



A Solo Show  
written & performed  
by Tina Overbury

# My God

A mythical and redemptive tale about the  
women we burned, the babies we buried & the  
Gods we worship

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PRESS KIT

Welcome To

O  
My  
God

The Party

**You are invited** to Christina's 50th Birthday un-party in Tuam, Ireland where an 8 yr old girl meets Jesus, a woman lights three fires of reconciliation, and the special guest at the party is The Morrigan, an Irish deity of prophecy, battle and sovereignty

**A Solo Show  
by Tina Overbury**

*A mythical tale about the women we burned, the children we buried and the Gods we worship in a time of needed reconciliation.*

***In this special place of Inglenook...***

**Writer/Performer, Tina Overbury** takes us on a mythic and comedic journey through a modern day making of a madwoman story about an 8 year old girl looking for her Mom in a place called Inglenook, while her 49 year old self follows a call to the 'Home Babies' of Tuam, Ireland, and the Irish deity of prophecy, battle and sovereignty shows up to keep them, and all of us warned, and warmed by the fire.

**Overbury catches us off guard** with her humorous, poetic and harrowing tales of life as a woman who loves the sacred, but offers: "I love God, but does he have to be a man?" She reminds us about the power of books by showing us the Malleus Maleficarum, the 'Witch Burning for Dummies' instruction manual which shaped us for 300 years. She asks us to come and sit by the fire with all aspects of what it means to be a woman. She offers, we are The Morrigan, The Three Mary's of the Gospel, and the infamous Lady M herself. We have a conversation with Jesus, and we're introduced to Mouse Woman, the North American Indigenous mother of Raven. As guests at her un-party, audiences will witness the makings of a mad woman and say we're sorry as we sweep up the ashes of those we have burned in the name of being holy.

**Overbury sets the show** as a 50th birthday un-party told en-route, as she follows a call to Tuam, County Galway in Ireland, which is home to the Catholic Bon Secour Mother and Baby orphanage where a mass grave of approximately 800 nameless infants were found.

**Playwright Tina Overbury is a storyteller** who works with narrative and story structure as a vehicle for human connection. She roots herself in Myth, Mysticism, and a personal practice of faith. Tina is a proud associate of PowHERhouse Media Group where she listens and supports the 'stories' of whole and integrated leaders of tomorrow, and the Artists for Impact of today.

**O My God** is a mythical and redemptive tale across time, culture, and faith that is as funny as it is brave. As world patriarchal structures crumble, we are not left with a void of no wisdom, we need only look to the cultural stories that exist within and pre-Christianity to remember that God belongs to everyone, and power within gender is not hierarchical, or a conversation about sex, witchcraft or worthiness.

*Writer/Performer Tina Overbury, Creative Consultant/Acting Coach: Dean Paul Gibson, Dramaturg Nicolle Natrass.*

# INFORMATION

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## OMYGOD

### A Solo Show

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A mythical and redemptive tale about the  
women we burned, the babies we buried  
& the Gods we worship

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### Contact Info

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[www.tinaolife.com](http://www.tinaolife.com)

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**Director**  
**James Gardiner**

**Writer/Producer**  
**Tina Overbury**

**Director of Photography**  
**Randal Hrytzak**

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### Technical Info

Running Time: 97 minutes

Exhibition Format: MPEG-4 (.mp4 file)

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Shooting Format: Digital 1080p

Color / English

# SYNOPSIS

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*(Short)*

**○MYGOD is a mythical and redemptive tale about women we burned, the children we buried, and the gods we have worshipped.**

Writer/Performer Tina Overbury invites us in on her comedic and harrowing journey through time following the modern-day making of a madwoman. An 8-year-old girl looks for her Mom in a place called Inglenook while her 49-year-old self, a reliable chronic second-guesser goes all-in on the eve of her 50th birthday to follow a call to lay Brigid's cross on the ground where 800 'Home Babies' lay in Tuam, County Galway, Ireland. We are greeted and frequented by The Morrigan, a triple essence Irish deity of prophecy, battle and sovereignty who shows up to warn and warm up by the fire. ○MYGOD is a feminist, and non-denominational romp through history, offering stories of witches, dragons, ravens, and willow trees about a woman in a red dress and a little girl who just wants to know where her home is.

# SYNOPSIS

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*(Long)*

You are invited to Christina's 50th Birthday non-party as she explains to us why she is not crazy for following a persistent yet bizarre call to leave her home of Turtle Island (North America) and travel to Eire (Ireland), after watching a news story about a mass grave of 'unnamed babies' outside a Mother and Baby Home in Tuam County Galway, Ireland.

