



FAT UNICORN CAKE

by Reme
Cunningham

7PM APRIL 25TH, 26TH, and 27TH
2024

at the Black Box Arts Center
113 S. Princess Street
Shepherdstown, WV

CONTENT WARNINGS: strong language, characters
confronting trauma, eating disorders, alcoholism, death, and
addiction

MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY



RED HILL
THEATRE GROUP

FAT UNICORN CAKE

by Remee Cunningham

Presented by Red Hill Theatre Group

A new ensemble theatre group formed out of the simple desire to make more theatre. Learn more at redhilltheatregroup.org

-SYNOPSIS-

A frantic and surreal look at the world of social media, influencers and the age of internet personas. We see the life, tragedies and revelations of three social media influencers in a split monologue format, holding a mirror up to modern society and our dependence on electronic gratification and attention.

"Fat Unicorn Cake" was selected and won "Best Overall Production" for the Jerome Hynes play festival in 2020.

-CAST-

Amanda Thomas
AILEEN THE FOODIE

Jess Edwards
MOLLY THE TV LOVER

Kenzal Jones
AIDAN THE MAD TWAT

With a special appearance by Jacob Reese

-PRODUCTION & DESIGN-

Cody James
DIRECTOR & LIGHTING
DESIGN

Madeleine Davis
ASST. DIRECTOR & COSTUME
DESIGN

Kenzal Jones
SOUND DESIGNER

Amanda Thomas
SET DESIGN

-ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT-

Originally from Dublin, Ireland, Remee is now based in Galway City, Co. Galway. After completing a B. A in Drama and Theatre Studies from UCC, Remee was selected for a marketing internship at the Cork Opera House, Co. Cork. Here she worked on the company's summer production of "The Wizard of Oz" (2018) and the Flying Entertainment UK production of "The Kite Runner" (2018). After completing this internship, Remee was hired at the National Opera House, Co. Wexford.

Remee completed an MA in Playwriting and Dramaturgy from NUIG in 2020. This intensive one-year course cultivated her skills as a playwright and increased her knowledge of theatrical structures and forms. This year, Remee's play "The Untethering" had a work in progress in Galway Theatre Festival.

-DIRECTOR'S NOTES-

To be upfront: Plays are too long.

I don't think there's any issue with attention span, or any of the other strange anti-youth talking points you hear all the time; however, I do think there is a tendency to be gratuitous; to beat a dead horse, so to speak. Certainly there's a place for the sort of 3+ hour epic you see in *Angels in America* or *Peer Gynt*, but just far too many plays in the canon of western theatre absolutely drag for 2+ hours with sometimes multiple intermissions.

In this respect, *Fat Unicorn Cake* is a breath of fresh air. I've never seen it read or performed in more than an hour. Again, while I don't think all plays need to be this short, Remee doesn't mince words; she doesn't waste time in telling a poignant and affective story about addiction, social media and the ways we deal with trauma. As such, I knew from the moment I worked on it at the Jerome Hynes One-Act festival in 2020. And, I should say, this production has been everything I hoped it would be. I am so proud of the absolutely phenomenal performances of these three amazing actors, the designs are near perfect to the show we envisioned and Madeleine has been absolutely essential in keeping this process on track as Assistant Director.

A final note, Remee is a dear friend I met during my graduate work in Ireland. That bias should be stated in regards to my love for this script. That said, there are two important footnotes to that: First, it was nearly everyone else in Red Hill who became enthralled in this script immediately post pandemic and who have been so passionate about putting it on; I absolutely agreed, but that certainly speaks to the impact this play has. Second, Remee is an immensely talented playwright and I would absolutely pick up anything she's written and make sure it has an opportunity to see the light of day.

All that is to say, I hope you all see the value in this as we did, and I am so immensely grateful to all the wonderful artists in my life.

Enjoy the show!

-UPCOMING FROM RED HILL THEATRE GROUP-



July 2024

Two pairs; each a parent and their child.

One pair alone on an island; the other half a world away, ruling over a lost kingdom.

