LOCAL THEATER COMPANY ANNOUNCES
the WORLD PREMIERE of

Flame Broiled. or the ugly play
a searing satire on race and identity in contemporary American society

Flame Broiled. or the ugly play
WORLD PREMIERE
Written and directed by Rodney Hicks
Oct. 24-Nov. 17, 2019
Carsen Theater, Dairy Arts Center | Boulder

SEPTEMBER 6, 2019—Local Theater Company announces their fall world premiere: Flame Broiled. or the ugly play, written and directed by Rodney Hicks (original Broadway cast, RENT). Recently awarded the Colorado Theatre Guild’s Henry Award for Best New Play (Paper Cut, fall 2018), Local returns to the Dairy Arts Center in Boulder with Flame Broiled. or the ugly play, a searing satire that examines race and identity in contemporary American society. Four actors portray 30+ characters through a series of 15 vignettes in this world premiere production that asks, “how do our biases—acknowledged or implicit—obscure our ability to see other people?”

This play marks Hicks’ Colorado debut as playwright. Hicks was most recently seen in Muny’s production of Paint Your Wagon. Previously, Hicks could be seen on the Broadway stage in a variety of productions, including the 2000 revival of Jesus Christ Superstar and Come From Away. Following a diagnosis of spasmodic dysphonia, a disease affecting the larynx, in 2017, Hicks temporarily retired from performing and turned to playwriting. Artistic Director Pesha Rudnick said, “When Hicks lost his literal voice as a performer, he discovered it as a playwright. We are pleased to be the first to present this compelling new play that addresses issues of bias, prejudice and how we all must acknowledge our part in a vicious cycle that prevents us from connecting with others.”

In conjunction with the production, Local will host two post-show panels immediately following Sunday matinees (Nov 3, 3:30pm; Nov 10, 3:30pm) featuring authorities on race, bias, and privilege. The first panel will include members of the law enforcement and legal communities participating in a discussion about implicit bias. The second, co-hosted with Boulder Bookstore as part of the LocalREADS book club program, will address topics explored in Robin Diangelo’s book, White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism.

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PRODUCTION DETAILS

*Flame Broiled. or the ugly play*
Written and directed by Rodney Hicks
WORLD PREMIERE

DATES/TIMES:

- **Run:** Oct. 24-Nov. 17
- **Preview Performances:** Oct. 24-26, 7pm
- **Opening Performance:** Oct. 27, 2pm
- **Performances:** Wednesday, Oct. 30-Sun, Nov. 17. Performances run Wednesday - Sunday. Wed-Sat performances: 7:30pm; Sunday performances: 2pm)

CAST: Ilasiea Gray, Emma Messenger, Saxton Walker, Gary Norman

TICKET COST: $20-45

WEBSITE: localtheaterco.org/flamebroiled

LOCATION: Carsen Theater, Dairy Arts Center | Boulder, 2590 Walnut St, Boulder, CO 80302

TICKETS: localtheaterco.org or Dairy Arts box office: dairyarts.org, 303.440.7826

RUNNING TIME: 80-minutes, no intermission

SHOW DESCRIPTION:
This searing satire examines race and identity in contemporary American society. Four actors portray more than 30 characters through a series of fifteen vignettes, a series of often-comedic snapshots that employ farcical stereotypes in order to shock, provoke, and ultimately highlight the corrosiveness of prejudice. When the characters finally cross the finish line, what’s revealed is the common denominator of humanity: a desire to know, to understand, to connect.

RODNEY HICKS’ BIO


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About Local Theater Company
Local Theater Company (Local) is a nonprofit Equity theater company that discovers, develops, and produces new American plays. Local engages audiences through innovative performances that spark camaraderie, learning, contemplation, and provide a resourceful environment for theater artists to take creative risks and develop their work. Local believes theater is a local experience. When you enter an audience, a new community is created where, for that brief span of time, everyone is a local. Learn more at localtheaterco.org.

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