

IN LATE OCTOBER, THE MIDNIGHT COMPANY TO PRESENT ERIC BOGOSIAN'S "SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL" AS REPLACEMENT FOR RESCHEDULED "IT IS MAGIC"

The Midnight Company will present Eric Bogosian's SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL October 29 through November 14, 2020 in the Black Box Theatre of the Kranzberg Arts Center, with performances Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, and Sunday November 8 at 2pm. (The show replaces IT IS MAGIC by Mickle Maher, which has been rescheduled October 21-November 6, 2021.) Tickets for SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL will be \$20 and will be available through MetroTix.com in mid September.

In addition to SEX, DRUGS ROCK & ROLL, Bogosian has also written and performed the acclaimed one-man shows DRINKING IN AMERICA, POUNDING NAILS IN THE FLOOR WITH MY FOREHEAD and WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE, and the play and film TALK RADIO. For those, he was awarded three Obie Awards and a Drama Desk Award, earning him living icon status in the downtown New York City theatre scene. As an actor, he has appeared regularly in the TV series LAW & ORDER, BILLIONS and SUCCESSION, as well as in several films. And as a writer he has also written other plays, the novels MALL, WASTED BEAUTY and PERFORATED HEART, and a non-fiction book OPERATION NEMESIS, about the group of assassins who set out to avenge the 1&1/2 million victims of the Armenian genocide.

Like his other one-man scripts, SEX DRUGS ROCK & ROLL presents a menagerie of self-involved American (and one British) men - ranging from a homeless street person to a fading rock star to a self-help guru to a Hollywood producer to a real estate agent and more - each convinced they are in control of their (and others') lives, but caught up in the midst of the explosive mania and/or quiet desperation that our modern age breeds.

Joe Hanrahan, Midnight's Artistic Director, will perform the show. For Midnight, he has previously performed SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL and POUNDING NAILS IN THE FLOOR WITH MY FOREHEAD For a short-lived St. Louis group, Dangerous Visions, he first performed DRINKING IN AMERICA at what was the disco Zone 8, and then again in the same space when it turned into the Fabulous Chase Club, located across the street from the hotel. And Midnight was then the only company in the country to present THE WORST OF BOGOSIAN. Hanrahan said, "At that time, Bogosian was doing it in New York, presenting a rotating series of his best solos over several nights. Midnight was on the lookout for something to do, so we wrote to his agent, requesting rights. We got a handwritten note back from Bogosian, saying 'You guys have done everything else, go ahead and do what you want'." Midnight performed that show at several spaces, including The Duck Room at Blueberry Hill.

Critics reacted strongly to Midnight's previous production of SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL. The Riverfront Times called it "Brilliant, brutal, savagely funny." Snoops Theatre Thoughts said it was "Gritty, irreverent, unquestionably funny." And Ladue News noted the show was a "Tight and terrifying journey into America's shallow heart of darkness."

Hanrahan said, "This seemed like a good choice for right now. The show does hit very directly on a few of the concerns that continue to bedevil us - poverty, drug abuse, the overindulgence of the one percent, self improvement mania, the struggle of the artist in dire times. But overall the show unabashedly tackles hypocrisy - certainly endemic to the characters we portray, but also relevant to the times we live in and the issues we face and how we face them."

In the past year, Hanrahan has performed in Midnight productions of A MODEL FOR MATISSE (which he co-wrote, nominated Best New Play, St. Louis Theatre Circle Awards), CHARLIE JOHNSON READS ALL OF PROUST, POPCORN FALLS and in his script of PATIENT #47 at the St. Louis Theatre Crawl, which has been selected by TRUE Community Theatre to present in their short play festival, Spring, 2021. He was also seen in GHOST for Metro Theater Company and THE APHRA BEHN FESTIVAL for SATE. This past summer, he wrote COME TOGETHER, a digital play for St. Louis Shakespeare.

John Wolbers will direct the show. John has been a freelance director, actor, playwright and teaching artist in the St. Louis region for the past fifteen years. His directing work has been seen at St. Louis Shakespeare, That Uppity Theatre Company, and Metro Theater Company (MTC) where he works as Producing Associate. His plays DOCTOR FAUSTUS or THE MODERN PROMETHEUS (featuring Joe Hanrahan) and IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: Radio Theater for the Whole Family have both received St. Louis Theatre Circle nominations. You may have seen his onstage work recently with Slightly Askew Theatre Ensemble or West End Players Guild, and John also recently wrote the Digital Play EARLY DAYS – STORIES OF THE PANDEMIC, in collaboration with MTC and the Missouri Historical Society.

Linda Menard will Stage Manage, Kevin Bowman will be the Production Manager, and Tony Anselmo will design the lights.

For more information, visit midnightcompany.com.