



**INVISIBLE THEATRE PRESS RELEASE**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Tucson's Invisible Theatre re-opens June 23rd!**

*IT is Alive and Well and at 25% Capacity!*

(June 15, 2020, Tucson, AZ); Tucson's Invisible Theatre's Managing Artistic Director, **Susan Claassen**, announced the re-opening of Tucson, Arizona's Invisible Theatre in time to kick-off its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season. Out of deference to this troubling world situation, Claassen waited to share the exciting news until this week that the theatre will **re-open on June 23rd**. "We want to get back to creating the magic of live theatre in Tucson! The safety of our guests, our actors and staff are our primary concern and we believe our plan featuring "boutique seating" for 22 people nightly or 25% capacity will work"! We are thrilled that the news has been so well received. There is such incredible support from the community, locally and nationally, and the response by our season subscribers has been beyond all expectations. Almost all dates are sold out and we will most likely add more performance dates. Every safety measure has been established. Claassen states, We have created a plan that will work using the safest and most sanitary conditions as outlined by the CDC and the City of Tucson (we even installed GPS-FC24-AZ Ionization System for our AC!) YOUR safety and that of our actors and staff are our primary concern!"

### **FILMING O'KEEFFE**

Invisible Theatre will re-open the theatre with the Southwest Premiere of **FILMING O'KEEFFE**, originally scheduled as the final production of Invisible theatre's 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season.

**FILMING O'KEEFFE** by **Eric Lane** is an emotional, lyrical, and funny play, directed by **Nancy Davis Booth**. It tells the story of Max and his classmate Lily, who are making a film about legendary artists Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz. Max and his mother, Melissa, live on the Lake George property that was once part of the artists' home. When Max's estranged grandfather unexpectedly shows up, the family's hidden and mysterious past is revealed. This beautiful piece is performed exquisitely by our all-star cast including **Samantha Cormier, Joe L. Smith, Andrey Lull** and **Emily Gates**. Our design team includes the courageous and creative **James Blair, Susan Claassen, Diana Knoepfle, Maryann Trombino, Rob Boone, Christine Vivona, Heidi Peden**, and **Lawrence Lee**.

**FILMING O'KEEFFE** will be performed as a chamber production. The actors will be on stools and socially distanced. They will not interact physically but will exquisitely capture the characters they are performing with every nuance realized. There will be a set, lighting and music to transport you into the vivid world of imagination. The actors will arrive in their costumes to be worn in the production. They will handle their own props (minimal) and not congregate in the dressing room or anywhere else. They will wear masks for their entrance, but not for the performance. They will be at least 12 - 18' from the first row of the audience. Although the actors will be physically distanced, the emotional nuance will resonate deeply with deep emotional connection.

## **SCHEDULED PERFORMANCE DATES**

Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 3:00 PM (Preview)

Monday, June 22, 2020 at 3:00 PM (Preview)

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 7:30 PM (Opening - SOLD OUT)

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 7:30 PM

Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 7:30 PM

Friday, June 26, 2020 at 7:30 PM

Saturday, June 27, 2020 at 3:00 PM (SOLD OUT)

Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 3 :00 PM (SOLD OUT)

More dates to be announced soon with single ticket sales.

**ALL PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD AT INVISIBLE THEATRE  
1400 N. First Ave (at Drachman), Tucson, AZ 85719**

### **FOR INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS:**

Call our Box Office at (520) 882-9721.

Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express are accepted

TICKETS are \$20 for Preview and \$35 for all remaining performances

**Please note production runs 75 minutes with no intermission.**

**AGE RECOMMENDATION: Mature ages 13 and up**

**We will be instituting what we call "Boutique Seating**



**We anticipate 22 fabulous people nightly.**

**That is only 25% our capacity. Yikes!  
We look at this not as 75% empty but as our "25% Full Initiative"!**

**Here is how it will work!**

IT will take requests for seating when reservations are made. Reservations are required. There will be no sales at the Box Office.

Patrons will be seated directly into their assigned seats in the theatre. The lobby will only be a pass through without congregating.

A back door and front door will be utilized for easy access and social distancing into their assigned seat in the theatre.

There will be an electronic check-in rather than a ticket.

There will be an information sheet left on the theatre seat, rather than a full program.

**FILMING O'KEEFFE** is 75 minutes without an intermission

Sanitized restrooms will be available on an emergency basis.

All audience members must wear masks for the duration of their time inside the theatre.

Audience is asked to take their temperature at home on the date they are attending. If feeling ill, they are asked to please stay home and their tickets will be rescheduled.

All social distancing guidelines issued by the CDC and City of Tucson will be followed.

The theatre will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized after every performance.

A special GPS-FC24-AZ Ionization System has been installed into our air-conditioning unit.

We will utilize minimal staff and no ushers.

All staff will be required to wear masks at all times.

All of our actors will be monitored daily.

**To schedule interviews please contact Susan Claassen at 520-884-0672  
or [suz@invisibletheatre.com](mailto:suz@invisibletheatre.com)**



## THE INVISIBLE THEATRE

The Invisible Theatre (IT) of Tucson, a 501(c)(3) organization, is dedicated to producing quality theatre and arts education experiences for all facets of the community in an intimate setting that showcases local professional talent and guest artists. IT takes its name from the invisible energy that flows between a performer and audience, creating the magic of theatre. Started in 1971 as an arena for local playwrights, the theatre has expanded its programs to include adaptations of classics and recent Off- Broadway plays and musicals, while continuing to encourage new playwrights through both full productions and staged readings.

Under the leadership of Managing Artistic Director Susan Claassen, Associate Artistic Director James Blair, and PR Director Cathy Johnson, IT is strongly committed to community service and outreach programs. The company's current season includes a six play Main Stage season, many special events, a world class cabaret series, organizational collaborations, educational tours, seminars that encourage community dialogue and Project Pastime – an educational theatre program for mentally challenged youth.

The Invisible Theatre, the recipient of the first Arizona Theatre Association Award for Best Producing Theatre Company, is a member of the Theatre Communications Group and has long enjoyed both local and national recognition for its strong leadership role in the arts community. Productions take place in an intimate 80-seat converted laundry building. IT celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> season with an even greater commitment to professionalism, artistic excellence, accessibility, freedom of expression, diverse programming and creative challenge – thus making the Invisible Theatre a very visible force in Tucson's cultural community.



Invisible Theatre has always provided a safe and empowering home for everyone, and our commitment is even stronger in the face of the horrific death of George Floyd and countless others. Our mission and core values are dedicated to embodying anti-racist practices in our work. We stand in solidarity with our black community members and artists against hatred, against police brutality, and against the deafening sounds of silence.

We support the #BlackLivesMatter movement and the #WhatMatters2020 movement which focuses on issues concerning racial injustice, police brutality, criminal justice reform, black immigration, economic injustice, LGBTQIA+, human rights, environmental injustice, access to healthcare, access to quality education, voting rights, and voter suppression.

This initiative will inspire and motivate people to ask themselves and their candidates whether they are really addressing what matters. Our democracy requires everyone to participate.