

TICKETS ON SALE SEPTEMBER 24 at METROTIX for
MIDNIGHT COMPANY'S ST. LOUIS PREMIERE of IT IS MAGIC

Tickets will go on sale for The Midnight Company's St. Louis premiere production of Mickle Maher's *It Is Magic* Friday, September 24, at [MetroTix.com](https://www.metrotix.com). Performances, at Kranzberg's Black Box Theatre, are Thursdays/Fridays and Saturdays October 21 through November 6, with all shows at 8pm. Tickets are \$15 for Thursdays and \$20 for Fridays and Saturdays. The production will be following all Kranzberg Arts Foundations safety protocols, including proof of vaccination for entry, and masks at all times.

It Is Magic is a sorrowful and hilarious meditation on the deep, ancient evil at the heart of the community theater audition process, and an investigation into the mysteries of theater-making itself. Two sisters, community theatre veterans who've never had the chance to contribute artistically, are holding auditions for their adult version of *The Three Little Pigs* in the theatre basement, while the group's pretentious artistic director is attending, then avoiding, opening night of his *MacBeth* on the MainStage above. A third sister appears, and reality becomes really magical at the local playhouse.

It Is Magic premiered in Chicago in May, 2019, and Third Coast Review called it "...one of those love letters to theatre...delightfully wacky," while New City Stage said "Any show that juggles loving critics and tearing their throats out is good in my book." Midnight has previously presented two Mickle Maher plays, *The Hunchback Variations* and *An Apology For The Course And Outcome of Certain Events As Delivered By Doctor John Faustus On This His Final Evening*.

Mickle Maher plays have appeared Off-Broadway and around the world, and have been supported by grants from the NEA, the Rockefeller MAP fund, and Creative Capital. They include *There is a Happiness That Morning Is*; *Song About Himself*; *The Strangerer*; *Spirits to Enforce*; *Cyrano* (translator), *The Cabinet*; *Lady Madeline*; *The Pine*; and *An Actor Prepares* (an adaptation of Stanislavsky's seminal book). He is a cofounder of Chicago's Theater Oobleck, and has taught playwriting and related subjects at the University of Chicago, Columbia College, and Northwestern University. He recently wrote the book and lyrics for a new musical about basketball, commissioned by the Catastrophic Theatre of Houston and Daryl Morey, the General Manager of the Houston Rockets. And he's currently adapting the graphic novel *Berlin* by Jason Lutes for the Court Theatre.

Suki Peters will direct *It Is Magic*. In Spring, 2022, Suki will play the bride in Cherokee Street Theatre's adaptation of *Kill Bill*, and she will direct *Once* for R-S Theatre. The cast includes Nicole Angeli as Sandy, desperate to get a part in a play, the part being the lead role of the Wolf in her sister's play. Nicole was most recently seen in Metro Theater's *It's A Wonderful Life*, in West End's *Photograph 51*, and in Stray Dog's *Hedda Gabler* and *A Doll's House*. Michelle Hand portrays her sister, the first-time, aspiring playwright, Deb. This past year Michelle was in Max & Louie's *Tiny Beautiful Things* and SATE's *Zoom Tonya And The Totes In Subterrstrata*. Carl Overly Jr. is Tim in the show, another actor vying for that coveted Big Bad Wolf role. Carl was recently in St. Louis Shakespeare Festival's *King Lear* and COCA's *Billy Elliott*, and upcoming will direct *Rimers Of Eldritch* at St Louis University. Chrissie Watkins will be Elizabeth, arriving from seemingly nowhere to land smackdab in the middle of the audition process. Chrissie was recently seen in Alpha Players' *The Mountaintop*. And Midnight's Artistic Director, Joe Hanrahan is in the role lot Mortier Civic Playhouse Artistic Director Ken Mason, as arrogant, self-absorbed and sporadically brilliant as any Artistic Director comes. This year Joe has acted in Mid-

night productions of *Here Lies Henry*, *Now Playing Third Base For The St. Louis Cardinals*, *My Violin My Voice* at the St. Louis Fringe Festival, and *Tonight's Special* at the St. Louis Theatre Showcase. He will next be seen in *Midnight's Tinsel Town* in December.

Linda Menard will be the Stage Manager for the show, Elizabeth Henning is designing costumes, Kevin Bowman is designing the set and lights, and Ted Drury will design sound.

For more information, visit MidnightCompany.com