

The League of Professional Theatre Women April 25, 2012



Natasha Lee Martin

**Actress/Director/Playwright/Professor**

<http://lptw30blog.wordpress.com/?s=natasha+lee+martin>

**Where do you look for inspiration?**

*Children/ The absurdity of everyday life / People in high power positions who do not take themselves too seriously.*

**What's your favorite line from a play?**

*"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken" – Oscar Wilde*

**What play or production changed your life?**

*Hidden A Gender by Kate Bornstein. I played Al/Kate in it about 10 years ago and since a mentor of mine, Dr. Noreen Barnes, had worked with her in the first production at Theater Rhinoceros in 1989, I had the good fortune to interview her about the role. She is a fantastic inspiration for artists of what it is to be a human, regardless of self-imposed/societal identities, and to truly persevere in life. More about her work: <http://katebornstein.typepad.com/>*

**Is there anything you still dream of doing?**

*Turn our country's artistic commerce away from this eco-capitalist system.*

**I feel most like myself when I ....**

*Am onstage exploring other psyches.*

**What is your best escape?**

*Sailing and teaching it to young people. The only time we are truly free of technological chatter and imposed media; to breathe and just be...*

**What's the one thing nobody knows about you?**

*I am obsessed with unicorns (yes I admit I had those pastel and medieval posters all over my room when I was younger). If I am alone at night I will sleep with the corner of the blanket rolled up over my head from when I was a child and afraid of whatever "thing" would get me. I still do it out of habit because the blanket has magical protective powers — obviously.*