



THE
ABSOLUTELY
TRUE
SCIENCE
OF
NERDS

PRESS KIT

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS
by Shyaporn Theerakulstit

A series of three, completely scientific lectures on how to become Batman, Star Wars vs. Star Trek, and Godzilla biology.

www.ScienceofNerds.com

VENUE #6: DROM
85 Avenue A (between E 5th and 6th St.)

Tuesday 8/18 @ 4:45p	Wednesday 8/26 @ 9:15p
Friday 8/21 @ 9:15p	Saturday 8/29 @ 12:45p
Sunday 8/23 @ 6:00p	

fringe_{NYC} | **AUGUST 14TH-30TH** | **2015**

THE NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FRINGE FESTIVAL
TICKETS \$18 (NO LATE SEATING)
MOBILE TIX: FRINGEONTHEFLY.COM * FRINGENYC.ORG

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PRESS RELEASE

Company Contact: Shyaporn Theerakulstit, 917-414-7669, Shyaporn@aol.com

Learn the Secrets of Batman, Star Wars, Star Trek and Godzilla in **THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS**

Part of The New York International Fringe Festival - FringeNYC

A production of The Present Theatre Company

TUE 8/18 @ 4:45p | FRI 8/21 @ 9:15p | SUN 8/23 @ 6:00p

WED 8/26 @ 9:15p | SAT 8/29 @ 12:45p

at DROM (Venue #6) 85 Avenue A (between 5th and 6th St.)

Tickets: \$18 - To purchase, visit www.FringeNYC.org

Your Said Your Damn Ninja Would Take Care of Robocop Productions is proud to present THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS as part of the 19th annual New York International Fringe Festival - FringeNYC.

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS is a comedic series of three, “scientific” lectures on “How to Become the Batman,” “Star Wars vs. Star Trek,” and “Godzilla: History, Biology and Behavior of Hyper-evolved Theropod Kaiju.” In addition to the satirical presentations, the show will feature musical and video interludes, special surprise guest burlesque performers, plus audience Q&As on each topic covered.

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS is the creation of New York actor, writer and long-time YouTuber Shyaporn Theerakulstit, whose videos have millions of views, and has been featured in the New York Times, Comedy Central and Attack of the Show blogs, as well as numerous other media outlets such as Huffington Post, Topless Robot and more.

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS will feature themed-numbers from stars of the New York City burlesque scene, such as the legendary Jo “Boobs” Weldon and rising-sensation Tiger Bay, along with science and nerd culture celebrity interviews as well. Every show will feature a different guest appearance!

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS was first performed at the Nerd Nite lecture series at Galapagos Art Space in Brooklyn, NY in 2009. It has since been seen at Global Nerd Nite, the 92nd St Y, TEDx, C2E2, in Toronto, and as the closing presentation at the Smithsonian Institution's 2014 Future is Here Festival, alongside such luminaries as physicist Brian Greene, astronaut Mae Jemison and George Takei.

The lecture has been called “The greatest presentation of all time” by Nerd Nite and TEDx organizers, and the head writer for The Colbert Report once stated, “It’s as good as anything we do on the show,” followed by, “No, we’re not hiring.”

For more info, visit:

ScienceofNerds.com

[Facebook.com/ScienceofNerds](https://www.facebook.com/ScienceofNerds)

Twitter: @ScienceofNerd (*leave off the last “S” for “Science!”*)

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Shyaporn Theerakulstit is an actor, writer and new media content creator specializing in comedic video sketches, social media, blogging and the occasional fake science lecture.



He is a graduate of the NYU Tisch School of the Arts acting program, where he studied at the Stella Adler Conservatory and the Classical Studio. He received his BFA in Acting and Philosophy and was the recipient of the Tisch Creative Artist and Scholar Award.

Shyaporn's online videos currently have over 11,000 subscribers on YouTube, with over 5 million video views. They have been featured on the Comedy Central and Attack of the Show blogs, as well as numerous other media outlets such as Huffington Post, Topless Robot and the like. You can see examples of his Internet tomfoolery at [YouTube.com/Shyaporn](https://www.youtube.com/Shyaporn).



