

We are resilient.

It was over two years ago that I remember closing down this theatre due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and although we're finally open again, it feels to me (and I doubt your experience is much different) as if the universe has offered up nothing but uncertainty and danger as consolation.

It's precisely this uncertainty and danger that leads to intense angst and fuels a great need for actual certainty - "cognitive closure" psychologists call it. This fuels our voracious appetite for information, for the 24-hour news cycle that hopefully will break any moment providing instant certainty of timeline. A voracious appetite for data, case counts, R_0 values (we've all become armchair epidemiologists) in hopes that we will be able to see with certainty the end of the trauma somewhere in the matrix.

In the presence of this diffuse uncertainty, we as humans are drawn like moths to a flame to simplistic solutions, to binary reasoning. We have no patience, no tolerance for ambiguity; nothing lies in the middle. There is good, there is bad. We will bucket people, experiences, and everything in between accordingly. Justice cannot exist in a world that allows any injustice, and social issues - or rather the positions we take regarding them - will define us.

What we've lost in this melee - what this once-in-a-century event has stolen from us - is our humanity. This all feels as though we've forgotten how to be human.

Our art form fundamentally relies on our humanity, or more specifically on human empathy: the ability to put ourselves in someone else's shoes - regardless of beliefs, opinions, or backgrounds - and see something familiar. Resilience is not the ability to simply withstand challenges, holding one's ground at any cost. In fact, that is often a recipe for the opposite. Resiliency requires an adjustment to address the situation, an adaptation. And that adaptation requires empathy.

It's our ability to listen to each other, and to hear, to laugh, to love, to converse, to wonder and to uproot the simplicity, the reactionary, the binary, and the tribal. This is what makes us human. This is what makes us resilient.

And so, our offerings for 2023 lean on this resilience, and offer some subtle reminders as to how we can be human. A refresher course, if you will, on the simpler human emotions, decoupled from the politics, from the uncertainty, and from the danger that our world offers up in spades. How can we remember how to laugh? To love? To see people as human beings, and not just members of another tribe? How can we feel more? Think more? Play more? How can we judge each other less?

How can we be human again?

I can't wait to see you in the theatre.

Aaron Lamb, Producing Artistic Director

This program is supported, in part, by a grant from the Washington State Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.









BASKERVILLE

JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 11

BUILDING MADNESS

MARCH 17 - APRIL 1

HUNDRED DAYS

MAY 5 - MAY 27

FALSETTOS

JUNE 30 - JULY 15

THE REVOLUTIONISTS

SEPTEMBER 8 - 23

TOP SECRET

OCTOBER 13 - 28

HOLIDAY 2023

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 24



Ken Ludwig's BASKERVILLE:

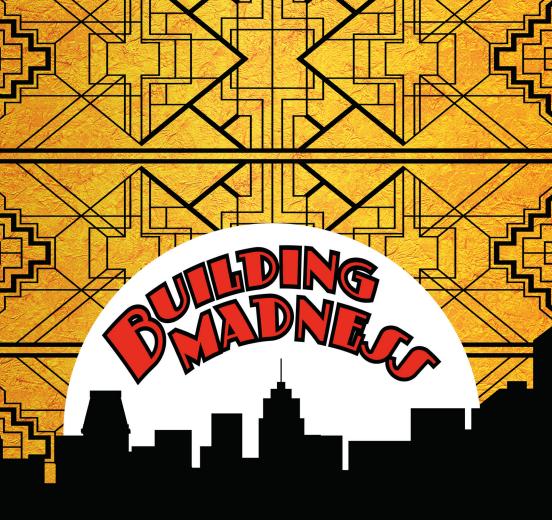
A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

by **Ken Ludwig**Directed by **Corey McDaniel**

Get your deerstalker cap on — the play's afoot! Comedic genius Ken Ludwig (Lend Me a Tenor, Moon Over Buffalo) transforms Arthur Conan Doyle's classic "The Hound of the Baskervilles" into a murderously funny adventure. Sherlock Holmes is on the case. The male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Watch as our intrepid investigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises, and deceit as five actors deftly portray more than forty characters. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Join the fun and see how far from elementary the truth can be.

IF YOU LIKED: Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol (2019), The 39 Steps (2015)

COMEDY MYSTERY JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 11, 2023
The State Theater



by Kate Danley - Regional Playwright

Max and Paul are just trying to keep their architecture company afloat, but they accidentally hired the mob to build a police retirement home. They may never get the project done in this screwball comedy, but they are most definitely building madness. If you love those great old comedies from Hollywood's Golden Era of the 1930s, you will love this!

