

GUEST MUSICIANS INSPIRE

**BEAUTY
LOVE
TRUTH**

IMPROVISED SCENES

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**Beauty Love Truth:
Guest Musicians Inspire Improvised Scenes**

SHOW DATE: Saturday, October 19, 2013 8pm
Standard Toykraft 722 Metropolitan Ave, Brooklyn,
New York. L to Graham or G to Metropolitan. \$10.

Oct 7, 2013 New York - After a decade of performances at bars and theaters (UCB, PIT, Magnet, Barrow Street) *Beauty Love Truth*— improvised scenes inspired by a live musician — begins a monthly residency at Williamsburg's Standard Toykraft.

Wonderful guest musicians play a few of their songs, and after each song, the rotating cast of improvisers create scenes inspired by the mood, images, themes, or words from the song.

Nothing is planned; sweet, tragic, or ridiculous relationships unfold, worlds are created or destroyed, souls enlightened or crushed, and magic truths underscored with laughter.

Recent musical guests include: Georgia and Ira from Yo La Tengo, The Spring Standards, Bob Dorough, Mike Doughty, Chris Mills, Lianne Smith, Warren Malone, David Nagler, Niall Connolly, Common Prayer, and many more.

This month's show will feature special musical guests STRANGER CAT (Cat Martino and Sven Britt) to inspire the scenes. MORE: <http://strangercat.com>



Show creator Shannon Manning, who studied improv with Del Close in Chicago (and at Second City and UCB, and later cofounded Magnet

Theater) says, "*Beauty Love Truth* was a response to the tragedy a decade ago in New York. The title came from an attempt to distill 'What is the Point of Anything Anyway' into three words...shout Beauty! Love! Truth! to the sky when you say it! So we get to explore the images and ideas of the musicians, and celebrate the art of others, which is the heart of our philosophy of improvisation (and of life!): to listen, to learn, to build on someone else's ideas, to make one another look good, to serve the whole. Of course the show also goes into goofball territory but we need that, too. The music grounds the show, spiritually and structurally."

The show is also inspired by a vision to build community, drawing on performers and audiences from music, improv, standup, writing worlds. Every show is introduced by a writer or comedian who presents something on the topic of beauty, love, and/or truth. The cast always includes some returning improvisers and a few new ones, and even some guest actors who usually do not improvise. "The audience is the most important part of this community," says Shannon. "We

believe there is something magical about the experience of live music, and of improv, and being in New York gives us the opportunity, the calling, to collaborate. Our audience becomes a part of that experience with us, the active listening, and the discovery.”

Manning and fellow Beauty Love Truther Louie Pearlman annually teach and perform *Beauty Love Truth* in Calgary, AB, Canada with local musicians and improvisers, and are hoping to bring the show to more cities so people can create their own forms based on the model and foster more music/comedy crossovers.

The cast of improvisers for the OCT 19, 2013 performance

Matt Higgins (Centralia, Burn Manhattan)

Dan Hodapp (PIT, UCB)

Ed Illades (IO Chicago)

Shannon Manning (Second City, IO, UCB, “Conan”)

Doug Moe (“Doug Moe is a Bad Dad,” UCB’s MOTHER, “30 Rock,” “Conan”)

Louie Pearlman (“Billy on the Street”, Story Pirates, Spidey Project)

Alexis Saarela (C. Monster, Taco Supreme)

Rylan Venegas (Magnet)



INTRO BY: [LIAM MCENEANEY](#)

(ASpecialThing Records debut album, “Comedian,” Comedy Central, Showtime’s “Caroline Rhea & Friends,” Vh1’s “Best Week Ever,” and concert film, [“Tell Your Friends! The Concert Film!”](#)) who will speak on the subject of Beauty Love AND/OR Truth.



Some testimonials from recent guests:

Matt Higgins: *I LOVE it! The profoundly talented monologists and musical guests of Beauty Love Truth gift the improvisers with vivid imagery and feeling. These images and feelings and rhythms and melodies suggest and inspire rich environment. The music, especially, sets up the improvisation with sincerity. And sincerity is where the kind of funny I love comes from.*

Betsy Todd: *The musical aspect of the show is a definite bonus. While watching and listening to Mike play, I found myself really involved and invested in what he was doing. And because he was so serious and so great, it gave the improvisers room to do any type of scenes we wanted. Even if the scenes were riotously funny, it still worked with his music because it's all coming from a place of real emotion.*

Ed Illades: *My experience with Beauty Love Truth was wonderful, specifically the Spring Standards show. You run the most organized improv show I've ever been a part of, and it feels great because it made me feel like I was in good hands. The format of the show is a lot of fun because it almost forces you to slow down while you listen to the music, and it keeps resetting you as an improviser as well as inspiring you further. It keeps an energy through the show that is consistent. The best part of the experience for me was (a) hearing the Spring Standards and being a collaborator with them, and (b) getting to play and collaborate with such wonderful, experienced improvisers, all of whom are willing to play slower and patient and emotional improv.*

Some recent musical guests:



BEAUTY LOVE TRUTH at Standard Toykraft 722 Metropolitan Ave, Brooklyn, New York. L to Graham or G to Metropolitan. Running Time: 60 mins. \$10.

Drinks will be available.

Special guests will sometimes be unpublicized so join the mailing list at <http://beautylovetruth.tv>.