His year-long daily toy photography project "Toy a Day" was featured in the ?uestlove and Artists Wanted "Art Takes Times Square" Project.

He is a degree holder in traditional Shaolin kung fu, having studied for 10 years at Alan Lee's Chinese Kung-Fu Wu-Su Association in New York, NY. He is also certified in SAFD stage combat for hand-to-hand, rapier and

dagger and broadsword, as well as studying boxing, kickboxing, kendo, fencing, aikido and tai chi. He practices Bikram yoga, and has run two New York City Marathons.

He currently plays Lt. Sulu on Star Trek: New Voyages and King Tiger for Dark Horse Comics. Other favorite roles include Prospero in The Tempest, Donald Wu/Tai Tung Trahn in In Perpetuity Throughout the Universe and the Narrator in Fred Ho's Once Upon a Time in Chinese America at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

PRESS QUOTES

"For a good time in the world of superheroes, galactic empires and savage costumed beasts ("kaiju"), look no further than Shyaporn Theerakulstit's clever performance lecture The Absolutely True Science of Nerds." - [Indie Theater Now](#)

"If you're in New York, you still have a few chances to see The Absolutely True Science of Nerds! You lucky ducks." - [Tor.com](#)

"Undeniably compelling..." - [The Villager](#)

"It's so good, so scientific, it's just plain hilarious," "A funny, mind-altering show." - [NY Theater Now](#)

"An extremely intelligent dork utilizing his acting and singing abilities to great effect..." - [Hi! Drama](#)

"Shyaporn Theerakulstit's punchline-laden FringeNYC lecture is steeped in fanboy fanaticism, rooted in cold logic, and calculated to make hardcore nerds swoon" - [Chelsea Now](#)

"Nerds offers up just enough science and sci-fi trivia to whet your appetite for both." - [Theater is Easy](#)

"Date Night, Done Right: FringeNYC Shows for a great date!" - [Eventbrite.com](#)

"SPOTLIGHT on Shyaporn Theerakulstit" - [Theater in the Now](#)

The Absolutely True Science of Nerds

by [Ed Malin](#) · August 23, 2015



Shyaporn Theerakulstit | Shyaporn Theerakulstit

For a good time in the world of superheroes, galactic empires and savage costumed beasts (“kaiju”), look no further than Shyaporn Theerakulstit’s clever performance lecture *The Absolutely True Science of Nerds*. *It’s so good, so scientific, it’s just plain hilarious.*

The show analyzes three cultural phenomena: *Batman*, *Star Wars* vs. *Star Trek*, and *Godzilla*. During the thorough evaluation of each topic, many tools such as PowerPoint and rap are used to boldly prove what has never been proved. But in case you’re a real nerd, you’ll appreciate the reminder that many Bothans died to bring us this information (see: *Return of the Jedi*) and the stirring tribute to those peripheral characters which is accompanied by Sarah McLachlan’s song “I Will Remember You”.

It’s nerdy and yet when I was there seemed enjoyable for anyone, even those born this century.

Batman is a hyper-educated superhero out to avenge the murder of his parents in Gotham City’s Crime Alley (a crime that was unsolved for many years despite the wealth of crime scene footage). Shyaporn shows us how he trained for one week to simulate Batman’s workouts, caloric intake, sleeping habits, etc. 1960s chic such as Adam West dancing and the music of Mingus abounds.

Next comes a loving comparison of the technology in the *Star Wars* (a long time ago) and *Star Trek* (near future) universes. If you don't know already, you will find out which is better, hyperdrive or warp drive. You will speculate on which is bigger, the Federation or the Galactic Empire. You will imagine which story has better robots and more humane distribution of wealth. The results may shock you.

After an interlude from a guest burlesque dancer (I got to see Zelma Zelma as Ensign Redshirt), we wax nostalgic over the many times Godzilla has almost destroyed our civilization. We of course review how nuclear testing awakened the dormant kaiju, and speculate what type of dinosaur Godzilla and his ilk are. There are also thoughtful tips on how to survive a Godzilla attack, e.g. "run" and "don't live in Japan".