You are greeted by The Morrigan, a triple goddess of the Tuatha de danna who has been called forward by Christina's daily practice of lighting three fires.

***'Every morning I get up and light three fires, one to wake-me up, one to keep me from going crazy, and one to keep me warm.'***

Each of the three sisters of The Morrigan: Badb, Nemain, and Macha carry a message for Christina to help her with her journey of reconciliation, and to remind her of who she really is.

***"Burning every last atrocity to the ground. And when I am done, I become her, the woman in the red dress with a raven on her back."***

As soon as she decides to go to Ireland for her Christmas Day birthday, her eight year old self, Cristiona makes an appearance reminding her about her special relationship with Jesus which began over conversations and caramels exchanged with Mrs. Wilson, her Mennonite next door neighbour. Christiona, with her skipping rope and songs about black birds and witches, is on a quest to find Inglenook, where her dying mom told her she could always reach her.

***"Our Father in heaven... Mrs. Wilson... Is God my dad?... Oh... Holy Spirit. Hahahahahaha... Mrs. Wilson, is God a Ghost?!!!!!! Mrs. Wilson.... Where is Inglenook?"***

# SYNOPSIS

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*(Long)*

As she packs for her trip, she remembers a story about a 13,000 year old footprint found on Calvert Island on Indigenous land on the West Coast of Canada. As she boards the plane, she remembers a series of day-dreams about a bluff where a tall willow tree stands and an angry and confused scribble girl lives in the belly of a dragon. As she falls asleep she dreams of a late night talk show host who entertains us with a dark and insatiable curiosity about the witch burning of Ireland and whether any of it happened at all.

She reaches Tuam on her birthday and finds a quiet chapel where she prepares to visit the unmarked grave of the Tuam babies. While there she lets us in on her own personal faith story and how decided to be a Minister, and then discovered why she never would.

***“I knew I was called the day the sun came out, and I knew I would never be a Minister on the day we honour our dead.”***

At the gravesite of the 800 un-named Tuam babies she brings two deeply personal offerings of reconciliation, one from her mother and one from Brigid, daughter to the Morrigan and Goddess of hearth, protection and poetry. As the story closes, Christina is visited by The Morrigan one final time to remind her of her bigger story and to introduce her to another Goddess and Indigenous sister, one who is so quiet and unassuming, her power is often unnoticed.

***‘The Haida people know her as Raven’s mother and her name is Mouse Woman.’***

**OMYGOD** is a mythic and redemptive tale about the women we’ve burned, the babies we’ve buried and the Gods we have worshipped. It is a story of reconciliation and is offered in the spirit of restorative justice and as a bridge of humility between cultures. It is a feminist narrative that combines humour, storytelling and poetry connecting two cultures, rich in oral history and spirituality and with hundreds of years of atrocities and grief still steeped in the land.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

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It has truly been a rewarding experience getting to direct the video version of TinaO's one woman show, **OMYGOD**. The opportunity connected me back to a deep desire to create and impact the world with an artistic brush and open the door to some deep, thought provoking questions. This show is an important piece of artistry, period. I am deeply drawn to its multiple story threads and how it weaves in historical significance, unforgivable atrocities, mythos, religion, and the journey of a motherless young girl as she grows into a woman seeking answers. I believe this show will affect people in their own individual way with a potential outcome for the world to shine brighter. As a director, a fellow artist, and as a human being this story moves me deeply.

# WRITER/PRODUCER STATEMENT

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## RECONCILIATION & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

I wish I could say I fully understand the meaning of these two words, and perhaps this is why **OMYGOD** literally wrote it's way through me.

As a writing coach I always tell people to write into the unknown because everything else is boring. So I tasked myself with a choice that felt true yet utterly impossible: write a clown confessional about a 50th birthday party. Set it in a church, and throw in a Jesus monologue about the irrelevance religion while wearing a smokin' party dress.

The clown part was easy. I'm a chronic second-guesser and over-talker. I'm navigationally challenged. I swear like a trucker. I'm a bit witchy, and I love God. Clown work isn't about humour, it's about discovery and being truthful. So I started by asking: Why am I a painfully self-conscious extrovert?

