



For Immediate Release  
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Images available upon request

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**Innovative, genre defying performance company presents interactive, immersive performance event**

*Discover boundary-pushing performances tucked into the depths of a historic Germantown mansion*

PHILADELPHIA - Almanac Dance Circus Theatre, the international touring company behind Fringe Hits *Exile 2588* and *Leaps of Faith and Other Mistakes*, will partner with Theatre Philadelphia to present *The Fleeing*, an audience-immersive, interactive performance event and secret cult election inside a privately owned historic mansion in Germantown. Part role-playing game, part performance art festival, part dark monty python-esque comedy and societal critique, *The Fleeing* will delight audiences February 8-10 and 15-17, at 8pm each night. The performance is part of Theatre Week, presented by Theatre Philadelphia. Tickets and more information are available at [www.thealmanac.us/the-fleeing](http://www.thealmanac.us/the-fleeing).

In the *Fleeing*, audiences are invited to play the part of "Acolytes" in the secret (and fictive?) Order of Mammon, whose purpose is to keep people world-wide believing in Money. Assembled in the aftermath of the cataclysmic death of the Order's divine leader, the Bumblefish, audiences will help select a new leader from a diverse cast of Devotees, who test themselves through durational, audience-interactive performances. Completely filling the first floor and basement of the historic mansion, Acolytes are free to roam from performance to performance, testing the Devotees by placing sacred votives on one of two Altars in front of the performers. From circus-inspired feats of strength and balance to theatrical transmutations and prognostications to music and dance, the Devotees push the limits of their virtuosity to win the votes of the Acolytes.

Each night, a rotating cast of seven to nine of the city's most captivating performers and performance artists will compete to see who will be crowned the Order's next Bumblefish. Audiences can immerse themselves in the world of *The Fleeing* before the event begins, by signing up for secret missives from the Adjudicant of the Order via Almanac's email list, and by following on Social media.

*The Fleeing* is imminent. The leader of The Order of Mammon is dead. But The Order must continue. A new Bumblefish will rise.

**ABOUT ALMANAC DANCE CIRCUS THEATRE:**

Almanac is a collectively run physical performance ensemble straddling the worlds of physical theatre and contemporary circus. With strong backgrounds in devised theatre, dance, and ensemble acrobatics, we create full-length works which tell stories about the ways that groups organize themselves, asking deep questions about human nature and human potential. We consider ourselves trailblazers with a unique vision for the future of American contemporary circus, which embraces risk-taking in all forms, and is based in intimacy, honesty, and wild alchemy with other performance disciplines. Since founding in 2013, we have created eight full-length works, traveled to 11 states, Mexico, and Canada, and performed for tens of thousands. We create through play, leaving room for inspiration and improvisation in performance.

**ABOUT PHILLY THEATRE WEEK:**

*Philly Theatre Week: February 8-18, 2018 | Experience Theatre Across the Region During Philly Theatre Week*

Over 75 Shows, Productions, Readings, Panels, Screenings, and more will be a part of this first-ever region-wide celebration of theatre. Theatre Philadelphia presents Philly Theatre Week: a 10-day celebration of the artists, organizations, and audiences that have made Greater Philadelphia one of the most vibrant theatre regions in the nation. With a mix of improv, musicals, comedy, and drama, or love stories just in time for Valentine's Day, there's something for everyone. Audiences will have an opportunity to try something new from our community for Free, \$15, or \$30. Tickets are on sale now with our partner TodayTix. They are first come, first serve, with larger productions selling out quickly. A kick-off event will take place at Yards Brewing on February 8th from 5:00-7:00 PM. Learn more about each show and purchase tickets by visiting [www.phillytheatreweek.com](http://www.phillytheatreweek.com).

## FACT SHEET FOR *THE FLEEING*

### **PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

February 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 17 at 8pm

### **LOCATION**

Private residence in Germantown near the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts (6452 Greene Street). Specific location will be revealed to ticket buyers and to audience members upon request.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA AND EMAIL LIST**

Audiences can immerse themselves in the story of the Fleecing before the performance by signing up for Almanac's email list at [www.thealmanac.us](http://www.thealmanac.us), and by following the company on social media:

Facebook: [facebook.com/almanacdct](https://www.facebook.com/almanacdct)

Instagram and Twitter: [@almanac\\_us](https://www.instagram.com/almanac_us)

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets available at <https://almanac.ticketleap.com/fleecing/>

General admission (Acolyte): \$20

VIP (Hand of Mammon/Capitalist Pig) -- includes open bar, occult costume, and extra power over devotees and the outcome of the election: \$75

A limited number of \$15 Theatre Week tickets are available at <http://www.theatrephiladelphia.org/whats-on-stage/the-fleecing>

### **CREDITS**

**Performed by** Melissa Krodman, Brett Robinson, Aidan O'Shea, Mark Wong, Dave Gillies, Karen Smith, Jess Adams, Nicole Burgio, Desiree Hall, Martha Stuckey, Fred Brown, Nick Gillette, Jimmy Grezlak, and John Hawthorne

**Directed by** Ben Grinberg

**Designed, produced, and stage managed by** Joseph Ahmed, Evelyn Langley, and Robin Stamey

**Originally conceived by** Nick Gillette, Ben Grinberg, Lauren Harries, Nick Jonczak, and Adam Kerbel

### **PRODUCTION HISTORY**

**Originally performed in February, 2015** at 151 Performance Space

**Performed December, 2016**, at Power Plant Productions -- "A witty and alluring world where Douglas Adams meets Monty Python meets Almanac's signature pairing of earnest, personal theatricality and circus feats" as reviewed by Megan Stern in Thinking Dance (<http://thinkingdance.net/articles/2016/12/15/34/The-Fleecing-A-Fantastical-Escape-Collides-With-Darkness/>)

### **PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION**

Parking is available on the street and in the Circadium Parking Lot off Cliveden Street.

Performance location is less than one block from the Upsal Station of SEPTA regional rail.

### **CALENDAR LISTING (+/- 100 WORDS)**

An immersive, interactive performance that peers inside the secretive Order of Mammon. Explore a world of bewitching performances from nine of the city's most captivating artists, unparalleled in skill and devotion. Your vote will crown the new Bumblefish --and determine the fate of the world.

A conclave has been called--will you join the assembly? Only you can decide which among us shall be the next Bumblefish. Who is worthy to lead The Order of Mammon?

To request photos, interviews, and more informations, please contact:

**Ben Grinberg**

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