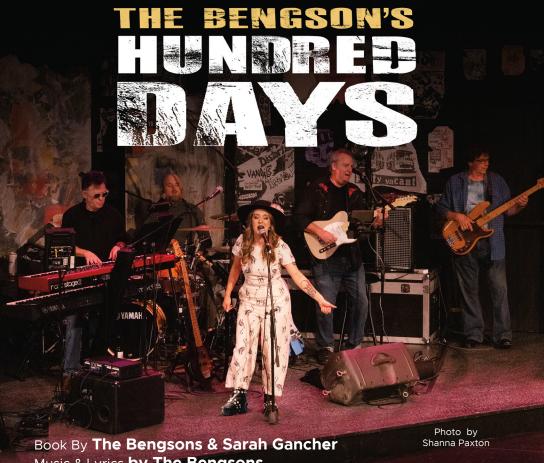
IF YOU LIKED: Laughter on the 23rd Floor (2015), Present Laughter (2017)

PROFESSIONAL WORLD PREMIERE!

COMEDY FARCE MARCH 17 - APRIL 1, 2023
The State Theater

"A luminous musical memoir that celebrates and laments the elusive radiance of a shared life."

- The New York Times, CRITIC'S PICK



Music & Lyrics by The Bengsons Directed by Aaron Lamb

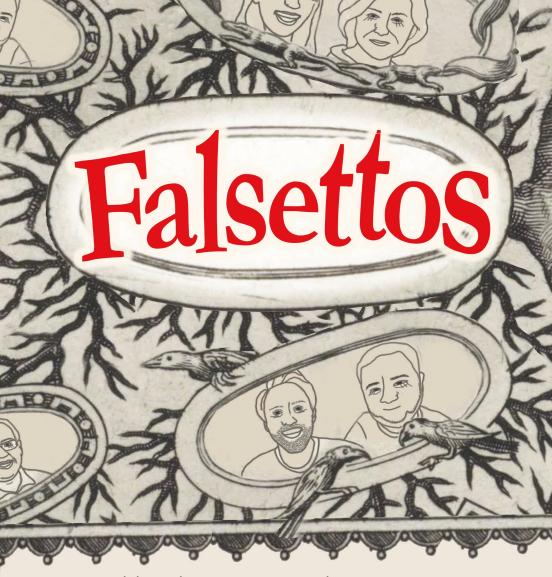
Featuring local artist Amy Shephard and local band Sugar and the Spitfires

Join us as we transform The State Theatre into a nightclub for an uncensored, exhilarating and heartrending true story about embracing uncertainty, taking a leap, and loving as if you only had 100 days to live. With magnetic chemistry and anthemic folk-punk music, creators Abigail and Shaun Bengson explore a fundamental question: how do we make the most of the time that we have?

IF YOU LIKED: Hedwig and the Angry Inch (2022), Sixties Chicks Too (2015)

MUSICAL

MAY 5 - 27, 2023 The State Theater



Book by **William Finn and James Lapine**Music and Lyrics by **William Finn**

Hilarious, heartbreaking and utterly unique, Falsettos revolves around the life of a charming, intelligent, neurotic gay man named Marvin, his wife, lover, about-to-be-Bar-Mitzvahed son, their psychiatrist, and the lesbians next door. It's a hilarious and achingly poignant look at the infinite possibilities that make up a modern family... and a beautiful reminder that love can tell a million stories. 1992 Tony Award for Best Score and Best Book of a Musical.

"A masterly feat of comic storytelling... visionary musical theater." - Variety

IF YOU LIKED: Fun Home (2022), First Date (2017)

JUNE 30 - JULY 15, 2023
The Minnaert Main Stage

MUSICAL

YOUR DONATIONS ARE CRUCIAL!

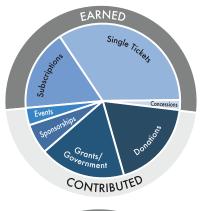
Only 55% of our income comes from ticket sales, the remaining 45% comes from donations, grants, and sponsorships

It costs more to produce theatre than just the cost of the theatre! Most of your money goes to people, and while the majority of it goes to the production of Real. Live. Theatre., almost half is required to run and operate a theatre venue and downtown business.

What if all our revenue needed to come from ticket sales?

A Single Ticket would cost: \$80.10 A Season Subscription would cost: \$560.71

Please consider adding a membership to your subscription!





Season Subscription

See all the shows, get the best seats and save 20% off single ticket prices. Renewing subscribers are guaranteed the same seats. Other benefits include free exchanges and reprints, half-price repeat tickets, and priority advance seating.

Flex Pass Subscription

Choose either 4 or 6 shows, and mix and match what you want to see, when you want to see it. You're in control, but your seating is based on availability. Plus, you'll still get half-price repeat tickets!

