



## **INVISIBLE THEATRE - PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Invisible Theatre's Landmark 50th Anniversary Continues With

## **EMERGENCY**

By  
Daniel Beaty

February 9 - 20, 2022

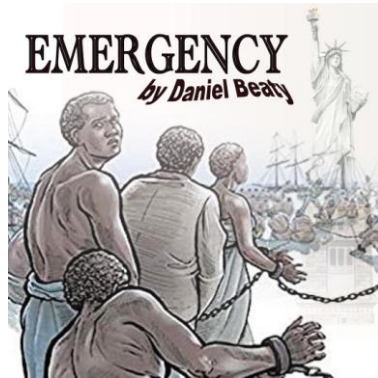
All performances \$40

Discounts are available for groups, seniors, active military and students.

The Invisible Theatre is located at  
1400 N. First Avenue (at Drachman),  
Tucson, AZ 85719.

*(January 21, 2022, Tucson, AZ);* Invisible Theatre continues its landmark 50th Anniversary Season with **EMERGENCY** by Daniel Beaty and directed by Susan Claassen. A Slave Ship emerges out of the Hudson River in front of the Statue of Liberty sending NYC into a frenzy. **EMERGENCY** stars To-Ree-Nee Wolf, Richard Thompson and Myani Watson. The production includes original music by AmoChip Dabney and Rob Boone with masks and puppetry by Maryann Trombino and Lisa Sturz. It is a NOT-TO-BE-MISSED intricately woven, urgent, witty and moving exploration of our shared humanity and what it means to be free. An explosive play, where rhythm, rhyme and remembrance rise. Please call (520) 882-9721 for reservations and information, or go to [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com) for online ticket sales 24/7.

**Made possible in part through the generous support of  
Sandra Maxfield**



**EMERGENCY** by Daniel Beaty will play from February 9 - 20, 2022 at the Invisible Theatre, located at 1400 N. First Avenue (at Drachman), Tucson, AZ 85719.

The single show ticket price is \$40. A special student rate is \$20.

Reservations are required - all seats are reserved.  
There will be no sales at the Box Office before performances.

The running time is 90 minutes with no intermission.  
**EMERGENCY** is appropriate for mature audiences (16 and up).

“An engrossing and empathetic look at the hearts and minds of Americans who have much more in common than they often think they do.”  
- *WBUR BOSTON*

## COVID PROTOCOLS

The health and safety of our artists and staff continues to be our top priority. All patrons are required to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination (or a negative Covid-19 Test within 24 hours). All staff and patrons will be required to wear masks the entire time they are in the theatre.

## THE INVISIBLE THEATRE

The Invisible Theatre (IT) of Tucson, a non-profit 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. 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 stage readings. Our award winning arts education program for special needs children focuses on ability rather than dwelling on disability. Our commitment to artistic excellence, diversity, equity and inclusion and quality has made the Invisible Theatre a very visible force in the local, national, and international arts scene.

## ABOUT THE PEOPLE



**To-Ree-Nee Wolf (*Ensemble*)** is an internationally acclaimed award-winning artist singer-songwriter and actor. She first graced IT's stage in *BLACK BOY* and has been a treasured member ever since! She has also appeared in IT's productions of *THE OLD SETTLER*, *HAVING OUR SAY: THE DELANY SISTERS FIRST HUNDRED YEARS*, *MY SUNDAY DINNER WITH NORMA*, her one woman *WALKING BETWEEN WORLDS*, *LET'S LIVE A LITTLE*, the award-winning and acclaimed *BLACK PEARL SINGS!* and *20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY BLUES*. To-Ree-Nee was the lead in the feature film *Unsound* by Darius Britt. She made her debut in *THE FISHER 'S WIFE*, a multi-media production created by Flam Chen. To-Ree-Nee is also a member of Renaissance woman and has had a national career in the field of visual arts that spans over thirty years. During the course of her career, she has been commissioned for eleven mosaic projects and created "Stories That Soar". This talented artist has created twenty murals and art for residential clientele, private business and municipalities.



