

FAST FILM

In a matter of three years, James Cameron wrote, directed and produced the epic blockbuster *Titanic*. Let it be known: James Cameron is a lazy son of a bitch. Every month at the Drake Hotel, the Neutrino Film Project simultaneously shoots and screens an hour-long improvised movie in the time it takes a live audience to watch it. After taking crowd suggestions, four crews of camera operators, improv actors and film runners disappear into the streets of Toronto to plan, perform and record a series of scenes. If the show goes according to plan, a runner should come scrambling back with tape in hand every 10 minutes. When each group has performed and returned three pieces, they meet to tie their four separate storylines together in one culminating scene. In an age of instant gratification, the Neutrino Project — which began in New York in 1999 and is now performed by groups in seven North American cities — brings new meaning to the term one-hour film.

According to Neutrino executive producer and performer **Jen Radomsky**, "It's a real adrenaline rush with the time constraints. Anything can happen." Describing one scene, Radomsky says, "**David (Ivkovic)** went into the Drake kitchen and came out with this huge carrot and we both needed to deep throat it. The clock's ticking so you don't really have a chance to ask him, 'Are you OK with doing this?'"

You also don't have a chance to hear the audience's reaction as phallic vegetables poke your tonsils. "Being away from the crowd certainly forces you to focus on the intents and objectives of the scene and less on what's going to make them laugh," says Radomsky, who also makes them laugh as a mainstage cast member at the Bad Dog Theatre. "We'll shoot something and think it's great and they'll be laughing at completely different things [than we expected]."

But the important thing is that they're laughing. "The crowd really enjoys it and so do we. It's great to do something that is so different and that incorporates so many different forms. We've got the stage factor and the film factor, which opens up a lot of possibilities. Rather than being on a stage where you have to mime eating in an apartment, you just say, 'Hey, let's go to Peter's and get some pizza from his fridge.'" **JAMES SIMONS**