In spite of their apparent separation, the younger of each pair are connected via the tiniest thread of synapses in their deepest slumbers.

This new play, devised by Red Hill Theatre group, takes characters and concepts

from William Shakespeare's "Tempest" and chisels them down into a concentrated look at the relationships between parents and their children, the fears and longings we visualize in our dreams and the interconnectivity of the world as a whole.

-CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS-

Madeleine Davis (*Assistant Director & Costume Design*) is a recent graduate from Salisbury University, with degrees in English Literature and Theatre Performance. She has worked with Red Hill on many of their past productions including *I Was Made for Less*, *I Build Giants*, *Stop Kiss*, *The Mortality Monographs*, and *If Only; Last Words*. She also works with Fultontown Theatre Company in Salisbury as well as apprenticing with Maryland Ensemble Theatre in Frederick. She would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work.

Jess Edwards (*Molly the TV Lover*) has been involved in theatre most of her life and has delved into everything from Shakespearean tragedy to British Farce. Favorite past credits include: *Addams Family* (Morticia) *Xanadu* (Melpomene), *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Annie), Steve Martin's *Meteor Shower* (Corky), *Little Women the Musical* (Aunt March), *Romeo and Juliet* (Nurse), *Macbeth* (Witch 2) and Disney's *Descendants the Musical* (Fairy Godmother). Jess would like to take a moment to thank Red Hill for this amazing opportunity to perform a third time with them. Hopefully there will be many more to come! She'd also like to thank her ever-supportive husband and family for allowing her to pursue her passion for the stage. @jessterina

Cody James (*Director, Lighting Design, & Artistic Director*) is a theatre maker specializing in writing, directing and designing engaging theatre experiences with groups local to Western and Central Maryland as well as Eastern West Virginia. Cody received their MA in Drama and Theatre Studies at NUI Galway in 2020 and is the full time Technical Director and a company member at Maryland Ensemble Theatre. Cody is also a founding member of Red Hill Theatre Group.

Kenzal Jones (*Aidan the Mad Twat & Sound Design*) has been acting for about five years and has previously appeared on the Red Hill stage as Durg in *I Was Made for Less*, The Technician in *I Build Giants* and as Germ in *A Rebirth of Presence*. Kenzal has also been seen as Benvolio in MEG's *Romeo and Juliet*, Sherlock Holmes in Roving Peregrine's *Sherlock Holmes: Curiouser & Curiouser*, and the para-social love of your life that you can't help but fear.

Jacob Reese is delighted to be returning with Red Hill Theatre Group to the Black Box stage. You may remember him from such plays as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Cymbeline*, and more. When not performing Jacob works as a land surveyor in The District of Columbia, but as long as people keep turning up, he'll keep on acting too.

Amanda Thomas (*Aileen the Foodie & Set Design*) is an actor (unpaid) and scenic painter (also unpaid). Previous credits—*I Was Made for Less*, (Red Hill Theatre Group), *I Build Giants* (Red Hill Theatre Group), *Stop, Kiss* (Red Hill Theatre Group), *Romeo and Juliet* (Maryland Entertainment Group), *A Rebirth of Presence* (Red Hill Theatre Group), *She Kills Monsters* (Maryland Entertainment Group) and many more. Amanda is a company member at Maryland Ensemble Theatre and a founding member of Red Hill Theatre Group

-Upcoming at Black Box Youth Playhouse-

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



Storybook Theatre Camp

This creative drama camp gently introduces young children to the magic of the performing arts. No line memorization is necessary. Campers will engage in movement, storytelling, crafts, and games, and will perform for family and friends on the final day.

M-F, 6/3 – 6/7. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. \$195

Take the Stage Camp

This camp engages young actors in the elements of performance, as they create characters for a scripted play. Campers will fill their afternoons with theater games and rehearsals, and will perform a short play for family and friends on the final day of camp.