**Richard 'CHOMPS' Thompson (*Ensemble*)** is a local playwright and performer who is honored to join Invisible Theatre and the talented cast and crew of *EMERGENCY*. Richard's acting career has spanned live stage, voice over, film, and contemporary art installations. A heart poet and James Beard nominee, he has also produced original pieces in Tucson, *Last Call (The Community Players; 2017)* and *The GRANDest Pageant (Tucson Fringe Festival; 2019)*, and his first independent film, *You.kNow.Me? (2019)* was nominated for an Apex award. His prior work with Winding Road Theater includes Trigoran in *STUPID F\$#@KIN' BIRD (2019)* and Cal in *THE LITTLE FOXES (2019)*. He has most recently continued his learning as an Arizona Theater Company cohort for the 2019/2020 season as well as a current student of the Theater Bennett Conservatory where he practices Shakespearian form and Stanislavskian technique.



**Myani Watson (*Ensemble*)** is excited to make her Invisible Theatre debut and Invisible Theatre is thrilled to welcome Myani to the family. She is most recognizable for her performances at Old Tucson before its closure due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Most recently she appeared in Winding Road's staged reading *KEEPINGABREAST* and as Diana Morales in *A CHORUS LINE* with Arts Express. Other credits include ensemble in *WEST SIDE STORY* with Arts Express, Maria in *COASTER* with Winding Road, Lulu LaRoche in *PERFECT TIMING* with Roadrunner Theater, and Miss Willie in *THE CURIOUS SAVAGE* with Roadrunner Theater. Her acting talents transfer over to her working life offstage as an educational presenter with Environmental Education Exchange, a standardized patient at Banner University Medical Center, and also as an associate at Kohl's.

**Susan Claassen (Producer/Director/Designer)** continues her 47th anniversary as IT's Artistic Director. She has produced and directed over 500 productions including such favorites as GLORIA - A LIFE, the MAC (Best Comedy Director) award winning DANCING LESSONS and most recently LOOPED. Susan has been a member of Actors' Equity Association (the professional actors' union) for over 50 years! Some of her most memorable IT roles have been Olive in OLIVE AND THE BITTER HERBS (MAC Award Best Comedy Actor) and most recently, Dr. Ruth in BECOMING DR. RUTH. Susan's production of A CONVERSATION WITH EDITH HEAD ([www.edithhead.biz](http://www.edithhead.biz)) has had over 600 performances and has been touring nationally and internationally since 2002. Susan received a prestigious LA Stage Alliance Ovation Best Actress Nomination in 2011 for her portrayal of Edith Head, 2011 BroadwayWorld LA nomination as Best Actress, was the *Phoenix New Times* Best Actress 2012 and was most recently nominated as Best Solo Performance by The San Francisco Bay Area Critics Association and Theatre Bay Area! Susan was a City of Hope Spirit of Life honoree, received Tucson's Humanitarian Torch Award for her work on behalf of people living with AIDS, has been a clown in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade since 2001, and is featured in Arizona's centennial legacy book, *Arizona's 48 Most Intriguing Women*. Susan dedicates her work to the memory of her beloved mother, Goldie.

**Daniel Beaty (Playwright)** is an award-winning actor, singer, writer, and motivational speaker. His critically acclaimed plays THROUGH THE NIGHT, EMERGENCY, MR. JOY, and THE TALLEST TREE IN THE FOREST – Paul Robeson, have garnered numerous awards including an Obie Award for writing and performance and two NAACP Theater Awards. A highly requested keynote speaker and thought leader, Beaty has worked throughout the United States, Europe, and Africa speaking and performing on programs with luminaries such as Deepak Chopra, Hill Harper, Jill Scott, Donnie McClurkin, and Bill Cosby. An adjunct professor at Columbia University ([columbia.edu](http://columbia.edu)) and youth development specialist, Beaty has spoken at all-staff retreats and led leadership training for non-profits including City Year ([cityyear.org](http://cityyear.org)) and Year Up ([yearup.org](http://yearup.org)). In fall 2013, Beaty launched a nationwide initiative using the tools of storytelling to help individuals and communities heal trauma funded by the W.K. Kellogg and Ford foundations among others. He holds a BA with Honors in English and Music from Yale University and an MFA in Acting from the American Conservatory Theater. His poem *Knock Knock* became an internet sensation, receiving millions of views and has been transformed into a children's book, also titled *Knock Knock*. Follow Daniel's work at [DanielBeaty.com](http://DanielBeaty.com) and [twitter.com/DanielBBeaty](https://twitter.com/DanielBBeaty).