When I learned about a 13,000 year old footprint and realized it's 11,000 years older than Jesus I began to lean into Indigenous creation stories. I started to wonder why all the Gods I could easily reach for were men. Where were the female Gods? And then I found one. I came across an image of a fierce woman in a red dress who looked like she could literally love me to death. She is The Morrigan, an Irish triple essence Celtic Goddess which brought the story to Ireland. The last piece to fall into place happened around draft five and it changed everything. I was watching the news one night and this heroic yet horrific story came on about the Home Babies of Tuam. A local historian exposed a story about the remains of 800 unnamed children found rotting in an old septic tank outside a Catholic mom and baby home. It just didn't sit right with her so she decided to do something about it. Her action is what brought my entire story together into one narrative.

I am adopted. My mother was an unwed mother. I am Irish (and Scottish and German and English), and I have lost a baby. I have been called crazy, outspoken, been violated, and ostracized. This show deals with the harsh realities women have faced since the witch burnings of the 1600s. It challenges our fear-based relationship with religion and our yearnings of faith. It asks us to reconcile the atrocities we've committed. It asks us to listen.

Many of the stories in this show are true. I did pursue a path of Ministry and I once was a student Minister. I have done the walk of shame and I do love cake (good cake). It's true that I skinny dip and I definitely drink beer, and yes, my favourite brand really is Dark Matter. The sun did come out for me one day during choir practice and I really did write this show as I turned 50.

I wrote this show today because we are lighting fires with our actions and how we communicate. We are losing our resiliency and our patience with truth telling. We have turned apologies into power dynamics and we are beginning to individuate our story of justice which is taking us closer to the days of the witch burning than ever before. It's time to listen and light a different fire.



Tina



# CREDITS

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**Directed by**  
**James Gardiner**

**Written and Performed by**  
**Tina Overbury**

**Produced by**  
Tina Overbury - TinaOLife  
Impact Media Producer -  
PowHERhouse Impact Media Group

**Director of Photography**  
Randal Hrytzak, Bemoved Media

**Assistant to the DP**  
Meralon Shandler, Bemoved Media

**Assistant to the Director**  
Tom Lancaster

**Dramaturg**  
Nicolle Natrass

**Artist Safety & Wellbeing Practitioner**  
Nicolle Natrass

**Creative Consultant**  
Dean Paul Gibson

**Editor**  
Jay Lehmann

**Assistant to the Producer**  
Stacey Rieder  
Dennice Hall

**Acting Coach**  
Dean Paul Gibson

**Costume Designer**  
Shelley Klassen

**Music Composer**  
Visio Nova by Alastair Caplin

**Sound Designer**  
Paul Tedeschini

**Production Assistant**  
Meribeth Deen

**Photography**  
Saria Suzann Bailey

**Location Manager**  
Katie Karjala

**Location**  
Dusty Flowerpot Cabaret

# KEY CREATIVE BIOS

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## JAMES GARDINER Director

James is a champion for Conscious Leadership. Being a leader for momentum and growth is something that has come natural to him. With over two decades of hands-on experience in personal and business growth, he is motivated to help people and entrepreneurs face their challenges, uncover their secret sauce, and get their life and business to peak performance, so they can truly live the life of their dreams; by design.

With his soon to be published book, “Conscious Warrior: Going All In with Love” James is excited to share his incredible life quest of personal growth stemming from the various battles waged within the different arenas of life. The book chronicles his life from the weak asthma boy who would never say “no” to the dreams of being an actor and athlete despite his dad rescuing him from death’s door. This warrior spirit propelled him to uncharted lands in search of fame and fortune in major cities across North America ultimately to arrive at a simple but priceless concept, truth. Now his once egoic sword has been replaced with the lightness of grace, and this warrior looks to ignite the inner truth and hero within all.

As a former lead coach with LeapZone Strategies, James has helped people and global business owners get crystal clear on how a strategically designed architecture is paramount for personal and bottom line growth. Now with Conscious Warrior Coaching, he currently guides people in understanding their “truth” and infuses that into their Warrior Code, the cornerstone to any personal and business podium moments. Through strategic mapping and heart-led guidance James is helping businesses authentically thrive into today’s climate and beyond.

*Design*



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# Tina

Producer/Writer/Actor

Bowen Island, BC  
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tina@tinaolife.com

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Tina Overbury is a storyteller, performer, and a professional listener who works with narrative and story structure as a vehicle for human connection. Her work is rooted in Myth, Mysticism, and the practice of personal faith. She is devoted to global reconciliation through the exploration of origin stories, sharing our oral history, land-based knowing, and a continued focus on communication as a sacred practice. She brings thirty years of collaborative storytelling in theatre, film, marketing, team based selling, and workshop facilitation.

