



Professional, contemporary plays in an intimate setting

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Circle Theatre Announces An Empty Plate in the Café Du Grand Boeuf

Fort Worth – February 16, 2022 – Order up!... Or is it? Circle Theatre opens its 41st season with Michael Hollinger's delightfully dark comedy, *An Empty Plate in the Café Du Grand Boeuf*.

DETAILS & DATES

What: *An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf* by Michael Hollinger

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

When: March 10, 2022 – April 2, 2022

Shows: Previews
Thursday, March 10, 7:30 pm
Friday, March 11, 8:00 pm
Saturday, March 12, 3:00 pm

Opening Night:
Saturday, March 12, 8:00 pm (\$40)

School Night:

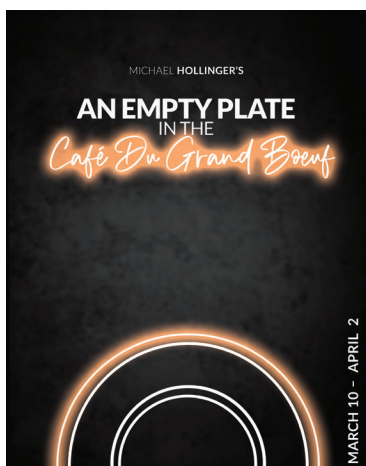
We will offer school night tickets every Friday night Performance (\$10 students - \$15 faculty & staff)

ASL Interpreted Performance:

Friday, March 25, 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)



AN EMPTY PLATE IN THE CAFÉ DU GRAND BOEUF | MARCH 10 - APRIL 2

By Michael Hollinger | Directed by Tim Long

No menu necessary at the world's greatest restaurant, the Café du Grand Boeuf in Paris. On a hot July night in 1961, we await the imminent arrival of Victor, the Café's owner and sole patron. But when "Monsieur" returns from the bullfights in Madrid, disheveled and morose, his wish is simple: to die of starvation at his own table. In an effort to thwart his attempt, his loyal staff prepares a sumptuous seven course meal served on empty plates. Will they succeed in ultimately feeding his soul?

Some adult language & subject matter

ARTISTIC TEAM

Circle Theatre's Artistic Team includes Tim Long (Director), J.R. Bradford (Gaston), Patrick Bynane* (Claude), Fabian Cortina (Antoine), Ana Hagedorn* (Mimi), Ben Phillips (Victor), Julie K. Rhodes (Miss Berger), Jacob Rivera-Sanchez (Understudy), Julia Bodiford (Understudy)

PRODUCTION TEAM

Circle Theatre's production team members include Elizabeth Ann Stevens* (Stage Manager), Jordan La Grenade (Asst. Director/COVID Safety Manager), Julia Bodiford (Asst. Director), Jacob Rivera-Sanchez (Production Assistant), Rick Morrison (Master Carpenter), Donald Jordan (Scenic Designer/Production Consultant), Jayson Phillips (Scenic Painter), Jamie Pickering (Sound Designer), Kaitlin Hatton* (Props Designer), Aaron Patrick DeClerk (Costume Designer), Aaron Johansen (Lighting Designer), and Roger Drummond (Carpenter). *Member of Actors' Equity Association

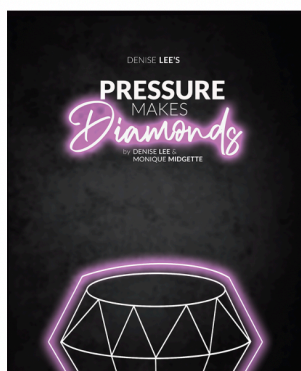
ABOUT THE AUTHOR | MICHAEL HOLLINGER

Michael Hollinger's plays include nine works premiered at Philadelphia's Arden Theatre Company, including *An Empty Plate in the Café Du Grand Boeuf*, *Incorruptible*, *Tiny Island*, *Red Herring*, *Tooth and Claw*, *Opus*, *Ghost-Writer*, *Under the Skin*, and the musical *TouchTones* (co-authored with composer Robert Maggio). Plays premiered elsewhere include *Sing the Body Electric* at Philadelphia's Theatre Exile; *Hope and Gravity* at Pittsburgh's City Theatre; *Cyrano* (translated, and co-adapted with Aaron Posner) at Washington's Folger Theatre; and the musical *A Wonderful Noise* (co-authored with Vance Lehmkuhl) at Creede Rep. Together these works have been produced throughout the U.S., off-Broadway, and abroad (London, Paris, Tokyo, Athens, Poland and Slovenia). Awards include an ATCA/Steinberg New Play Citation, an L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award, a Mid-Atlantic Emmy, an Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award, the Frederick Loewe Award for Musical Theatre, four Barrymore Awards (including the F. Otto Haas Award for an Emerging Theatre Artist), nominations for Lucille Lortel and John Gassner awards, and multiple fellowships from the Independence Foundation and Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Michael is a Professor of Theatre at Villanova University (where he received his MA in Theatre), Artistic Director of Villanova Theatre, and a proud alumnus of PlayPenn and New Dramatists. He shares a life with actor/teacher/director Megan Bellwoar and their children Benjamin and Willa.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR | TIM LONG

Tim Long began his journey at Circle Theatre in the summer of 1999. Starting off as an intern, he began full time employment at the theatre upon graduating from Northwestern State University in 2000. Along the way he served as Box Office Manager, Associate Producer, General Manager, Managing Director, and is currently the Executive Director. His theatre work at Circle includes appearances onstage, designing sound and projections, and helping to create Circle's New Directions series where he wrote and directed the plays *Mudslinger* and its sequel *Home Plate*. He also created the theatre's staged reading series Inner Circle in 2007, with the initial reading being Michael Hollinger's *An Empty Plate in the Café Du Grand Boeuf*.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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.



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 Summer of 2022 on the campus of Texas Wesleyan University. 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!

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 *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
\$160	\$150	\$130
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.		

PARKING

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.



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 Rea Charitable Trust; 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