Member Benefits

Include a tax-deductible donation with your subscription and help Harlequin create Real. Live. Theatre. for years to come. As a thank you, you'll receive the exciting benefits listed on the right.

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT HARLEQUIN?

Our 2023 season includes performances on four stages!



The State Theater



The Kenneth J.
Minnaert
Center
Mainstage



The Kenneth J.
Minnaert
Center
Black Box



The Washington Center *Black Box*

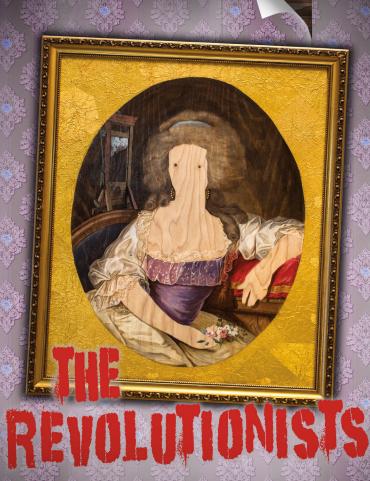
We are so pleased to announce that in the spring of 2023, we will begin our first round of long-overdue renovations at the State Theater!

The improvements will include a complete renovation of the backstage, the enclosure of the performance space acoustically (including new seating!), and the enclosure of the tech deck.

Stay tuned for information about the second phase of the renovation, including the lobby area, the exterior, and many special surprises, and how you can become involved!

	Partner \$10/mo. or \$100/yr	Investor \$25/mo. or \$300/yr	Benefactor \$1,000	Artists' Circle \$2,500	Producers' Circle \$5,000
Member pricing at concessions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Name in program and on website	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Invite for two to a technical dress rehearsal		✓	✓	✓	✓
Invite for two to attend an artistic director's brunch			\checkmark	\checkmark	✓
Invite for two to a special donor party				\checkmark	✓
Invite for two to the stage manager's experience					✓
Complimentary tickets to the 2023 Gala					✓

Artistic Director's Circle (\$10,000+): Benefits are highly personalized; if interested in giving at this level, please contact Cody Clark at cody@harlequinproductions.org.



by Lauren Gunderson Directed by Lauren Love

The Revolutionists is a new play about four very real women who lived boldly in France during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror. Playwright Olympe De Gouge, assassin Charlotte Corday, former queen (and fan of ribbons) Marie Antoinette, and Haitian rebel Marianne Angelle hang out, murder Marat, lose their heads and try to beat back the extremist insanity in the Paris of 1793. What was a hopeful revolution for the people is now sinking into hyper-violent hypocritical male rhetoric. However will modern audiences relate? This grand and dream-tweaked comedy is about violence and legacy, art and activism, feminism and terrorism, compatriots and chosen sisters, and how we actually go about changing the world. It's a true story. Or total fiction. Or a play about a play. Or a raucous resurrection...that ends in a song and a scaffold.

"A sassy, hold-on-to-your-seats theatrical adventure...
wonderfully wild and raucous..." – Cincinnati Enquirer

IF YOU LIKED: The Women (2019), Or, (2013)

COMEDY

SEPTEMBER 8 - 23, 2023
The Washington Center Black Box

From a Painting by Lynette Charters



Directed by **Aaron Lamb**Featuring local artist **Eleise Moore**

This play is simply too new for us to tell you what it is! We're legally not allowed to reveal this title until mid-2023. But trust us, and join us in the very intimate Minnaert Center Black Box for a theatrical evening like none you've ever experienced before.

"...very charming...offers sentimentality without shame...
guaranteed to keep your eyes brimming... balance[s] acuity
and affability...with unobtrusive artistry...captivating..." —NY Ti



"[A] heart-wrenching, hilarious play...possibly one of the funniest plays you'll ever see, full stop...There is something tough being confronted here... and it is explored with unflinching honesty."

—The Guardian (UK).

IF YOU LIKED: (There is nothing like this.)

NEW PLAY COMEDY OCTOBER 13 - 28, 2023
The Minnaert Center Black Box

Holida

Ring in the Yuletide season with a heart-warming holiday show at Harlequin! We don't know yet exactly what we'll put on the boards, but rest assured there will be good cheer, at least a few special effects, and plenty of fun for the whole family!

IF YOU LIKED: A Christmas Carol (2021/22), Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol (2019), Any Stardust... (2002-2018), or Holiday shows in general

COMEDY MYSTERY NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 24, 2023
The State Theater

SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

2023 Subscriber Information

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No front row please	Prefer aisle seats					
Special seating needs:						

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