

CIRCLE THEATRE

Professional, contemporary plays in an intimate setting

Contact: Liz Stevens
Phone: 817.877.3040
Email: lizstevens@circletheatre.com

Circle Theatre
230 W. 4th Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Sundance Square Entertainment District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Circle Theatre Announces Denise Lee's *Pressure Makes Diamonds*

Fort Worth – March 14, 2022 – Circle Theatre, a professional regional theatre located in Fort Worth's Sundance Square, is proud to announce the second show of its 41st season! Denise Lee's *Pressure Makes Diamonds* is a musical cabaret that weaves original storytelling from DFW gem Denise Lee with classic songs you know and love. This production is co-written and directed by Monique Midgette.

DETAILS & DATES

What: Denise Lee's *Pressure Makes Diamonds* by Denise Lee & Monique Midgette

Where: Circle Theatre
230 W. 4th Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Sundance Square Entertainment District

When: April 21, 2022 – April 30, 2022

Shows: Previews
Thursday, April 21, 7:30 pm
Friday, April 22, 8:00 pm
Saturday, April 23, 3:00 pm

Opening Night:
Saturday, April 23, 8:00 pm (\$45)

School Night:

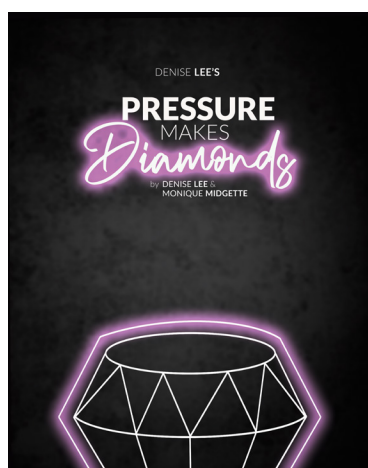
We will offer school night tickets every Friday night Performance
April 22 (preview) and 29 at 8:00pm
(\$10 students - \$15 faculty & staff)

ASL Interpreted Performance:

Friday, April 29, 8:00 pm

Regular Shows:

Thursdays at 7:30 pm (\$27-\$40)
Fridays at 8:00 pm (\$27-\$40)
Saturdays at 3:00 pm (\$27-\$40)
Saturdays at 8:00 pm (\$27-\$40)



DENISE LEE'S PRESSURE MAKES DIAMONDS | APRIL 21 - 30

By Denise Lee & Monique Midgette | Directed by Monique Midgette

They say *diamonds are forever*, they say *diamonds are a girl's best friend*, and they say that *the quality of a diamond is determined by the Four C's: color, cut, carat, and clarity*. They **also** say that the process to unearth a diamond's full beauty takes a tremendous amount of pressure. This original production will shine a bright light on a diamond's similarities to life. Denise Lee, recently seen at Circle Theatre in *The Glass Menagerie*, with the help of her band, will touch your soul with a collection of songs from many classic artists you know and love. This new production is both a collaboration with and directed by Monique Midgette.

TICKETS

Individual ticket prices for the plays are \$27-\$40. Preview performance tickets are \$20-\$25. There will be a \$5 upcharge per ticket for musicals (*Pressure Makes Diamonds* and *Young Frankenstein*). Circle Theatre's box office is open from 12-5pm, Tuesday through Friday, and one hour before show times. Call 817.877.3040 for further information and reservations, or visit CircleTheatre.com to buy tickets online. You can also make reservations at the Circle Theatre box office, 230 West Fourth Street between Houston and Throckmorton, in downtown Fort Worth. Senior, Student, Military, KERA, Press Pass, 1106 Lupo, and Group discounts are available (previews and opening night excluded). Half-price tickets for students are sold 30 minutes before show time, subject to availability. Patrons who will require elevator access should contact our box office for instructions.

2022 Season Tickets		
Season Ticket Package (Pricing Per Ticket)		
Front & Center	Center	Side
sold out \$160	\$150	\$130
<i>Full Season subscriptions are valid for one person to attend each of Circle Theatre's five main stage productions. All seating is subject to availability. Make your reservations early to get the seats you prefer for each production.</i>		

DIRECTOR & ACTORS

Circle's production is directed by **Monique Midgette**. The cast features **Denise Lee*** as herself. Her band includes **David Brashier** (Guitars), Lawrence "Peebody" Ferrell (Drums), **Nigel River** (Bass), and **Norman Williams** (Music Director).

PRODUCTION TEAM

Circle Theatre's production team members include **Monique Midgette** (Director), **Denise Lee*** (as herself), **Elizabeth Ann Stevens*** (Stage Manager), **Rick Morrison** (Master Carpenter), **Donald Jordan*** (Scenic Coordinator), **Jayson Phillips** (Scenic Painter), **Brian McDonald/Michael Vasquez** (Sound Coordinators), **Adam Chamberlin** (Lighting Designer), **Bruce Coleman** (Costume Coordinator), **Roger Drummond** (Carpenter), **Charlie Porter** (Carpenter), **Brian Smith** (Carpenter), **Jordan La Grenade** (Wardrobe), and **Donald Jordan*** (Production Consultant).

