

For Immediate Release

Contact: Franca Vercelloni at 917-586-7281

**Monkey With A Knife Productions Presents
CLASSICALLY TRAINED, PRACTICALLY BROKE**



Monkey With A Knife Productions is proud to present CLASSICALLY TRAINED, PRACTICALLY BROKE as part of the 14th annual New York International Fringe Festival – FringeNYC. Franca Vercelloni performs this musical solo show, which she wrote in collaboration with Myrna E. Duarte and John David West. The show is also directed by Duarte and West. This is an Equity Approved Showcase and is not appropriate for those under 16 years of age. See listing for details.

How does a classical pianist with a conservatory education find herself hammering out show tunes in a piano bar? Crazy seeks crazy as she searches for a way out. Saucy songs, manic piano competitions, PLUS hot accordion action!

Rob Lester from Cabaret Scenes Magazine says about Franca:

“This multi-tasker is a cute hoot, sharp tongue in cheek or in check...as a performer/writer, she has pluses, promise, pluck, and yuk-yuk-yuk.”

Franca Vercelloni is an actor, pianist, singer and songwriter. After studying piano performance at The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, she moved back to New York City to act. For a while, she did a lot of improv, stand up and sketch comedy. Acting credits include The Hampton Playhouse, The Berkshire Theatre Festival, Tony ‘n’ Tina’s Wedding off-Broadway, and commercials for Dunkin’ Donuts and Commerce Bank. Films include the lead in Ishai Setton’s award-winning short musical comedy The Butcher and the Housewife. Franca makes a living playing in piano bars (The Duplex, Marie’s Crisis), teaching piano and voice, and working as a plus size model. In 2009, Franca was a finalist for the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre writing

workshop. She plays the accordion with the all-female, all-accordion Main Squeeze Orchestra.

The founders of Monkey With A Knife Productions (Duarte, West, Vercelloni) suffer from attention deficit disorder and astronomically high standards, and their mission is to create theater that reflects these conditions: exciting, excellent entertainment. For more information, please visit: www.classicallytrainedpracticallybroke.com