

THE FEAST OF ARGENTINA GINA CATELINA

ABOUT

A supper show... sumptuous food... stupendous stories. The sangria is cool, the charcoal meats are sizzling, the seafood is plump, the strawberries tumble one upon the other in abandon.

Moira Finucane's magnificent, rapacious, sensuous and outrageous storyteller Argentina Gina Catalina – acclaimed throughout the world for her feats of daring, sensuality and fervour – seduces her audience with spellbinding frocks, gob-smacking tales and delectable morsels. Arrive for sangria, and tumble inside for stories and supper.

"One of the all-time great performances...utterly enthralling" The Australian

"An orgy of gorgeousness"... It is literally, a feast" Herald Sun

"Delectable performance ... spellbinding frocks...a sumptuous hour of theatre" The Age

Commissioned by the Adelaide Cabaret Festival in 2007, The Feast brings together Moira Finucane's outrageous diva Argentina with fairground icon and gourmand KT Prescott to create a whirlwind of tales and tastes. From the sizzling Opera Houses of Madrid, to the alleys of Barcelona with her 12 bulging dogs looking for meat; from markets bursting with pomegranates and suckers of squids; to mayhem on the high seas surrounded by 2,000 pirates and a sea boiling with piranhas, from her childhood spent worshipped by wolves, killer whales, bandidoes and bears in the Arctic circle, to a small cake made of fire and the love of the Virgin and her ascension into the sun ... The Feast is a wild and delicious manifestation of Argentina's most extraordinary tales.

Specialising in local and seasonal produce, and the very best of local providores The Feast concocts a menu straight from Argentina's wildest moments – ice-cream icebergs with blood on the snow coulis, platters of mountain cured meats, dishes bursting with the fruits of the sea, cakes direct from the Virgin, sangria, rosé, sizzling chorizo, fruits tumbling one upon the other in abandon. Literary and luscious, there is no better way to spend your supper time.

CREATORS

Creators: Moira Finucane & Jackie Smith

Argentina Gina Catalina written & performed by Moira Finucane

Director: Jackie Smith

Feast Gourmand: KT Prescott with Feats

Food stylists: Cath Carmody & Betty Siemers

FINUCANE & SMITH

THE FEAST OF ARGENTINA GINA CATELINA

Set Designer: Esther Hayes

Costume Designer: David Anderson

Lighting Designer: Kerry Ireland & Bronwyn Pringle

PERFORMANCE HISTORY

Nov 2010 Adelaide Feast Festival

Mar 2010: La Mama Theatre, Melbourne

Mar 2009: La Mama Theatre, Melbourne

Jun 2007: Premiere season Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Adelaide Festival Centre

Jun 2007: Sneak preview La Mama Theatre, Melbourne

The Feast of Argentina Gina Catalina was commissioned by The Adelaide Cabaret Festival, and premiered at the Adelaide Festival Centre with the support of La Mama Theatre.

REVIEWS

"Moira Finucane, in The Feast of Argentina Gina Catalina, goes down as having delivered one of the all-time great performances of this festival. In tales of romantic adventure that grow ever more bizarre and bloodcurdling in their imagery, Finucane is utterly enthralling ... a sensory onslaught like no other" The AUSTRALIAN

Moira Finucane's latest one-woman-but-what-a-woman extravaganza... is an orgy of gorgeousness, of words and music, food and drink. It is literally, a feast... Delirious, intoxicating, dazzlingly poetic" Herald Sun MELBOURNE

"Onstage, performance artist Moira Finucane becomes an embodiment of wild fantasy, creating complex confections that inflame the imagination and the senses... Argentina Gina Catalina is a Spanish adventuress with rapacious appetites. Raised by wild animals, her passions steer her from the blazing summers of Madrid to the freezing wastes of the North Pole. Everywhere she goes, she drives pirates and banditos before her. Nothing can shake her commitment to the Virgin. Nothing, it seems, can sate her desire... Finucane has a great time with this sensuous parody - delivering these ludicrous episodes with physical intensity and camp zest, in a series of spellbinding frocks. Christou's food gets in on the act, with some wry theatrical presentation: a meat platter arrives featuring vertebrae, followed by an orgy of seafood, a riot of fruit and vegetables, and "blood on the snow" organic ice-cream with raspberry coulis. The Feast Of Argentina Gina

FINUCANE & SMITH

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Catalina is a delectable performance all round... a sumptuous hour of theatre" The Age MELBOURNE

"In five daringly original monologues, she at once summed up cabaret and redefined it at the same time. Each was a mesmerising adventure tale, spun with ever increasing fantasy and overwrought romantic-sexual imagery... And as she sweeps out at the conclusion of each monologue, in roll voluptuous food platters of barbecued and cured meats, seafood and desserts that tie in cleverly with the themes of her tales. The whole experience was a marvellous sensory overload" Adelaide Review ADELAIDE

"Finucane's delivery is seethingly forceful, and her colourfully opulent costumes, plus the rich food platters that accompany each of her monologues, all combine to make this a sensory onslaught like no other" The AUSTRALIAN

"The Feast of Argentina Gina Catalina combines fantastical story telling with a feast for the senses – food, wine, music, atmosphere, and most importantly, a mesmerising performance by performance artist and writer Moira Finucane make this a show not to be missed" AUSTRALIAN Stage

"Moira Finucane never fails to amuse and amaze audiences. Her wild, contemporary burlesque performances are notorious and The Feast of Argentina Gina Catalina is no exception. Her creation, the vivacious and heavily accented Argentina Gina Catalina, tantalises us with her original brand of magical realism, sensual and passionate characterisation, religious references, extravagant costumes and simply delicious platters of food (by KT Prescott) delivered with a flourish by waiters between stories. Her performance, is almost as edible as the food ... Finucane's gnashing teeth, swirling skirts and piercing gaze combined with the tasty morsels, make this a feast for all the senses" Herald Sun MELBOURNE

TECH SPECS

Available on request: tech@moirafinucane.com

FINUCANE & SMITH