



For Immediate Release

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Theater Latté Da announces three new musicals as part of *NEXT: New Musicals in the Making*—a new work series showcasing new musicals in various stages of development.

Three-show passes and single tickets are on sale now.

Featuring staged readings from celebrated Minneapolis-based artist Aaron Gabriel, up-and-coming NYC artists Michael Holland and Chip Klose and local improv artists who have appeared with Comedy Sportz and Huge Improv.

Three new works. Three performances each.
The series begins May 1 and continues through May 18 at the Lab Theater in Minneapolis.

Three-show passes and single tickets can be purchased at latteda.org or by calling 612-339-3003.

(Minneapolis/St. Paul) Theater Latté Da today announced titles and casting for ***NEXT: New Musicals in the Making***—a new work series that showcases three new musicals in various stages of development. Each of the three workshops will culminate in three public performances followed by a post-show discussion. These discussions provide audience members the opportunity to give immediate feedback and “get in on the ground floor” of the creative process. Performances begin May 1 at The Lab Theater (700 N. 1st Street) in Minneapolis. \$30 three-show passes and \$12 single tickets can be purchased online at latteda.org or by calling 612-339-3003.

The series includes workshop readings of the musicals ***The End of September*** by Minneapolis-based writer **Aaron Gabriel**, ***Horizon*** by New York-based writers **Chip Klose** and **Michael Holland**, and a musical comedy improv ***Some Assembly Required*** featuring local artists from Comedy Sportz and Huge Improv. Theater Latté Da Artistic Director **Peter Rothstein** will direct both *The End of September* and *Horizon* with Music Direction by **Barbara Brooks** and **Denise Prosek**, respectively.

Each musical will receive three public performances followed by post-show discussions, which provide vital feedback for the writers. The writers are provided additional rehearsal time to make changes between each performance. “We believe strongly in the importance of fueling the creative journeys of artists and to engage audiences in the development process,” says Peter Rothstein. “It is our hope to use *NEXT: New Musicals in the Making* as a vehicle to nurture musical theater writers from the Twin Cities and beyond. We are equally interested in exploring new processes to create musical theater with a wide-range of collaborators. This year we are partnering with artists from the world of improv comedy.”

About the Musicals:

The End of September

Book, Music and Lyrics by Aaron Gabriel

Directed by Peter Rothstein

Music Direction by Barbara Brooks

Featuring music inspired by hymns and folk songs of Ojibwe, Scandinavian and American traditions, *The End of September* is a moving portrait about the bonds of friendship and family. In this contemporary re-telling of the Old Testament story about the relationship between King David and his boyhood friend Jonathan, a small town grapples with a friendship that they don't understand.

Featuring: Laurie Flannagin-Hegge, Janet Hansen, Eric Vollen and Jake Waid. *Additional casting to be announced.*

Performance Dates & Times: Thursday, May 1 and Saturday, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m.

Some Assembly Required—an improvised musical
Created by artists from Comedy Sportz and Huge Improv

Some Assembly Required brings together some of the hottest Twin Cities improv comedians working with audience suggestions to create a brand new musical in real-time. Come for one evening of spontaneous musical comedy, or come to all three nights and watch a musical develop over the course of the three performances.

Featuring: Brian Kelly, Jill Bernard and additional artists from Comedy Sportz and Huge Improv

Performance Dates & Times: Thursday, May 8 and Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Horizon

Book by Chip Klose
Music and Lyrics by Michael Holland
Directed by Peter Rothstein
Music Direction by Denise Prosek

Featuring music from the southern rock and bluegrass genres, *HORIZON* focuses on a love triangle between two brothers and the beautiful girl next door. Adapted from Eugene O'Neill's play *Beyond the Horizon*, this new musical is a touching story about ambition, regret, and the seemingly small spaces in between.

Featuring: Cat Brindisi, Eric Buron and Jared Oxborough. *Additional casting to be announced.*

Performance Dates & Times: Thursday, May 15 and Saturday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m.

About the Artists:

Aaron Gabriel most recently composed the scores for Mixed Blood/Footprints Collective's *Vet's Play Project*, Interact Theater's *Madame Josette's Naughty and Nice* and *Sugar and Spice*, *By the Seat of Our Pants*, *Work of Heart*, *Hot Jazz at da Funky Butt*, and *Madame Majesta's Miracle Medicine Show* (for which he won a 2010 Ivey Award); Stages Theater Company's *Starry River of the Sky* (Spring 2014), *Owl Moon* and *Princess Academy*. Aaron has worked with theaters throughout the Twin Cities including Theater Latté Da, Guthrie Theater, Ordway Center for Performing Arts, Illusion Theater, Children's Theatre Company, Minnesota Opera, Nautilus Music Theater and Chicago Avenue Project.

Michael Holland Broadway: *Godspell* (orchestrations and vocal arrangements). Incidental music: Alley Theatre; Old Globe; Playwrights Horizons; Dallas Theatre Center; CO Shakespeare; Juilliard; NYU Tisch. Composer/lyricist: *You're Gonna Hate This* (Joe's Pub 2013); *Hurricane* (NYMF 2009; in development); *Believe in Me...a Bigfoot musical* (fringeNYC); *Live! Under Broadway* (fringeNYC); *Times Square Centennial Celebration* (BC/EFA & Times Sq. Assoc.); *Mikey Writes It!* (2002 MAC Award: Best Revue). Performer/musical director of multi-award winning NYC favorite *Gashole!* since 2001. Recordings: world premiere of "Another Day in the Modern World" on *The Maury*

Yeston Songbook (PS classics); 4 solo CDs. Upcoming: *Lady* (music and lyrics); *Horizon* (music and lyrics) and a brand new baby untitled one.

Chip Klose is an NYC-based Director, Choreographer, and Playwright. He's currently writing books for three new musicals: *Horizon* (music & lyrics by Michael Holland), *Picture Perfect* (music & lyrics by Ben Roseberry), and *Money to Burn* (music by Sam Davis, lyrics by Sara Wordsworth). As a Director/Choreographer, his work has been seen Off-Broadway, Regionally, and at the University level. In 2008 he received a Drama Desk Nomination for the world premiere of *Fugitive Songs*, which he produced Off-Broadway. He's currently Associate Director for the Broadway-bound musical, *In Transit*, working alongside Tony-winner, Christopher Gattelli. www.ChipKlose.com

Theater Latté Da is an award-winning Twin Cities musical theater company that combines music and story to illuminate the breadth and depth of the human experience. The company seeks to create new connections between story, music, artists and audience by exploring and expanding the art of musical theater. www.latteda.org

FACT SHEET

Theater Latté Da presents

NEXT: New Musicals in the Making

Venue: The Lab Theater (700 N. 1st Street in Minneapolis)

Dates: Begins Thursday, May 1 and continues through Sunday, May 18.

Ticket prices: 3-show passes \$30. Single tickets \$12.

Post-show discussions follow each performance.

The End of September

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Directed by Peter Rothstein

Music Direction by Barbara Brooks

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