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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Impostors Theatre Company to stage the Tennessee Williams play
Summer & Smoke

Written by Tennessee Williams

Directed by Artistic Director Stefan Roseen

CHICAGO, IL — The Impostors Theatre Company (ITC) continues their second season this March with ***Summer & Smoke***, written by **Tennessee Williams** and directed by ITC Artistic Director **Stefan Roseen**. *Summer & Smoke* runs **March 13 – 28, 2020** at **The Pentagon Theatre at Collaboraction Studios in the Flat Iron Arts Building, 1579 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60622**. Press are welcomed to join us any time from Friday, March 13 until closing.

“She’s called to a spiritual existence; he’s committed to an earthly one. Alma (Spanish for ‘soul’) loves the boy next door, John Buchanan. The two each have a rather different philosophy for life, though. While Alma is moved by graces and troubled by petty, every-day cruelties that accompany living, John cares only for human impulse and immediacy. He brandishes his chart of the human anatomy to prove his point: there’s no room in a body for a soul.

Circling one another, the pair illustrates the double-edged sword of human nature, darkness making way for lightness and vice versa, only to cut one another short. A gothic Southern town caked in heat makes for a brooding observer. In the quietly unsettling fashion unique to Tennessee Williams’ works, *Summer and Smoke* explores the connection between two people bound by a breathing tether. Stretch it too tightly, and it’s doomed to snap.”

The cast of *Summer & Smoke* includes **Brianna Joy Ford** in the lead role of Alma Winemiller, and **Ian R. Q. Slater** in the lead role of John Buchanan. They are joined by **Addy Welsh** as Mr. Winemiller/Dr. Buchanan, **Anna Sciacotta** as Nellie Ewell/Dusty, **Cynthia Esparza** as Rosa Gonzales/Rosemary, **Victor Lopez** as Mr. Gonzales/Vernon, **Rachel Page** as Mrs. Winemiller/Mrs. Bassett, and **Dominick Alesia** as Roger Doremus/Archie.

About the Artists

Tennessee Williams (Playwright) was a Mississippi-born playwright, novelist, and screenwriter who studied at the University of Missouri and the University of Iowa. Writing plays that reveal human nature through sex, violence, and romance, Williams was later dubbed “The Man Who Queered Broadway” by the New Yorker. He is best known for *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *The Night of the Iguana*. *Summer and Smoke*, Williams’ third published play, was eventually revised into a play called *The Eccentricities of the Nightingale* nearly fifteen years later. Williams is one of the most prolific writers of American history, receiving awards and accolades both during his life and posthumously.

Stefan Roseen (Director) is a Chicago director, playwright, and designer. He serves as the artistic director for The Impostors Theatre Company. Stefan most recently worked with The Impostors in October 2019 as director for *Tippy: Stories from the River*. Additional directing credits include: *Footholds 2019*; *Caged: An Allegory*; *The Wood*; *The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan*; *Art*; and *The Altercation in the Underworld* — Winner “Best Of” for MadKap Productions Short Play Festival. Stefan earned his degree in theatre and studio art from Valparaiso University where he has returned to direct. He has also led multiple workshops and directed numerous staged readings including *Tippy: Tales from the River* this past May. Stefan’s more recent theatrical designs include sets for *25/25*, *Occidental Express*; the Jeff-recommended *They*; and the Jeff-nominated *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* — all for Trap Door Theatre.

Fact Sheet | *Summer & Smoke*

Title: *Tippy: Stories from the River*

Written by: Tennessee Williams

Directed by: ITC Artistic Director **Stefan Roseen**

Featuring: **Brianna Joy Ford** (Alma Winemiller), **Ian R. Q. Slater** (John Buchanan), **Addy Welsh** (Mr. Winemiller/Dr. Buchanan), **Anna Sciacotta** (Nellie Ewell/Dusty), **Cynthia Esparza** (Rosa Gonzales/Rosemary), **Victor Lopez** (Mr. Gonzales/Vernon), **Rachel Page** (Mrs. Winemiller/Mrs. Bassett), and **Dominick Alesia** as (Roger Doremus/Archie)

Creative Team: ITC ensemble members **Mallory Swisher** (Lighting Design), **Kyle Smart** (Costume Design), **Rachel Borgo** (Dramaturg), as well as **Ethan Gasbarro** (Set Design) and Matthew Perry Smith (Fight Choreographer)

Opening Night: Friday, March 13, 2020 at 7:30pm

Regular Run: March 13 – 28, 2020

Schedule: Thursdays – Saturdays at 7:30pm
Sundays at 3pm

Location: The Pentagon Theatre at Collaboraction Studios in the Flat Iron Arts Building
1579 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60622

Tickets: General Admission – \$15
Reserved Seating – \$20
(more information, email impostorstheatre.boxoffice@gmail.com)

Group Discount: Purchase 6 or more tickets to receive a \$5 discount off of each ticket. Contact the Box Office at impostorstheatre.boxoffice@gmail.com for more details and to book your event.

Box Office: theimpostorstheatre.com/boxoffice.html

Press Photos for *Summer & Smoke* will be available March 13, 2020.

Parking and Transportation: The Flat Iron Arts Building is located in Wicker Park. West of the Damen/North/Milwaukee intersection, patrons can locate a parking garage on the northern side of North Avenue and a parking lot on the southern. There is limited street parking available. Apps like Spot Hero are highly recommended to ensure a parking spot. The theater is easily accessible via the Damen (#50), Milwaukee (#56), or North (#72) bus, and just steps off of the Damen Blue Line El station.

About The Impostors Theatre Company

The Impostors Theatre Company is one of Chicago's newest ensembles. The Company stages stories at the crossroads of retrospect and innovation, where the fantastic collides with the everyday. In order to better our discourse, our relationships, and ourselves, we aim to inspire an urgency for the arts through the power of theatre. A commitment to challenge, cultivate, and coalesce drives the company forward, encouraging all to "Embrace the Art of Pretend."

Returning for their second season, The Impostors have crafted a new series of productions that draw from both old and new, elemental and synthetic, human and otherworldly.

The Impostors Theatre Company is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a 501(c)3 non-profit arts service organization.

For more information about The Impostors Theatre Company, we invite you to visit theimpostorstheatre.com
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