It is always a pleasure to see a funny, mind-altering show like this. If you have ever used the Force (whether in physics class or for the betterment of the world) you will have a great time. You may even try to stump Shyaporn during the Q&A, but his comic timing and authoritative style are most admirable.

More about THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS

Venue: DROM, 85 Avenue A

Dates: Aug 18, 2015 - Aug 29, 2015

<http://www.nytheaternow.com/Content/Article/2015-8-23-the-absolutely-true-science-of-nerds>



Hi! Drama

August 20 at 12:43pm ·

LISA RAMACI REVIEWS "THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS"

Created, produced and performed by Shyaporn Theerakulstit

I start this review by confessing that I am a nerd. When I was a little kid I wanted to grow up to be a Vulcan so I could marry Spock; I've seen "Star Wars" 272 times IN THE THEATER; and my #1 current TV show is "Big Bang Theory". So when I heard there was going to be a Fringe performance incorporating lectures about Batman (THE best DC superhero), Star Trek and Star Wars, and Godzilla, King of the Monsters, I knew I had to see it.

As performed totally straight-faced by Shyaporn Theerakulstit in the guise of a college professor, the 90-minute production was a mix of comedy, pseudo-science, an impressive and inventive Power Point presentation, and a deeply disturbing striptease, complete with swinging boob AND butt tassels, executed by a buxom babe in a Godzilla costume (but at least she depicted the lizard from the 1998 bomb, not the endearing chubby-faced one from the Tojo Studios).

The lecture topics covered "How to Become Batman", "Star Wars vs. Star Trek" (a conversation I've had more than once in my life, but Theerakulstit and I differ on the outcome), and "Godzilla: History, Biology and Behavior of Hyper-evolved Theropod Kaiju", and each was a learned discourse, accompanied by charts, graphs, film clips. There were also songs and a bit of soft-shoe accompanying the Batman and Godzilla lectures, ably performed by Theerakulstit.

So if you want a thorough dissection of how many martial arts Batman knows, and how many calories a day he gets to eat, as well as a fabulous cutaway rendering of the Bat Cave ("Batman: Origins and Training" and "Secrets of the Dark Knight Detective"), or spirited comparisons of the weaponry, propulsion systems, mystical elements and starships from the Star Trek/Wars universes ("ST vs. SW: Modern Perspectives of Past Future and Future Future Technology"), or an overview of the rise, and history, of my favorite atomic superbeast Gojira, hurry to see one of the four remaining shows of "The Absolutely True Science of Nerds".

There's lots of laughs, some interesting visuals (with the exception of those butt tassels), and a chance to see an extremely intelligent dork utilizing his acting, singing and dancing abilities to great effect in what is obviously a personal salute to things he clearly cherishes.

The only down side to the show was the audience - while they obviously appreciated Mr. Theerakulstit's efforts, they failed miserably to cooperate during the Q&A sessions following each lecture, with only two of us trying to ask questions. So to all of you future viewers - when it comes time to query Mr. Theerakulstit, in the immortal words of Captains Kirk, Jean-Luc Picard and

Janeway - "Engage"!

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS
CLOSES AUGUST 29TH, 2015

PERFORMANCE VENUE#6:

Drom

85 Ave. A (Between 5th and 6th Streets)

<http://www.scienceofnerds.com/>

ACTING RESUME

SHYAPORN THEERAKULSTIT

Height: 5'6"

Shyaporn@aol.com

917-414-7669

www.shyaporn.com

Hair: Black

Weight: 150 lbs

Eyes: Dark Brown

THEATER:

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS
ONCE UPON A TIME IN CHINESE AMERICA

