

Janis Kirshner ACTRA/CAEA

Janis takes performing comedic roles seriously and values serious roles. She was a helpful guard with a secret in *The Bold Type*, felt responsible for her ailing father's death in *19-2*, tossed around a decapitated head in *Bullet in the Face* and was killed repeatedly in *Canadian Case Files*. She is highly creative and takes direction well.

Janis enjoyed varied work on radio stations Q92 & CIQC including traffic reporter for Aaron & Tasso; voicing commercials; reporting on entertainment; and hosting 15 different open-line talk shows, often quickly thinking on her feet for topics she knew very little about. She has also lent her voice to narrations, and delighted in singing with the Montreal Artists Choir for Scapegoat Carnivale's *Oedipus Part One: Assembly*, and the Out of the Mouths of Babes women's choir.

As half of the comedy duo TITTERS (with Laura Mitchell), Janis penned, produced and performed numerous hit shows featuring monologues, stand-up comedy, sketches, spoken word and songs. *Female Bondage*, *Lashed but Not Leashed*, *Put Another Monologue on the Fire* and *Same Great Taste* played to sold-out audiences in theatres, comedy clubs and events in multiple cities including Montreal, Seattle, Halifax and the Vancouver International Comedy Festival. TITTERS was also highlighted on several television programs. They continue to present their 'Take-out comedy with great delivery!' when they get the chance. Media has described them as "Wittily sophisticated... original and subtle.... with acute comic timing and an infectious stage presence."

Memorable theatre credits include *The Club*, an all-male musical played by women (Village Theatre); Hollywood gossip columnist Louella Parsons in *Camera Woman* (MAI); Marie-Antoinette in *The Mary Project*, where she got to both give birth and die on stage (Infinitéâtre); and the absent-minded Mrs. Clackett in *Noises Off* (Centaur Theatre).

Training includes a B.F.A in Theatre Performance from Concordia University as well as diverse workshops such as Laban Movement, Master Class in Creation with One Yellow Rabbit, and Comedy with Sears & Switzer, among others. Janis has also created a range of writing for diverse media, publications and organizations including theatre and comedy writing, as well as feature articles, columns, and theatre interviews and reviews. As a Standardized Patient for McGill Medical School, the ability to accurately and consistently maintain a character and respond as a real patient, simulate physical conditions, and recall the students' performance for verbal and/or written feedback stretches additional acting muscles. Janis has sat on a number of professional committees including CAEA and the METAs (Montreal English Theatre Awards), as well as performing in various fundraisers and events with the acting community that she holds so dear.