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Monique Midgette: Playwright/Director || Directing credits include: *Having Our Say* (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma), *DENISE LEE: Pressure Makes Diamonds* (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma), *Dessa Rose* (Olney Theatre), *Sweeey Charity* (Montgomery College), *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Toby's Theatre) *Welcome To Matteson* (Orlando Shakes), *Two Minutes After Dawn* (Mad Cow Theatre), *Seussical The Musical* (Adventure Theatre), *Beehive: The 60's Musical* (Next Stop Theatre), *Big River* (Asst. Dir. Adventure Theatre), *New Beginnings: A Musical Film* (Carroll Community College). Performing: Broadway — *The Civil War*, *Marie Christine*, *Seussical The Musical*, *The Lion King—Vegas/Tour* (US Rafiki/Shenzi), *The Wiz* (Ford's Theatre—Helen Hayes Nominee), *The Women of Brewster Place* (Arena Stage—Helen Hayes Nominee), *Children of Eden* (Ford's Theatre). Associate Artistic Director at Theatre Under the Stars.

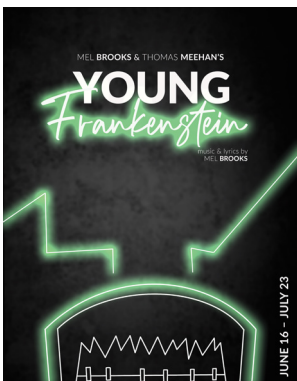


Denise Lee: Playwright/Actress || Recently took on the role of Amanda Wingfield in Circle's production of *The Glass Menagerie*. She is an award-winning Dallas based actress/singer who has performed in all genres of entertainment for the past four decades. Lee is the founder and executive producer of the Denise Lee Onstage Cabaret Series and the Dallas Cabaret Festival which is entering its sixth year. Lee has recently added 'playwright' to her list of accomplishments. Her first play *Funny, You Don't Act Like A Negro* had it's world premier at Theatre Three in February 2020. Lee established Community Conversation through her non-profit organization, Visions For Change, Inc. For six years, these monthly gatherings have brought people together for respectful, open, honest dialogue in order to heal racial and community tension. For these efforts, she has been awarded the Rudy Eastman Diversity Award by the Live Theater League of Tarrant County, a special citation of recognition by the DFW Theater Critics and, in August of 2019, she was the recipient of Cathedral of Hope's Hero of Hope Award. She is represented by the Mary Collins Agency.

PARKING + POLICIES

Parking has significantly changed in downtown Fort Worth. We are no longer able to validate valet or the parking lot directly across the street. We recommend "Sundance Square Garage 3" (this can be put into Maps) that is at the intersection of 3rd and Taylor street above PF Changs. Please note, the AEA guidelines have changed and we have updated our mask policy in accordance with those changes. While our team will remain masked, masks are now optional, but encouraged, for patrons. Our space now includes state-of-the-art air purification devices in our theatre and lobby as well as an upgraded our air filtration system.

UPCOMING EVENTS



YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN | JUNE 16 - JULY 23, 2022

It's Alive! From the creators of the record-breaking Broadway sensation *The Producers* comes the monstrously mad musical, *Young Frankenstein!* Frederick Frankenstein reluctantly inherits his infamous family's estate in Transylvania. Urged on by a hunchbacked sidekick, Igor, and a leggy lab assistant, Inga, Frederick finds himself fulfilling his grandfather's corpse-raising legacy. This electrifying musical stage adaptation of Mel Brooks' brilliantly funny film will leave you in stitches! This production is directed by Joel Ferrell with music director Cody Dry.



HIGH SCHOOL PLAYWRITING PROJECT 2022

Since 1981, Circle has produced quality theatre by professional playwrights. In addition to supporting emerging playwrights, Circle has created an annual High School Playwriting Project. Students across the DFW metroplex can submit their 10-minute plays for a chance to receive prizes, scholarships, and a public reading featuring professional actors. The free reading will take place in the June 26, 2022 outside on the campus of Texas Wesleyan University. More info TBA.

Teachers who are interested in bringing this program to their schools can find more information at circletheatre.com/hssp or email hssp@circletheatre.com with any questions or to set up a Zoom informational session!

ABOUT CIRCLE THEATRE

Founded in 1981 by Rose Pearson and Bill Newberry, Circle Theatre's mission is the advocacy of contemporary plays rarely seen in this community. Circle is committed to presenting professional, innovative theatre in an intimate setting. The Theatre is partially supported by the City of Fort Worth; the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County; the Texas Commission on the Arts; and the National Endowment for the Arts. Further support comes from the Amon G. Carter Foundation; Communities Foundation of Texas; Fifth Avenue Foundation; Ann L. and Carol Green Rhodes Charitable Trust - Bank of America, NA; the Sid W. Richardson Foundation; Shubert Foundation; The Pangburn Foundation; Crystelle Waggoner Charitable Trust - Bank of America, NA; The Rea Charitable Trust, and Virginia O'Donnell Charitable Trust.

To read Circle Theatre's full history visit: www.circletheatre.com/about/history

Website — www.circletheatre.com | Facebook — facebook.com/circletheatrefw
Twitter — twitter.com/circle_theatre | Instagram — Instagram.com/circletheatre