

An Inconvenient Poop

Created and Performed by Shawn Shafner

Directed by Annie G. Levy

What if the solution to climate change, world peace, and self-love was the one thing no one wanted to talk about? As the uptight Dr. Oscar von Shtein begins his thrilling FRED Talk on the Classics, he is interrupted by the mysterious Puru. From communal Roman toilets to the Queen who banished the bowel movement, The Puru unearths the origins of our dis-ease, and exposes how current sanitary practices threaten our health, environment, and 40% of the world still living without safe toilets. Then The Puru disappears. Can Oscar save the day and face his shit before it hits the fan?

Fascinating, hilarious and totally timely, **An Inconvenient Poop** asks us to take the plunge, join a revolution pushing for change from the bottom up, and proudly declare, **"I'm a pooper!"**

"Critic's Pick!"

-Time Out New York

"Not to miss!"

-Playbill.com

"Best Bet!"

-Theater is Easy



Venue Requirements

An Inconvenient Poop is a TED-style talk that doesn't go according to plan. It can be performed in a theater, auditorium, or large lecture hall. It requires:

- an LCD projector (min 1200 lumens)
- a screen or wall to project onto
- access to an external sound system with audio jack input
- accessible high ceilings to fly in a 11lb costume piece

AWARD WINNER!

**Overall Excellence in
Solo Performance**

**2015 NY International
Fringe Festival**

Costs (travels, lodging and meals included)

NYC and Northeast US: < \$2,500

Regional US: < \$3,250

International: < \$6,000

Lectures, workshops and longer residencies also available!

"Shafner wants a global movement and, given his natural charm and bottomless capacity for scatological puns, he might just get one."

-Time Out New York

For more information, visit **www.AnInconvenientPoop.com**
For questions or booking inquiries, please email **info@thePOOPproject.org**



Shawn “The Puru” Shafner (Creator, Performer) is a Brooklyn based artist, educator and activist. He founded The People’s Own Organic Power Project (www.thePOOPproject.org) in 2010 to catalyze conversation about sustainable sanitation. Major works include *Flush: The Documentary* (www.GoFlushYourself.com), the musical *Eat \$h*t: How Our Waste Can Save the World* (“the most important show in the Edinburgh Fringe...ahead of its time,” *The Scotsman*), and *SHHH: The Poopcast* (iTunes). The Puru performed at the United Nations for the inaugural World Toilet Day, and has been featured on CBC Radio One, The Huffington Post, BuzzFeed, New York Post, Daily Beast and TreeHugger among others. He was a 2005 Spielberg Fellow, a 2014-15 LABA Fellow, a 2015 iLAND resident in collaboration with LMCC, and recently joined the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Foundation’s ROI Community.

Annie G. Levy (Director) is an NYC-based theatre maker and Assistant Professor at The University of Alabama, MFA Directing program. Current projects include *TREE ARMY: The CCC Project* and *The Higgs Boson Project*. Recent credits include City Center, Dixon Place, HERE, Theatre at the Tank, and

The Green Building. Annie is a founding member of World Wide Lab, an international theater laboratory, in residency at the Irondale Center in Brooklyn (2012 & 2013), Teatro Due in Rome (2014), and the Syros Institute on the Greek Island of Syros (2015). Annie has received a FAIR assistantship at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, a residency at Robert Wilson’s Watermill Center, and was a 2010 LMCC Uptown/Downtown Artist. She is a member of the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab, an associate member of SDC and is the cofounder of the literary series SWEET! Actors Reading Writers. www.annielevy.com

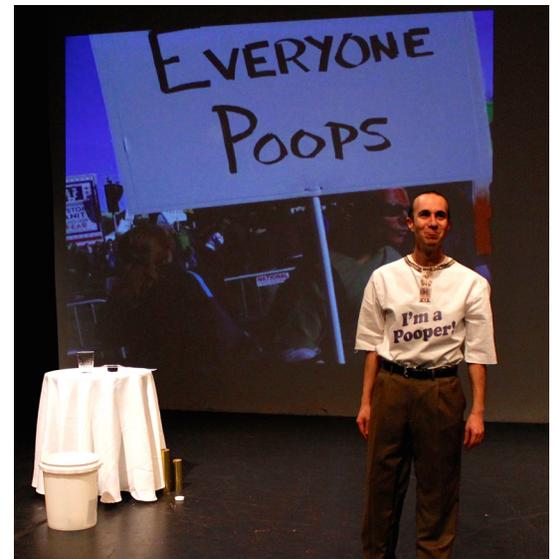
Academic Connections & Residency Workshops

An Inconvenient Poop features curricular connections to a wide range of disciplines including:

- Environmental Science and Sustainability
- International Development
- Public Health
- Urban Planning and Design
- Gender Studies
- History, Sociology and Anthropology
- Theater/Performance Studies
- Education: Early Childhood, K-12, University

Topics for Workshops and Master Classes include:

- Tell Your Story: Making Theater from Personal, Historical and Scientific Narratives
- Coming Out of the Water Closet: Queer Bodies and the Bathroom
- Building for the Body: Smart Toilet Spaces for Every Environment
- Below the Bible Belt: Religious Perspectives on Poop
- How the Potty Trained Us: Creating Body-Positive Toilet Habits in Early Childhood



Testimonials

“My ecoart seniors did not quite know what to expect from Shawn Shafner’s visit. However after his hour long informative, fun and occasionally challenging presentation, they were all very excited and inspired. **Shawn’s work is important and it is critical to learn about and discuss the workings of our bodies and how we are connected to larger systems of production, consumption and waste.**”

-Elizabeth Stephens, Professor of Art, University of California, Santa Cruz

“I can say with utmost respect that the show was **the perfect combination of gross, intelligent, funny and serious** to keep the students engaged. Students especially appreciated the discussion during the talkback of how individuals’ actions during periods of combined sewer overflow can make meaningful differences, a kind of question that arose a lot in our program.”

-Pieranna Pieroni, Director of College Now, Brooklyn College

“I thoroughly enjoyed [Shafner’s] performance! **It was sublime!**”

-Borg Tsien Tham, Counselor, Republic of Singapore, United Nations

“The Puru and *An Inconvenient Poop* knocked my socks off! Both a touching and hilarious story of self acceptance, and also **a call to arms that brilliantly synthesizes a host of critical issues into one underlying dilemma and provides a path towards resolution.** Shawn’s expertise, wit and indelible energy made a lasting impression on my sustainable design students. We can’t wait to have him back!”

-Elliott Maltby, Associate Professor, Graduate Architecture & Urban Design, Pratt Institute

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