



For Immediate Release

DON'T DIS-MY-DANCE-ABILITY

New Theatre Work Defying Expectations About Disability

FAIRFIELD – 13 November 2009 – The 'I Love You' theatre project, based on a real story from a young woman who lives with a disability, has headed into the second-stage of creative development.

"I want to show the audience some of the many challenges I faced through my life and what I had overcome to succeed in life with my abilities," said Janet Diane, writer and performer of the 'I Love You' project.

Started in 2008, Powerhouse Youth Theatre (PYT) has been supporting Janet Diane to write her first performance based on her life experiences as a young woman who defies expectation to pursue her own dreams.

Over the next few weeks, Janet, Tanya Dickson (Director of 'I Love You'), and dancers Yamila Falcon and Alvaro Gonzalez, will embark on the project's second creative development phase, exchange ideas and push the boundaries of integrated performance. The project will launch a work-in-progress showcase on 4th December as a part of International Day of People With a Disability (IDPWD) celebration.

"This will be a piece of theatre knotted through with emotion, Tango and humour," said Tanya Dickson, Director of 'I Love You'. "A collaborative exploration, delving into dance, memories, desires and of course a young woman's love of shoes." she continued.

"We are very excited about the second-stage of 'I Love You' project, particularly for the chance to create awareness amongst a wider audience of the work that is going on in the field of integrated performance," said Claudia Chidiac, Artistic Director PYT.

This project is produced by PYT, supported by Accessible Arts Small Grants funds, and takes place as a part of the Don't DisMyAbility program.

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WHEN Friday 4 December 2009, 7pm

WHERE School of Arts, Betty Warwick Theatre
19 Harris Street Fairfield

MEDIA CONTACT Claudia Chidiac, Artistic Director
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For more information, visit pyt.com.au

Rehearsal photos will be available on pyt.com.au on 17 November 2009

About Powerhouse Youth Theatre

PYT is the leading youth theatre company in Western Sydney. By engaging with young people from across the region, PYT creates new, innovative and inclusive performing arts opportunities led by collaborative processes and participation.

About the Director of 'I Love You'

Tanya Dickson's directing credits include Gordon Graham's *The Boy's*, (Arts Theatre UNE), C.S Lewis's *Narnia: The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe* (NBYT), *Ten Minutes in my Shoes* (Short & Sweet) and Jonathan Ari Lander's *Measure* (Brand Spanking New Festival - New Theatre). This year Tanya has worked as an Assistant Director on *Cosi* (New Theatre), *No Man's Island* (Old Fitzroy Theatre), and *Decadence* (Tap Gallery), as well as working for Legs on the Wall's Three Feet First emerging artist program. She is a proud member of MEAA.

About Janet Diane

Janet Diane is a performer, writer, a qualified bookkeeper and was the face of the campaign 'Don't DisMyAbility' which advertised International Day of People with a Disability. Her performance credits include: *Hard Daze* (PYT), *I Love You* a reading (PYT), *Craving* (ATYP), *Blackrock* (Chullora TAFE) and *More than Water* (Bangarra Theatre). Janet has also worked as a facilitator assistant for people with a disability in *Unlock your Creativity*.