret and playboy ephemera as well as watching the sun set on the Salish Sea/Fraser River in their former neighborhood in “Richmond, B.C”.

You can check out their technicolour world of wonder at alexanmfraser.com



Jasmin Sandhu — *Stage Manager*

Jasmin (she/her) is a stage manager & production manager working & living on the traditional, unceded, and occupied territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the x̱w̱m̱əθkw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. Select stage management credits; ***How Black Mothers Say I Love You*** (ASM, the frank theatre), ***Truth & Lies*** (Pi Theatre), ***Teenage Dick*** (ASM, ACTC), ***The Three Little Pigs*** (CTYP), ***Otosan*** (Little Onion Puppet Co.), ***Classic Country Roads*** (ASM, Chemainus Theatre Festival), ***NOW, WAVE/S, HORIZON/S, OVERTURE/S, Reveal + Tell & What If*** (ASM, Ballet BC), ***East Van Panto: Alice in Wonderland*** (ApSM, Theatre Replacement), ***No Child*** (ApSM, ACTC), ***It's a Wonderful Life & Herringbone*** (ApSM, Patrick Street Productions), ***Next to Normal & The Nether*** (West Moon Theatre). Select other credits; ***Uninterrupted*** (VR Staging Manager, Canada Wild Arts Society) & ***Amélie the Musical*** (Production Manager, West Moon Theatre).



Layla Cameron — *Community Development Consultant*

Dr. Layla Cameron (they/she) is an academic and filmmaker whose research and creative projects are grounded in queer cultural studies and fat studies. Layla is currently a Lecturer in the Department of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies at the University of British Columbia - Okanagan, and in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University. Their first film, ***Fat Hiking Club***, was completed in 2018, and they are currently working on a second film, ***Baby Weight***, with the BC and Yukon Studio of the National Film Board of Canada. Layla also produces and directs the ***fatten*** podcast. You can read more about Layla and their work at www.laylacameron.com.



Siobhan Barker — *Accessibility Consultant*

Siobhan is a Nationally recognized bilingual social justice and equity advocate sought as a Public Speaker, Community Engagement Organiser, Writer, Facilitator, Performer, Poet, Singer and Storyteller. Siobhan's stories often centre on culturally-linked myths and fables sometimes featuring creation-tales or stories that emphasize preserving global resources. They have toured various regions performing and public speaking to raise awareness and stimulate discussion within diverse communities. Siobhan has developed and implemented community engagement programs, projects focussed on equity, parity, disability-justice and anti-colonialist practice, guiding capacity building, professional development, education initiatives and stakeholder development through a social justice framework.

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