She is the founder of Live Your Best Story, a weekend retreat of deep listening held on Bowen Island, BC, Canada and is the voice and story behind TinaOLife, home to Stories from the Core - her weekly writing and conversation series. She is a proud associate of PowHERhouse Impact Media as a core-communications specialist working with individuals and organizations who feel called. She is a co-host of GATHER for HER, and a PowHERhouse Artist of Impact Amplify Coach helping leaders become artists and artists become leaders.

[PowHERhouse Artist of Impact Profile](#)  
[TinaOLife About Me](#)

# KEY CREATIVE BIOS

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## **RANDAL HRYTZAK**

Director of Photography

Randal is an award-winning photographer and established filmmaker with a background in electronics engineering and technology marketing. He's a co-founder of Bemoved Media, a creative digital agency that creates story-based branding and media that matters.



## **MERALON SHANDLER**

Assistant to the Director of Photography

Meralon is a student of people with a Masters of Psychology and background in family counselling. She's a co-founder of Bemoved Media, a digital creative agency that creates story-based branding and media that matters.

bemoved  media

Randal Hrytzak and Meralon Shandler are the founders of Bemoved Media, a Vancouver-based marketing and business strategy agency. Randal is a lover of all things tech, and plays best when using his engineering roots to create beautiful stories and visuals. Meralon has a background in psychology, which serves her well in her role as Communications Leader. They share a love of good coffee, good business and good friendship, and have discovered these things go best with curiosity and kindness.



## **NICOLLE NATRASS**

Dramaturge

Nicolle Natrass is a Jessie Award nominated Actress (CAEA/ACTRA) and Playwright (PGC), she is a Dramaturge, Keynote Speaker as well as an Addiction Counselor (CAC II). She is grateful to be a Lantzville based artist and grateful to live, work and create on the unceded territory of the Snaw'naw'as Mustimuxw people.

# KEY CREATIVE BIOS

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## **DEAN PAUL GIBSON**

Creative Consultant/Acting Coach

Dean is an award-winning theatre practitioner with over thirty years' experience. His passion for performance, language and storytelling has served to make him a trusted and sought-after theatre artist in a number of roles including: Director, Actor, Instructor, Workshop-Leader, Adjudicator and Coach.



## **PAUL TEDESCHINI**

Sound Design

Paul's love of sound began at 13 with his first electric guitar. And his immersion into all aspects of it has never stopped. With over 20 years of experience in Editing, Sound Design, Mixing, Mastering, and Composing, Paul brings a wide range of technical and creative skills to every project. His unique approach to the sonic elevation of a story and delivering stellar content has earned him consistent work on a wide variety of sound projects, including the multi award winning "This is That." (CBC Radio) and "Hindsight " (AlJazeera).



## **SHELLEY KLASSEN**

Costume Designer

Canadian Designer Shelley Klassen has built her career by creating an irresistible feminine style of chic women's clothing. After studying the fine art of haute couture and fashion design at Richard Robinson Academy of Design in Ottawa, Shelley launched her label in 1999 and in the spring of 2007 Shelley embarked on a new adventure opening her flagship blushing boutique in Vancouver. With a passion for dresses she inspires to create the most beautiful and unique dresses for all women.

# PRODUCING TEAM BIOS

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## CHARLENE SANJENKO

PowHERhouse Impact Media Group



**Charlene SanJenko is an Indigenous Impact Producer + Media Visionary, braiding for better by brokering impact, building brand value using advertising dollars better.**

She believes that impact media will follow in the footsteps of impact investing *this* decade. Charlene and the team at PowHERhouse Impact Media Group amplify + activate the impact needed to reach the UN 2030 SDG goals, by *shifting the narrative* to see our blind spots, use our buying power for its highest purpose, and make better decisions to create the lifestyle and leadership experience we want for the next 7 generations.





# CAST

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**Performed by Tina Overbury**

**Christina** - on the eve of her 50th birthday, travels to Tuam, County Galway

**Cristiona** - Christina's 8 year old self

**The Morrigan** - Badb, Nemain, Macha



- [OMYGOD Stills](#)
- [Digital Media](#)
- [Production Photo Gallery](#)
- [Behind the Scenes](#)
- [Video Library](#)







# O

# My God

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## TinaOLife

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