Special One Night, In The Raw Reading at Bricolage

Noah’s Ark by Ginny Cunningham explores Kennedy’s assassination on 50th anniversary

PITTSBURGH—Bricolage Production Company’s In the Raw series will host a special one night reading featuring local playwright Ginny Cunningham’s Noah’s Ark, a new play inspired by James Douglass’ bestselling book, “JFK and the Unspeakable: Why he Died and Why it Matters.”

The staged reading will be held at Bricolage at 7 p.m. on November 18 and will be directed by Nancy Bach. The reading features a troupe of local actors that includes Jeffrey Carpenter and Tami Dixon of Bricolage; William Cameron; John Gresh; Jack Erdie; Wali Jamal; Matt Henderson; JJ Lendl; Connie Egan and Phil Winters.

Noah’s Ark has been three years in development and revolves around the character of Colonel Benson, the consummate military White House insider, who is tortured by the thought that he may have been unwittingly complicit in the assassination. Determined to redeem himself, Benson journeys into his past, where he must confirm or deny his loyalties, patriotism, and faithfulness. Has he betrayed his values? Can he live in peace with his choices?

Noah’s Ark sails the rough waters of the Kennedy presidency—its Bay of Pigs, the summit with Khrushchev in Vienna, a line in the sand in Berlin, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the prelude to Vietnam—as it challenges Benson to assess his own depths and shallows and seek his own redemption.

Bricolage’s In the Raw gives playwrights the opportunity to stage a reading with a director and actors for a public audience, followed by an audience response session. The reading is free and open to the public and the talkback with the playwright will follow the 90-minute play reading.

Pittsburgh is one of eight cities where the play will be read in November in relation to events marking the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

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Our Mission
At Bricolage, our mission is to immerse artists and audiences in adventurous theatrical experiences that foster connections and alter perceptions.

Artistic Vision
We envision theater not as a passive experience, but as a vehicle for heightened involvement for artist and audience alike. Our approach encourages artists to take the creative risks necessary to create full-blooded, high-quality theatrical experiences that challenge audiences to engage in new ways, react, and express openly their opinions about our work – to have a stake in the creative discussion.

The word Bricolage means, “making artful use of what is at hand.” What excites this company is the connection and interaction between seemingly disparate elements, and the potential for these components to resonate as one cohesive event. Bricolage uses the distinctive resources of the Pittsburgh region to create theatrical experiences that stimulate a heightened sense of involvement for the audience. “What’s at hand” is our city’s changing landscape, our plentiful human and material resources, and the salient political, cultural and ethical issues we encounter and react to each day.

By combining different artistic mediums, nourishing local talent, producing provocative work, and facilitating audience engagement, Bricolage seeks to revitalize live performance for a new era.

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