



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harlequin reopens the State Theater with an immersive *Cabaret*

Olympia, WA – May 21, 2024 – Harlequin Productions presents *Cabaret*, the Tony, Olivier and Academy-Award-winning musical by John Kander, Fred Ebb and Joe Masteroff, June 28 – July 28, 2024 at the State Theater in downtown Olympia, WA. Producing Artistic Director Aaron Lamb will direct.

In a time when the world is changing forever, there is one place where everyone can be free. Welcome to the Kit Kat Klub.

One of the most famous American musicals of all time, Cabaret takes us to the seedy underground of 1929 Berlin during the twilight of the Jazz Age. Hit songs include “Willkommen”, “Don’t Tell Mama,” “Maybe This Time” and, of course, the title song, “Cabaret.”

Since its 1966 Broadway debut, *Cabaret* has been revived multiple times on the West End and Broadway, most recently in the 2021 West End revival starring Eddie Redmayne, which just opened on Broadway this April. Tracing the fall of the Weimar Republic to Hitler’s Nazi dictatorship from the perspective of Berlin’s artists, *Cabaret* uniquely captures a fragile moment of borrowed time, which has proved fertile ground for creative reinvention as well as an opportunity to draw parallels with current affairs. Reflecting these ideas, Mr. Lamb writes:

To me, *Cabaret* is three things. First, it is a celebration. A celebration of individuality, of idealism, of modernity and progress. Sexual freedom, gender parity, equity and equality were at the forefront of Weimar culture, as they are now. In many ways it was a remarkably similar time. Next, *Cabaret* is a journey. A journey through 1930s Berlin, through a motley cast of characters who turn out to be remarkably like us. Finally, *Cabaret* is a warning. It’s a warning as to what can happen when we’re not paying attention.

Cabaret marks the first Harlequin production at the State Theater since the building closed in February 2024 for an extensive renovation. The finished product will be on full display: one hour before each performance, audiences will enter through the new backstage door on Washington Street and tour the space while enjoying immersive pre-show entertainment. For patrons interested in continuing the immersive experience,

seven onstage VIP tables are available each night. For a \$45 upcharge, two VIP patrons will be served an appetizer of their choice from Uptown Grill and a bottle of sparkling wine.

Link to publicity photos here: <https://harlequinproductions.org/2024/05/18/cabaret-publicity-photos/>

Link to the show page here: <https://harlequinproductions.org/show/cabaret/>

Production Information

WHAT: Harlequin Productions presents *Cabaret*, the award-winning musical by John Kander, Fred Ebb and Joe Masteroff depicting the fall of Weimar-era Berlin through the eyes of its artists, directed by Aaron Lamb.

WHEN: June 28 – July 28, 2024

WHERE: State Theater, 202 4th Ave East, Olympia, WA 98501

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, and beginning 2 hours before performances at the Washington Center.

General admission tickets \$48

Senior 60+/Military \$43

Student/Youths Under 25 \$33

Rush Tickets (2 hours prior to showtime) General \$25; Teens/Under 20 \$5

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE:

Opening Night: Friday, June 28 at 7:30 pm

Wednesday Matinee: Wednesday July 24 at 2:00 pm

Pay-What-You-Choose: Four performances TBA prior to Opening

Closing: Sunday, July 28 at 2:00pm

CATEGORY: Musical

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 11 and older with guidance

CAST:

Adam Rennie*

Emcee

Karin Terry

Sally Bowles

Teri Lee Thomas

Fraulein Schneider

Christian Bolduc

Clifford Bradshaw

David Gassner

Herr Schultz

Bruce Haasl

Ernst Ludwig

Heather Matthews

Fraulein Kost

Jacqueline Tardanico

Fritzie

Lola Havens	<i>Frenchie</i>
Emma Bradley	<i>Helga</i>
Perseus "Percy" Wait	<i>Hans</i>
Travis Tingvall	<i>Victor</i>
David Breyman	<i>Herman</i>
Mariesa Genzale	<i>Lulu</i>
Araquin Boome	<i>Texas</i>
Amy Shephard	<i>Rosie</i>

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

CABARET is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC. www.concordtheatricals.com

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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