

HARLEQUIN

Press Release

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Harlequin Productions Unveils 2021 -2022 Season

Olympia, WA – June 13, 2021 - Harlequin Productions' 2021-2022 Season was revealed on Saturday, June 12 via an online celebration, presented live from the State Theater in downtown Olympia. Artistic Director Aaron Lamb engaged incoming guest directors and many of the next season's lead actors in multimedia presentations to introduce the new season.

Of note:

- Some of the productions canceled in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic will be produced in the 2021-2022 season.
- The season begins on October 22, 2021, runs through December 31, 2022, and includes 11 rather than the traditional 7 shows.
- The season opens with three productions performing in repertory. Musicals *Tenderly*, *The Rosemary Clooney Musical* and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* will join Dael Orlandersmith's *Until the Flood* in a rotating schedule for six weeks, from October 22, 2021 to December 4, 2021. *A Christmas Carol* will join the repertory season on November 24 and continues its run through December 31st, 2021. A performance calendar is available on the Harlequin website and in the season brochure.
- The Washington Center Box Office and Harlequin's Box Office have merged. Patrons should continue to purchase tickets online at harlequinproductions.org, via email at boxoffice@harlequinproductions.org, or by calling (360) 786-0151. The State Theater will be open 2 hours before every performance for Will Call, Rush, and PWYC. For in-person ticket purchases outside of performance hours, patrons may visit the Washington Center Box Office at 512 Washington St. SE, Tues - Sat 12 - 5:30pm, one block away from the State Theater. Patrons may also call or email The Washington Center Box Office for tickets to Harlequin shows.

Continuing with the 2021-2022 Season:

- Opening nights are on Fridays. The Thursday before Opening is a preview night, open to the public at discounted rates.
- All evening performances are at 7:30pm.
- Every weekend of a production includes a 2:00pm Saturday matinee.
- Every production will include three PWYC nights, with dates announced at least one week before Opening.

The 2021-2022 Season:

In Repertory October 22 – November 20: ***Tenderly, the Rosemary Clooney Musical based on the life of Rosemary Clooney***

A fresh, personal, and poignant picture of the woman whose unparalleled talent and unbridled personality made her a legend. Starting with Clooney's simple Maysville, Kentucky childhood and following her rise to Hollywood stardom, *Tenderly* weaves her signature songs in and out. Starring Katherine Strohmaier, directed by Corey McDaniel.

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In Repertory October 29 – November 27: ***Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill***

The time is 1959. The place is a seedy bar in Philadelphia. The audience is about to witness one of Billie Holiday's last performances, given four months before her death. In Lanie Robertson's award-winning play, Holiday lets music tell her story, sharing soulful and heart-wrenching songs from her memorable canon. Starring Alexandria J. Henderson, directed by Jimmy Shields.

In Repertory November 5 – December 4: ***Until the Flood***

Pulitzer Prize finalist and celebrated performer and playwright Dael Orlandersmith explores the social uprising in Ferguson, Missouri following the shooting of teenager Michael Brown. Pulling from her extensive interviews with Missouri residents, Orlandersmith crafts a stunning theatrical experience that must be seen. Directed by Faith Bennett Russell.

Holiday 2021/Holiday 2022: ***A Christmas Carol***

Hailed as the greatest ghost story ever told, we begin a new holiday tradition at Harlequin with Artistic Director Aaron Lamb's fresh adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic story of transformation, absolution, and grace. Join us for a holiday classic sure to please, with a healthy dose of holiday cheer, and the kind of ghostly special effects that only Harlequin can deliver. Grab the family, order a hot-buttered-rum, and join us for true holiday spirit. Starring Terry Edward Moore, directed by Aaron Lamb.

January - February 2022: ***Murder for Two***

A zany blend of classic musical comedy and madcap mystery, this 90-minute whodunit is a highly theatrical duet loaded with killer laughs. One actor investigates, the other plays every suspect, and both play the piano in this whip-smart, winking homage to an old-fashioned theatrical murder mystery. Starring Katherine Strohmaier and Jon Lutyens, directed by Corey McDaniel.

March – April 2022: ***Endgame***

Harlequin opened its third season 28 years ago with Samuel Beckett's masterpiece *Waiting for Godot*. We continue this tradition of excellence in the classics with Beckett's later masterpiece, *Endgame*. We pair this one-act classic with a lesser-known short sketch by the author, *Rough for Theatre II*. Directed by Aaron Lamb.

May 2022: ***Sovereignty***

Sarah Ridge Polson, a young Cherokee lawyer fighting to restore her Nation's jurisdiction, confronts the ever-present ghosts of her grandfathers. With shadows stretching from 1830s Cherokee Nation (now present-day Georgia) through Andrew Jackson's Oval Office, along the fateful Trail of Tears, to the Cherokee Nation in present-day Oklahoma — Mary Katherine Nagle's *Sovereignty* travels the powerful intersections of personal and political truths, bridging our country's distant past and imminent future. Director TBA.

June – July 2022: ***Hedwig and the Angry Inch***

Brilliantly innovative, heartbreaking, and wickedly funny, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* is the landmark musical by John Cameron Mitchell and Stephen Trask. Winner of four 2014 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, *Hedwig* will take you by storm with what Time Magazine proclaims is "the most exciting rock score written for the theatre since, oh, ever!" Directed by Aaron Lamb.

August - September 2022: ***This Flat Earth***

At a middle school in a seaside town, the unthinkable has happened, placing a bewildered community in the national spotlight. Julie and Zander, two twelve-year-olds, try to make sense of the chaos they

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witnessed, their awkward crushes, and an infinitely more complicated future. An urgent response to our times, *This Flat Earth* is a startling and deeply felt story of growing up in our confounding world.
Director TBA

October 2022: ***Fun Home***

Winner of five 2015 Tony Awards including Best Musical, *Fun Home* is a refreshingly honest, wholly original musical about seeing your parents through grown-up eyes. By Lisa Kron, Jeanine Tesori, and celebrated graphic artist Alison Bechdel. Starring Jenifer Foote, directed by Michael Jenkinson.

Subscriptions are available for purchase by mail, online at harlequinproductions.org, by phone at (360) 786-0151, and in-person at the Washington Center Box Office.

Single tickets for the 2021-2022 season will be available for purchase on August 16, 2021.

For more information please contact:

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