



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bringing mental illness out of the shadows with humor, one ‘brilliant thing’ at a time

Olympia, WA – September 20, 2023 – Harlequin Productions presents [Every Brilliant Thing](#) by Duncan Macmillan, with Jonny Donahoe, October 13 - 28, 2023 at the Kenneth J. Minnaert Center Black Box. Aaron Lamb will direct. Starring local artist Eleise Moore, this hilarious one-person production, produced at [ACT Theatre](#) earlier this year and currently in production at the [Geffen Playhouse](#) in LA, dares to conduct an honest, positive, and yes, very funny conversation with audiences about some of our most taboo subjects: depression and suicide.

The hit play and international sensation Every Brilliant Thing, by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe, is a one-of-a-kind storytelling experience blending comedy with improv to tell the story of an adult learning to grapple with their own experiences of love, loss, and finding a new way forward, one brilliant thing at a time.

Asked why he thinks this piece has been produced so frequently this year, Director Aaron Lamb says,

What Duncan Macmillan and Jonny Donahoe have been able to achieve is something very rare. It’s an extraordinarily positive and productive discussion about a difficult subject, which is mental illness. And they do it in a way that is so personal. It’s inviting. It’s happy. It’s difficult. But first and foremost, it fundamentally includes the audience in the conversation in a way no other theatre piece that I have ever seen or worked on has done. Through this positive conversation, you’ll walk out from the theater happier, lighter, and better prepared to handle the world.

Harlequin veteran and Olympia native [Eleise Moore](#) takes on the challenge of a one-person show with gusto. Asked for her thoughts on the production, she writes, “*Every Brilliant Thing* is in essence a show about life, family, and hope told irreverently with improv, audience interaction, and emotional honesty. *EBT* uses humor and comedy to examine the ups and downs that come with life, and pinpoints the simple, brilliant things that bring little lights into our existence. By also taking on the rough parts of life with grace and humor we can hold them away from ourselves; we can learn and heal in the laughter.”

Why was Ms. Moore chosen for this role? Says Lamb, “She’s so funny! Eleise is an artist with a unique combination of experience with comedy, drama, improve, and audience interaction, and then she just has a welcoming personality that will lend itself to this piece.”

Publicity photos are available on our [For Press](#) page, or use the direct link [here](#).

Production Information

WHAT: Harlequin Productions presents [Every Brilliant Thing](#) by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe, a one-of-a-kind storytelling experience starring Olympia native Eleise Moore. Directed by Aaron Lamb.

WHEN: October 13 - 28, 2023

WHERE: Kenneth J. Minnaert Center Black Box, 2011 Mottman Rd SW, Olympia, WA 98512

TICKETS: Tickets are available online at harlequinproductions.org, by phone at 360-786-0151, or in person 12-5:30 pm, Tuesday-Saturday at the Washington Center.

General admission tickets are \$43

Senior 60+/Military \$40

Groups 6+ \$34.40

Student/Youth \$28

Rush Tickets (half-hour prior to showtime) General \$21.50; Teens/Under 20 \$5

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE:

Opening Night: Friday, October 13 at 7:30 pm

Wednesday Matinee: Wednesday, October 25 at 2:00 pm

Pay-What-You-Can: Three performances TBA prior to Opening

CATEGORY: New Play, Comedy

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 11 and over with guidance

CAST:

Eleise Moore*

* Indicates membership in the Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

Harlequin Productions is a professional not-for-profit theater company in Olympia, WA. We seek to invigorate, educate, and empower our community and all people to feel more, think more, play more, and judge less through the mirror of real live theatre.

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