

INVISIBLE THEATRE – 48TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

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**THE INVISIBLE THEATRE
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE ITS
2018 - 2019 SEASON OF PERFORMANCES**

(April 26, 2018, Tucson, AZ); Invisible Theatre's Managing Artistic Director, Susan Claassen, announced six plays for the company's 48th Anniversary Main Stage Season and two Special Season Extras!

The lineup includes the SW premieres of acclaimed Off-Broadway contemporary plays, romantic comedies, the Arizona premieres of tributes to award-winning theatrical and literary icons, and Special Events that bring "Tinsel Town" to Tucson!

Claassen said, "We are thrilled to announce that 50% of our Mainstage and Special Events are conceived and written by women! How is that for parity?! I can't think of a more exciting, enticing, diverse lineup of plays, actors and directors, to celebrate Invisible Theatre's mission of bringing quality theatre experiences in an intimate setting to all facets of the community. Each of our selections will provide you with unforgettable moments that will thrill, inspire, delight and engage you like never before!"

Invisible Theatre got its name from the invisible energy that flows between performers and an audience that makes the magic of theatre.

Let the "magic" begin with our 2018 - 2019 48th Anniversary Season!

INVISIBLE THEATRE'S 2018 - 2019 MAIN STAGE SEASON

48 Years of Greatness!

THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY by James Lecesne

September 4 – 16, 2018

Arizona Premiere

One actor portrays every character in a small Jersey Shore town as he unravels the story of Leonard Pelkey, a tenaciously optimistic and flamboyant fourteen-year-old boy who goes missing. A luminous force of nature whose magic is only truly felt once he is gone, Leonard becomes an unexpected inspiration as the town's citizens question how they live, who they love, and what they leave behind.

"...shines with humanity...an affecting and entertaining testament to the beauty of a world in which difference is celebrated rather than denigrated."

-Los Angeles Times.

THE BUSY WORLD IS HUSHED by Keith Budin

October 30 – November 11, 2018

Southwest Premiere

Faith, love and loss collide in this staggeringly beautiful new play. Hannah, an Episcopal Minister, hires a young academic named Brandt to ghost-write her new controversial book on the Gnostic Gospels. When Hannah's wayward son, Thomas, arrives in search of clues to his father's death, the sparks begin to fly between them. As Thomas and Brandt fall in love, all three are thrown into a dynamic and provocative love triangle that mingles questions of faith with questions of the heart.

"Remarkably ambitious...A theatrical miracle: a complex, thought-provoking look at why religion, faith, and the human heart can't always be reconciled..."

-Hollywood Reporter

Award-Winning Broadway Star Jim Brochu

ZERO HOUR

January 12 – 13, 2019 • Berger Performing Arts Center

Arizona Premiere

Set in theatre legend Zero Mostel's painting studio on West 28th Street, a naive reporter attempts to interview the famously volatile artist, prompting an explosion of memory, humor, outrage and juicy backstage lore. Mostel is remembered for his comedic genius, but in the 1950's he was equally known for his place on the infamous Hollywood blacklist. Mostel's swagger, ferocity, intelligence and fantastic wit are brought back to the stage in this volcanic tour-de-force.

WINNER! Outstanding Solo Performance - 2010 Drama Desk Award

DANCING LESSONS by Mark St. Germain

February 5 – 17, 2019

Arizona Premiere

Ever, a young man with Asperger's syndrome, seeks the instruction of a Broadway dancer to learn enough dancing to survive an awards dinner. The dancer, Senga, however, is recovering from an injury that may stop her dancing career permanently. As their relationship unfolds, they are both caught off-guard by the discoveries - both hilarious and heartwarming - that they make about each other and about themselves.

"You don't want it to end..."

-The Boston Globe

Stage and Film Star Vanessa Belle Calloway

LETTERS FROM ZORA – IN HER OWN WORDS by Gabriella Denise Pina

April 6 – 7, 2019 • Berger Performing Arts Center

Arizona Premiere

The Harlem Renaissance is magically brought back to life through the phenomenal performance of stage and screen star Vanessa Bell Calloway. Zora Neale Hurston stands out as a literary giant and pioneer who deeply influenced American culture through her writings by provoking new conversations about race and what it means to be black in America. Zora surely would have snapped her fingers, sassy hands on her hips, proudly proclaiming once more, "Baby I'm Here", as her life and career are gloriously illuminated in this award-winning multi-media production directed by Anita Dashiell-Sparks.

"Vanessa Bell Calloway, an eight-time NAACP Image Award nominee best known for her roles in the box office hits *Coming to America* and *What's Love Got to Do With It*, brings it all together in a performance that can only be described as brilliant!

Her voice, her style, her cadence and her delivery and her attitude, all combine to bring Hurston's words to life."

-DC Metro Theater Arts

20TH CENTURY BLUES by Susan Miller

April 23 – May 5, 2019

Southwest Premiere

A reunion. An argument. A Ted Talk. Emotional mutiny. And a bond that connects four women who meet once a year for a photo shoot, chronicling their changing (and aging) selves as they navigate through love, careers, children, and major world events. But, when these private photographs have the potential to go public, their relationships are tested, forcing the women to confront who they are, what they've become, and how they'll deal with whatever lies ahead.

"Heartfelt and genuine."

-The New York Times

“TINSELTOWN IN TUCSON”

SPECIAL EVENTS

BETTE DAVIS AIN'T FOR SISSIES starring and written by Jessica Sherr

November 16 and 17, 2018

Invisible Theatre

BETTE DAVIS AIN'T FOR SISSIES, starring and written by Jessica Sherr, is a 90-minute one-woman show about the 1930's icon, Bette Davis, on the night of the 1939 Academy Awards. Young Miss Davis is nominated for Best Actress in “Dark Victory”, and the Los Angeles Times LEAKED the OSCAR winners EARLY ... the BOLD, DEFIANT and DISILLUSIONED, Bette Davis decides to leave the Oscars! Journey into the young starlets battle to win freedom from the grip and control of the studio moguls of Hollywood. Witness Bette's most defining moments as a tenacious young starlet fighting her way to the top!! See what happens when someone who always wins, loses.

"Sherr is mesmerizing to watch. A dynamic performance reflecting both vanity and vulnerability."

-Edinburgh Guide

A CONVERSATION WITH EDITH HEAD by Paddy Calistro and Susan Claassen

February 28 - March 2, 2019

Invisible Theatre

LA Stage Alliance Ovation Best Lead Actress Nominee and *Phoenix New Times* Best Actress Susan Claassen stars in the award-winning internationally acclaimed **A CONVERSATION WITH EDITH HEAD** with host Stuart Moulton. It is a feast of delicious behind-the-scenes stories about Hollywood's greatest stars that provide an intimate portrait of Hollywood's legendary costume designer. This diva of design helped to define glamour in the most glamorous place in the world - Hollywood!

"Susan Claassen's “Edith” is more Edith than Edith!”

- Norman Lear

INVISIBLE THEATRE'S 2018 – 2019 SEASON TICKETS

Invisible Theatre's 2018-2019 Season Ticket Campaign is now underway at an Early Bird price of \$175 (with no handling fee!) for the six play Main Stage Season. Subscribers can save up to a 30% savings over the cost of purchasing individual tickets to shows and can enjoy exclusive benefits given to season ticket holders such as priority seating, \$5 discount on guest show tickets, flexible ticket exchange and discounts on all IT special events.

For more information about the Invisible Theatre's 2018-2019 Season, or to charge subscriptions with MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover, call the IT Box Office at (520) 882-9721 or online 24/7 through OvationTix at www.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 upcoming 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 will celebrate its 48th 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.

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