



INERTIA

BY

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Introducing Inertia

Inertia is an original play that explores the five stages of grief and healing through poetry, authentic dialogue, visual aesthetics and movement.

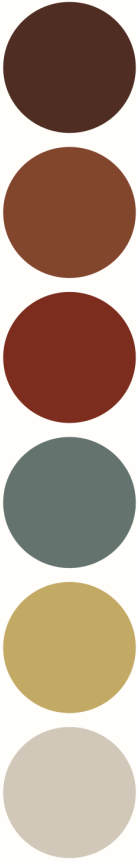
We follow the journey of Frida, a recent widow to an abusive husband navigating complex grief, patriarchal oppression and motherhood. Her past trauma deeply affects her current relationships with people around her, making it difficult for her to relate and accept love.

Set in the early 90s post the fall of the Soviet Union in Eastern Europe, Inertia explores the feminine condition infringed on many women at that time. Frida struggles to battle with the weight of the patriarchal society she is part of. From this, we witness the raw decline of her mental state and her heart-breaking struggle with identity.

For this production, we have three core aims:

- Explore an under-represented cultural demographic.
- Collaborate with early career creatives
- Prioritise creativity, community and accessibility.

The Aesthetics



The Set



This minimalist set allows for focus on complex characterisation and sensitive themes within the play. The use of fabric emphasises the impact of movement and emotional flow. The windows of light allude to Frida's separation from the outside world and her struggle to break patriarchal barriers. Lighting will focus on inviting colour and life to the play, facilitating Frida in her healing journey. All of this alludes to the oppressive barriers of the Soviet Union, and Frida's persistent drive to break these down.

Introducing the team

Trudy Kalvynaite

Writer and Director

My artistic identity is structured around **observation, reflection and assimilation of human experience**. This has led me to produce art of a humanistic, expressionistic and relatable nature. As a visual artist, I focus on figurative painting and portraiture, capturing the essences of people through colour, line and play. As a writer, I focus on human experience through plays, novellas, and poems, consisting of direct, dramatically toned language with a sense of a profound reality.

My goal as an artist is to **communicate sincere emotion** to a wide audience, feelings common to the human experience, like grief, sadness, delight, anger, and share them in a way which people find relatable and intimate. Having held my own exhibition with six-week running workshops at the Salisbury Centre in 2022, I had achieved that sense of community with my art, as we shared the space, we discussed emotions that my paintings evoked in people and explored that further through **movement, writing and voice**.

I believe that theatre converges my artistic abilities into one, allowing me to flourish in my creative strengths, in that way allowing me to contribute my writing, my painter's eye, and my drama experience to create something as special as Inertia. With a passion for dramaturgy from a young age, I have strived for and experienced expressionist theatre as an actor and assistant director at multiple Edinburgh Fringe shows. This would be my first giant directing project, and since it is a **story coming from my own heart and mind**, nurtured by the knowledge behind me and the collaborators around me, I am confident in its ability to communicate, touch, shock and inspire audiences looking for hope, community and artistic expression.

Introducing the team

Aude Naudi-Bonnemaison

Producer

I am a theatre practitioner, writer and workshop facilitator focusing on **championing meaningful storytelling, collaboration and inclusivity.**

I am currently a freelance facilitator for Class Act with the Traverse Theatre and have assisted in delivering creative workshops at the National Museum of Scotland for young people. These projects ignited a passion in me for developing safe, creative spaces.

My collaborative work includes performing in Threads as part of the young company of Sanctuary Queer art, co-delivering movement workshops at the Little Living room and co-writing and directing Purple, a coming of age show tackling the under discussed topic of Asexuality for the Edinburgh Fringe. Merging different experiences in a project results in work that is richer and more meaningful for everyone involved.

As an early career practitioner, this producing role is the perfect position for me to solidify the skills I have previously acquired in other creative administrative roles. Inertia will not only further my professional experience but also allow for my creative practice to flourish. My own **personal research** has surrounded the label of **madness placed on women without addressing the patriarchal biases of society.** This is at the heart of Inertia's message and why I connect so much with the piece.

I am also particularly drawn to this project due to the **focus on movement to support the narrative.** This echoes previous experience I have of impactful communication through movement.

I have been deeply touched by Trudy's writing and I am honoured to be able to participate in bringing this play to life.

Why program Inertia ?

Contribute to the telling of this under represented narrative

Trudy, a writer with 15 years of consistent engagement, has dedicated her focus to untold stories intertwined with **taboos and trauma**, often from **Eastern and Central Europe**. Inertia, her first major directing project, originated as a **collection of short stories in Lithuanian** in 2018, drawing inspiration from the **struggles her grandmother shared**.

Underrepresented narratives within Trudy's family

While effects of the Soviet Union have been explored thoroughly in a socio anthropological context, creative texts have not stemmed beyond occupied countries and remained very **insular**. Inertia aims to break that barrier by **positioning itself in central discourse within the Edinburgh theatre scene**. Trudy, inspired by her Lithuanian grandmother's tales of oppression, particularly of women, felt driven to write Inertia after observing her grandmother's pain but also desensitisation to these issues. She aims to **evoke a more empathetic and emotionally attuned perspective while using true events as motivation**.

Underrepresented narratives happening now

In the wake of the political and violent unrest in Ukraine since February 2022, Trudy, along with many creatives, have felt compelled to share stories from a part of the world under-represented in the UK art scene. With a **huge lack of media coverage** in the last 18 months, **this war has tragically become background noise** in the UK, making **Inertia more relevant than ever**.

Bringing underrepresented narratives to the UK

The goal is to create not only artistic but also emotional awareness of human experiences beyond the UK, addressing a **desperate need** we perceive in the local theatre scene.

There is a clear connection between Trudy's family's stories and the contemporary world, not just in Eastern Europe but also in the UK. Inertia, therefore, represents parts of the modern world as well as parts of history.

Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to read our pitch pack. If you are interested in programming our show, we would love to hear from you!

Get in touch

Email us on
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