



BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS

CAT KIDD

DOWN DOG PRODUCTIONS

Down Dog Productions was originally Montreal-based poet Cat Kidd and DJ Jacky Murda. Since the mid-90s, the word/sound collaboration have been performing and recording their hybrid works. The multimedia poetry show *Sea Peach* was launched in 2003 in an abandoned swimming pool, which Down Dog transformed into a theatre, with seating in the shallow end and aquatic video installation projected onto the tiled walls. The critically-acclaimed show was held-over in its third week and toured extensively.

Lighting & technical design for the first production of *Sea Peach* was by Jody Burkholder, who continues to be a core member of the company since that time. Geoff Agombar has been the production manager since the restaging of *Sea Peach* in 2004, as well as contributing video and still images to *Hyena Subpoena*. Jody and Geoff ran video, sound, and lights for the premier of *Hyena*, which was presented in a disused industrial space/iron sculpture gallery. The production was in collaboration with theatre Scapegoat Carnival and directed by Alison Darcy.

The *Hyena Subpoena* album was recorded in the mountains outside Barcelona by Jacky Murda in 2013. The book/cd folio features cover art by Kiva Stimac and was released the following year.

WRITER/ PERFORMER – CAT KIDD

Cat Kidd is a Montreal writer/performer best known for her zoology-themed multimedia performance poetry, combining narrative verse, fine-tuned delivery, video installation, and original soundscapes by DJ Jacky Murda.

Described as “an adult blend of Dr. Suess and Aesop’s fables,” Kidd’s first solo show *Sea Peach* won the Montreal English Critics’ Circle Award for Best New Text, touring to the Edinburgh Fringe, Toronto Harbourfront’s World Stage, and the M1 Singapore Fringe Festival. Cat has performed in Oslo, Whitehorse, Yellowknife, New York, Albuquerque, and Glastonbury.

A graduate of Concordia’s MA program in Literature & Writing, Catherine taught writing at that university and was twice recipient of its Irving Layton Award.

A section of her novel, *Missing the Ark*, was nominated for the Journey Prize.

Cat’s voice may be heard narrating air safety messages, video games, and as the voice of a prehistoric snail at the Joggins Fossil Museum. Her poem *Human Fish* opened the Spier Arts Poetry Festival in Cape Town, South Africa, in 2007.

That trip was the inspiration for her current suite of critically-acclaimed performance poems, *Hyena Subpoena*.