**Rob Boone (Sound Design)** has been a treasured member of the IT family for many years and IT's resident maestro! He has a BM from University of Arizona in Composition and Jazz Studies (1981) and a MM from University of Arizona in Trombone Performance (1987), and was the Former Jazz Editor for the International Trombone Association Journal. Rob has been a professional musician since the age of 16 and has been active in the Tucson area in a wide variety of musical situations as performer, producer, composer, arranger, conductor, educator (IT's Project Pastime Musical Director) and copyist.

**AmoChip Dabney (Original Music and Sound Design)** is a two-time Grammy nominee, Native American Music Award winner (NAMA), Tucson Hall Of Famer, and multiple Tammie Award winner. Amo has developed a mastery of many styles in his thirty plus years of performing and recording. Dabney also gave amazing piano, bass, percussion and vocal performances. Over his career he has worked with the legendary Sun Ra and his Omniverse Arkestra, Afro-Beat innovator O.J. Ekemode and The Nigerian All-stars, Zydeco's Queen Ida, New Orleans master percussionist and singer Cyril Neville of the Neville Brothers Band, Mardi Gras Indian Monk Boudreaux, Steven Stills, premier Native American Flutist, R. Carlos Nakai, and many others. He currently performs with his band, The AmoSphere!

**Lisa Aimee Sturz (Designer)** is the Founder and Artistic Director of Red Herring Puppets. Lisa has built and performed puppets with Jim Henson Productions, Lucas film, Walt Disney Imagineering, The Lyric Opera of Chicago, NBC, PBS, and many more. Credits include: Elmo in Grouchland, Muppets from Space, Howard the Duck, Murphy Brown, The Flintstones, Ninja Turtles 3, RoboCop2 and *Batman Returns*. Lisa has received a California Emmy and her production of *My Grandfather's Prayers* has been airing internationally on JLTV. Red Herring Puppets is an award-winning puppet national touring company specializing in curriculum-based productions. They recently relocated to Tucson with a small theatre'studio in the Tucson Mall. Red Herring Puppets has received an UNIMA Citation of Excellence, the highest honor in American Puppetry.

# FACTS ABOUT EMERGENCY

## CAST:

To-Ree-Nee Wolf, Myani Watson, and Richard Thompson

## WHERE:

The Invisible Theatre  
1400 N. First Avenue (at Drachman), Tucson, AZ 85719

## RUNNING TIME:

90 minutes with no intermission

## AGE RECOMMENDATION:

Mature ages 16 and up. Mature language.

## WHEN:

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. (Opening)  
Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, February 11, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. **SOLD OUT**

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, February 18, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. **SOLD OUT**

## PRODUCTION STAFF:

PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR: Susan Claassen  
SET DESIGN: James Blair and Susan Claassen  
LIGHT DESIGN: James Blair  
SOUND DESIGN: AmoChip Dabney and Rob Boone  
COSTUME and MASK DESIGN: Maryann Trombino  
PUPPETRY and SCENIC PAINTING: Lisa Sturz  
APOLLO "TREE OF HOPE" DESIGN: Heidi Peden  
PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER: Diana Knoepfle

## TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR INFORMATION:

Since our Covid-10 protocols are strictly enforced, seating remains very limited!  
General Admission: \$40, Students: \$20  
To charge tickets by phone, call our Box Office at (520) 882-9721.  
To buy tickets online 24/7, go to [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com) and click on the OvationTix logo.  
Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express are accepted.  
Tickets will not be sold at the box office before performances.

## ABOUT THIS PRESS RELEASE:

This mailing list is for members of the professional media and allied organizations who have requested e-mail press releases from The Invisible Theatre. If you no longer wish to receive e-mail press releases or if there is someone else with your organization that should be added to our list, contact [cathy@invisibletheatre.com](mailto:cathy@invisibletheatre.com) or phone Alayna at (520) 884-0672 with your request.

## ONLINE MEDIA MATERIALS:

Production photos will be available January 28, 2022 at [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com) (Press).  
You may also send an email to [cathy@invisibletheatre.com](mailto:cathy@invisibletheatre.com) requesting photos be sent directly to you.