THE TEMPEST
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

WOYZECK
THE MIDNIGHT MOONLIGHT WEDDING CHAPEL

TRUE AND SOLID GROUND

LYSISTRATA

LIGHT IN THE VILLAGE

THEME WITH VARIATION

THEY TALKED ABOUT HIM LIKE HE WAS DEAD

DARK RIDE

ANTIGONE

Self

Narrator

Prospero

Benedick

The Doctor

Peter

Kim

Cinesias, Sparta, Herald, Men

Muntu

Tristan

Chorus

Thief

Creon

FringeNYC

Brooklyn Academy of Music

Expanded Arts

Kraime Theater

Westbeth Theater Center

The Producers Club

SoHo Rep

Women of Color Festival

Interart Theater Annex

BIG ART in small places

NY Fringe Festival

Playwrights' Horizons

Shady Side Theatre

MUSICAL THEATER:

THE NINJA PROJECT: KEY ELEMENTS

KENSUKE

GODSPELL

1940'S RADIO HOUR

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

Fuga

Kensuke

Jesus Christ

Jonny Caltone

High Priest, Apostle

Chashama

Samuel Beckett Theatre

Pittsburgh Playhouse

Pittsburgh Playhouse

Sherwood Forest Theatre

UNIVERSITY THEATER:

OEDIPUS THE KING

KING JOHN

IN PERPETUITY THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE

Oedipus

King Philip

Dennis Wu, Tai Tung Trahn

NYU Shop Theatre

NYU Studio 3

NYU Shop Theatre

FILM and TELEVISION:

KING TIGER

STAR TREK: NEW VOYAGES

EXORCISTS LOCAL 667

UNDER THE GUN

GOD OF VAMPIRES

ONE LIFE TO LIVE

SCORCHED EARTH

UP AND FLYING

King Tiger (Lead)

Lt. Hikaru Sulu

Edwin Lange (Lead)

Michael (Lead)

Vincent Wu (Lead)

Concierge

Gunman

Chaim

Dark Horse Comics

Retro Film Studios

Todd Faulkner, dir.

Douglas Ferguson, dir.

Rob Fitz, dir.

Danielle Faraldo, dir.

Fabio Segatori, dir.

Lance Miller, dir.

Full list of short films, voiceover and commercial conflicts available upon request

TRAINING:

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts - Bachelor of Fine Arts: Drama

Stella Adler Conservatory of Acting - James Tripp, *Artistic Director*. Charles Waxberg, Alice Winston, Elizabeth Parrish,

Casey Kizziah, Eloise Watt, Joanne Edelmann, Joan Evans, Donna Lee Kelly, Angela Vitale, Tom Oppenheim

New York University Classical Studio - Louis Scheeder, *Artistic Director*. J. David Brimmer, Deloss Brown,

Colin Connor, Renee Redding-Jones, Donna Germain, Darcy Picoult, Nancy Piccione

Tisch School of the Arts Artist and Scholar Award

Recognized Actor/Combatant by the SAFD: J. David Brimmer, *Instructor*; J. Allen Suddeth, *Adjudicator*

Alan Lee's Chinese Kung-Fu Wu-Su Association: First Degree Holder

Pittsburgh Playhouse Conservatory - Ken Gargaro, *Artistic Director*

SPECIAL SKILLS:

Voiceovers; Stand Up; Sketch Comedy; Stage Combat; Kung-Fu Wu-Su; Basic Coin/Card Magic; Illustration; Origami; Basic Ballroom and Theater Dance; Marathon Runner; Cooking; Webpage Design; Ordained Minister (via Internet), D-List YouTuber

PROGRAM

Study Guide

Who is Batman?

- a) Clark Kent
- b) Bruce Wayne
- c) Dick Grayson
- d) I am

How many martial arts does Batman know?

- a) 42
- b) 127
- c) 275
- d) Batman

Who shot first?

- a) Greedo
- b) Han
- c) Aaron Burr
- d) Alexander Hamilton

How big was Death Star I?

- a) 150 meters
- b) 150 kilometers
- c) 500 miles
- d) Rhode Island

What is the best weapon against Godzilla?

- a) Oxygen Destroyer
- b) The Gotengo
- c) Voltron
- d) Run

What does Godzilla eat?

- a) Planes, trains and automobiles
- b) Fish
- c) Self-generated nuclear plasma
- d) Kosher

Which FringeNYC show should I write on my ballot?

