



Monstrous Regiment presents

THE EXECUTION

A play by Melissa Murray

Directed by Sue Dunderdale
Designed by Gemma Jackson
Music by Lindsay Cooper

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In *Scum* (1976) Monstrous Regiment presented a fascinating picture of the Commune through the eyes of the working women of Paris.

With *THE EXECUTION*, we return to the style of political, historical epic to uncover the story of the women and men behind the killing of Tsar Alexander II, Holy Father of All Russia. Tsar Alexander was assassinated by the Peoples Will. The death of the very embodiment of patriarchy, was seen by the groups of women whose lives are explored in the play, as the keystone in a course of action necessary to change the shape of Russian society.

In *THE EXECUTION* Monstrous Regiment examines the moral and political questions of revolutionary violence as a challenge to the patriarchal state.

I.C.A., THE MALL, LONDON
May 18-June 5 phone 930 3647

CLIFTON COLLEGE THEATRE, BRISTOL
June 8-10 phone 555436

RALPH THORESBY COMMUNITY THEATRE, LEEDS
June 16-19 phone 679911

BATTERSEA ARTS CENTRE, LONDON
June 25 & 26 phone 223 8413

"The company have found a style which deserves serious attention."
"The Times"

Monstrous Regiment receives financial support from The Arts Council of Great Britain and is a member of the Independent Theatre Council.

For further information contact 01-247 2398

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MONSTROUS REGIMENT

MONSTROUS REGIMENT
in 1982

"One of the leading theatre groups to come out of that alternative theatre movement during the last ten years".
— *Morning Star*

MONSTROUS REGIMENT was created in 1975 by a group of women who wanted to make high energy, exciting, political theatre, based on women's experience and using live music. In the six years since then we have explored many different theatrical forms — *the epic style; the well made play; surreal images; naturalism*. We have looked at women in revolution, in history, at work, and violence, and women and feminism.

"..... stunning theatrical punch" — *New Standard*

MONSTROUS REGIMENT has worked extensively with women writers and has commissioned a large body of plays about women from writers such as *Claire Luckham, Chris Bond, David Edgar, Caryl Churchill, Michelene Wandor, Sue Todd, Bryony Lavery, Rose Tremain*.

We like to play a wide variety of venues, from clubs to studios to community centres and large theatres.

"The company have found a style which deserves serious attention." — *The Times*

MONSTROUS REGIMENT constitutionally, will always have more women than men in it. We are a collective.

"A work-sharing co-operative of unqualified excellence." — *The Tribune*

In 1982 MONSTROUS REGIMENT returns to the style on which their reputation was earned — the historical political epic, with:

"THE EXECUTION" by Melissa Murray. Director: Sue Dunderdale. Designer: Gemma Jackson.

In 1881 Tsar Alexander II, Holy Father of All Russia, was assassinated by the People's Will.

THE EXECUTION looks at the lives of two women who committed themselves to this course of action which was to change the shape of Russian society. Within the play we will examine the moral and political questions of revolutionary violence in the context of a feminist's/women's challenge to a repressive Patriarchal state.

MELISSA MURRAY has been writing plays since 1977. She has been commissioned by many leading English theatre companies including the Women's Theatre Group, Belt & Braces, Pirate Jenny She was a founder member of Hormone Imbalance who performed her own startling adaptation of Hamlet: "Ophelia". Melissa has recently adapted her play "The Admission" (first performed by the Almost Free Theatre, London 1980) for the BBC.

Sue Dunderdale — since 1971 Sue has worked extensively with such companies as Stratford East, Avon Touring, the Women's Theatre Group, Croydon Warehouse, as well as many Reps, and at Rose Bruford College. Most recently she has directed "The Exception and the Rule" for Rose Bruford and "Gloo Joo" for the Bristol Old Vic. She is currently an assistant Director with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

"THE EXECUTION" will premiere in London as part of the Women Live Festival in May 1982 and will tour Europe and the UK until the end of the year.

If you would like to book "THE EXECUTION" we need: —
a minimum performance area of 7 x 7 metres
theatre lighting
accommodation

We will provide:—
full technical and promotional back-up
posters
brochures
programmes
photographs
and "THE EXECUTION"
our fees are negotiable.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact:
Di Robson, Gus Garside, 4 Elder Street, London E1 6BT. Phone: 01-247 2398

Leaflet Design: Jude Rugg

"All credit to these highly professional and skilled performers, both players and musicians."
— *Spare Rib*

Monstrous Regiment is a member of the Independent Theatre Council and receives financial assistance from the Arts Council of Great Britain.

"It is a joy to see how Monstrous Regiment exploit surrealistic and expressionistic techniques and give them a blazing life and function. Devastating." — *The Guardian*, 1980, on "Shakespeare's Sister".
"Shakespeare's Sister" will tour England from February — April 1982.



TJM/450

MONSTROUS REGIMENT

PRESS RELEASE

MONSTROUS REGIMENT will open their new show THE EXECUTION by Melissa Murray at the ICA, London

Previews	May 18 and 19	8.00pm
Press	" 20	7.00pm
Season runs	May 21 - June 5	8.00pm

as part of the

London events for Women Live '82.

In 1881 Tsar Alexander II, Holy Father of All Russia, was assassinated by The People's Will. THE EXECUTION looks at the lives of the women and men who committed themselves to a course of action, which was to change the shape of Russian society. The play explores, in epic style, the morals and politics of revolutionary violence.

MELISSA MURRAY has been writing plays since 1977. She has been commissioned by many leading theatre companies and she was a founder member of Hormone Imbalance. Recently she adapted her play, The Admission, for the BBC.

MONSTROUS REGIMENT was created in 1975 by a group of women who wanted to make high energy, exciting political theatre based on women's experience and using original music. In the 6 years since then we have explored many different theatrical forms, while looking at women in revolution, in history, at work, and violence, and women and feminism. Monstrous Regiment, constitutionally will always have more women than men in it. We are a collective.

For Further information please contact Di Robson or Gus Garside on 01 247 2398.

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The Times.

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Charity number 274517
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Ms G L Hanna, Ms M McCusker, Mr J Slade