M-F 6/3 – 6/7. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. \$195

Theatre Immersion Camp

Campers will dive into the world of theater through classes, games, activities, and plenty of hands-on experience in the world of the performing arts, and ultimately learning how to produce a play in two weeks. Filled with adventure and loads of fun, this is one summer camp your young thespian does not want to miss!

M-F 6/10 – 6/21 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \$395

Technical Theatre Camp

This camp is dedicated to the technical side of theater, all the magic that happens behind the scenes. Participants will design, build, and run the “backstage” elements of the play performed by the Immersion Camp players on the final evening.

M-F 6/10 – 6/21 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$250

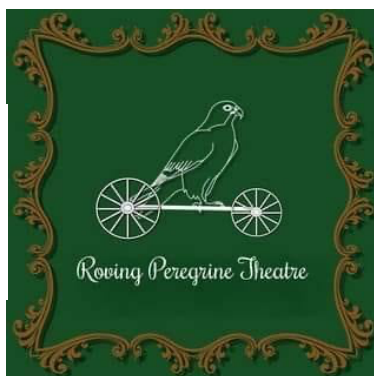
THE BLACK BOX ARTS CENTER IS BACK!

...and now home to four theater companies: Black Box Youth Playhouse and its affiliated Princess Street Players, the Red Hill Theatre Group, and the Roving Peregrine Theatre Company.

Learn more about
Black Box Youth
Playhouse at
blackboxyouth.org



Learn more about
The Roving Peregrine
Theatre Company at
rovingperegrinetheatre.org



Learn more about
Red Hill Theatre
Group at
redhilltheatregroup.org

-About Red Hill Theatre Group-

Red Hill Theatre Group is a new ensemble group based in Boonsboro, Maryland. We are devoted to bringing more theatre to our hometown, giving opportunities to local artists, and sharing stories for and by our community.

Artistic Director—Cody James

-Mission-

Red Hill Theatre Group seeks to use the collaborative art of theatre as a medium for building community connection, promoting local artists, and cultivating a culture of compassionate storytelling.

-Vision-

Red Hill Theatre Group aims to increase access to the arts in Boonsboro, MD and surrounding communities. By doing so, we will establish an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere that encourages conversation, education, and creativity. We hope to produce multiple shows a season that tell relevant, challenging, and contemporary stories, push the boundaries of traditional theatre, and elevate the voices of local writers. We hope to grow to be financially able to employ local artists at competitive wages and maintain a performance space. We ultimately aim to be a vehicle for community engagement and growth.

-Values-

Compassionate Storytelling | Community Engagement | Inclusive | Accessible | Ensemble | Education

-Get Involved-

Interested in future performance, production, or volunteer opportunities with us? Visit redhilltheatregroup.com/getinvolved to submit your info or email redhilltheatregroup@gmail.com.

-Special Thanks-

Maryland Ensemble Theatre

Check out MET's upcoming season at marylandensemble.org

The Bakins

Black Box Youth Playhouse

for the generous use of your facilities and equipment. Without your kindness this would not be possible. Our gratitude is endless.



-UPCOMING AT MARYLAND
ENSEMBLE THEATRE-

NOW SHOWING



**APRIL 20
- MAY 12**

An original
Fun Company
Creation;
Based on
the book by
Mary Norton



The Borrowers

Save the Date

MAY 31 – JUNE 23

PREVIEW MAY 30

ADAPTED BY
JAMES MAGRUDER

BASED ON THE ARCADIA
BY **SIR PHILIP SIDNEY**

CONCEIVED & ORIGINAL
BOOK BY **JEFF WHITTY**

SONGS BY
THE GO-GO'S



THE ROVING PEREGRINE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS:

FIREBRINGER

Originally produced by **STARKID**
Music and Lyrics by Meredith Stepien & Mark Swiderski
Book by Nick Lang, Matt Lang, & Brian Holden
Arranged by Clark Baxtresser & Pierce Siebers



TICKETS

June 6 at 7pm,
June 7th and 8th at 8pm

Black Box Arts Center
113 S. Princess Street
Shepherdstown, WV

Some Content May Not Be Suitable For All Audiences



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