

"BURLESQUE IS ABOUT INTERACTING WITH THE AUDIENCE, HONORING A PIECE OF HISTORY WITH A PERFORMANCE. WE DO IT FOR APPLAUSE, NOT FOR DOLLARS." — LOLA VAN ELLA



NEO-BURLESQUE

From left to right: Michelle Mynx, 32, Gravity Plays Favorites; Lola Van Ella, 26, Alley Cat Revue; Katrina Dohl, 26, Gravity Plays Favorites

THE BUZZ: This classic form of burlesque entertainment is making a sweeping comeback across the country from L.A. to Vegas to N.Y. and yes, even to St. Louis. Lola van Ella and the Alley Cat Revue, along with Michelle Mynx and Katrina Dohl of Gravity Plays Favorites—the two leading local burlesque troupes—have been turning heads (and dropping jaws) for the last year with incredible independent and group performances, including the monthly “Cowboy Cabaret” at Atomic Cowboy, weekly shows at Rue 13, showcases at Off Broadway, events at the City Museum and even private parties. For those who truly catch the burlesque fever, Lola will show you the moves in her classes at Floored on Grand. Demonstrating more than cheeky striptease, these burlesque babes have perfected stunning aerial rope and pole tricks, acrobatics and musical numbers that tantalize the senses and have all of St. Louis talking. Think Gypsy Rose Lee for the modern age—let them entertain you. —Amy Burger

Photographed by Rick Gould on location at the Roberts Orpheum Theater.