- a) The Absolutely True Science of Nerds
- b) The Absolutely True Science of Nerds
- c) The Absolutely True Science of Nerds
- d) All of the above

Special Thanks to:

Tiger Bay, Stacey Shub, Sky Younglin, Matt Wasowski and Nerd Nite, Lauren Shub, Irene and Samara, Bob Kane, Bill Finger, Gene Roddenberry, Ishiro Honda, James Cawley, Star Trek: New Voyages and the amazing folks at FringeNYC for all their incredible work. Plus...



Emily Vartanian (Choreographer) is a professional dancer, producer, and choreographer living in New York City. She also teaches Bikram yoga and enjoys board games



Kat Mitzvah (Box Office Rep/Lab Assistant/Stage Kitten) is thrilled to be making her FringeNYC and burlesque kitting debut!

WWW.SHYAPORN.COM

WWW.SCIENCEOFNERDS.COM



THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE SCIENCE OF NERDS

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at DROM (Venue #6) 85 Avenue

Class Syllabus



Lecture #1 – Batman: Origins and Training Secrets of the Dark Knight Detective

Q & A Section 1



Lecture #2 – Star Wars vs Star Trek: Modern Perspectives of Past Future and Future Future Technology

Q & A Section 2



Guest Lecturer



Lecture #3 – Godzilla: History, Biology and Behavior of Hyper-evolved Theropod Kaiju

Q & A Section 3

Instructor

Created, Produced and Performed by



Shyaporn Theerakulstit is an actor, writer, lecturer, new media content creator and YouTube video maker. He returns to FringeNYC 18 years after having been a part of the very first festival back in 1997. He has given talks at Nerd Nite, TEDx, C2E2, Union College and the Smithsonian Institution, and has performed at such venues as the Brooklyn Academy of Music, NJPAC and the Guggenheim Museum. He plays Lt. Hikaru Sulu on Star Trek: New Voyages and King Tiger for Dark Horse Comics. You can see examples of his internet whimsy at shyaporn.com or

Adjunct Faculty



Jo "Boobs" Weldon (Godzilla) is Founder of the NY School of Burlesque, author of "The Burlesque Handbook" and is one of the world's most recognized burlesque instructors. She is a recipient of the coveted Burlesque Hall of Fame Award for her outstanding contributions.



Zelma Zelma (Ensign Redshirt) is a Burlesque performer, playwright and Trek nerd who - of all the captains - would definitely choose to serve under Sisko. You can see her every weekend in Speakeasy Dollhouse: Ziegfeld's Midnight Frolic.



Le Grand Chaton (Princess Leia) is an up and coming NY-based performer and is over the moon to be performing at FringeNYC! When not busy at Naughty Noir or Bourbon and Lace, "The Big Kitten" loves taking long catnaps - they don't call her "The Cat's Pajamas of Burlesque" for nothing!



Clara Coquette (Admiral Ackbar) is an NYC-based performer, born and raised in Detroit, MI. A vintage vixen, nimble nerd, and cunning chameleon, she trained at the NY School of Burlesque, debuted in 2011 and has balanced burlesque with her full time career in medical science research ever since.



Tiger Bay (Carl Sagan) graduated from the NY School of Burlesque and serves as spokesmodel for KLAWTEX. She performs regularly in NYC and is a member of RAWR Burlesque and a regular with D20 Burlesque. Her repertoire consists of various animals, plants, weather systems and bipeds.



Iris Explosion (Godzilla Dancer) is an NYC-based burlesque performer. A certified ecstasiast from the NY School of Burlesque, she is a regular at The Pink Room, Burlesque at the Beach, the Church of Titillation, D20 Burlesque and Philadelphia's Sexploitation Follies. Iris is a founding producer of the Nerdlesque Festival.



Anja Keister (Godzilla Dancer) is a performer based out of NYC. Anja is mainly known for events in the nerd community including performances and panels at conventions all over the US, as well as co-producing a monthly nerdy burlesque show, D20 Burlesque since 2011.