

The Midnight Company will present ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCE, the World Premiere of a play by Company Artistic Director Joe Hanrahan, opening May 5 and running until May 21 at the .ZACK theatre, 3224 Locust. (The play was originally announced to run at the Kranzberg Black Box theatre, but the location has been switched to the .ZACK.) Performances will be Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, with Sunday matinees May 8 and 15 at 2pm. Tickets will be \$20 for Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and \$15 for Thursdays, and will go on sale at MetroTix.com on Monday, March 28.

Inspired by true events, ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCE is designed as a public lecture from a respected psychiatrist. He's been dealing with professional skepticism and even ridicule for his research into the phenomenon of Alien Abduction. In the course of the play, he will present two patients who, in very different ways, have been victims of their perceived abductions. While he's not exactly sure what's going on, the psychiatrist is convinced that something real, something profound, is happening to these people and to our world.

The presentation includes disturbing, hypnotic regression scenes with abductees, balanced by the psychiatrist's thoughtful overview of the phenomenon. And it occurs in the context of the recent, sensational sightings of unknown aircraft by military pilots, and the subsequent investigations demanded by congress and the public.

Hanrahan said, "The long, hidden history of UFO's in our culture is reaching a tipping point - reported sightings are increasing daily, and disclosures from other countries' governments are pressing the point.. This is a real mystery. A modern ghost story."

ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCE will be directed by Morgan Maul-Smith. She recently directed ON GOLDEN POND at Kirkwood Theatre, and Shualee Cook's EARWORM at Tesseract, and she's also directed for Missoula Childrens Theater in Montana. The cast includes Joseph Garner (he's been seen recently in Cherokee Street Theatre Company's THE THING HOLIDAY PARODY, THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT with Cars Cradle Theatre, and TRANSLATIONS with Black Mirror Theatre Company), Payton Gilliam (she's appeared in Cherokee's THE THING and GREMLINS - LIVE: A PARODY, as well as in WINNIE & ALFRED in SATE's Aphra Behn Festival) and Hanrahan (he's appeared in several Midnight shows and many with other companies, and his scripts for TINSEL TOWN and NOW PLAYING THIRD BASE FOR THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS...BOND, JAMES BOND were nominated for Outstanding New Play by the St. Louis Theatre Circle Critics for '20-'21.)

The crew for the show includes Miriam Whatley as Stage Manager, Kevin Bowman handling Production Design, Tony Anselmo designing Lights, and Ellie Schwetye designing Sound.

ANOMALOUS EXPERIENCE is the first show in the 25th Anniversary Season for The Midnight Company. Coming up are RODNEY'S WIFE, a twisted family drama by Richard Nelson, at The Chapel July 7-23, and ST. LOUIS WOMAN, a play with music about the Songs and the Women of our City, playing at the .ZACK October 6-22.

For more information, visit MidnightCompany.com