

2018

CLARENCE BROWN THEATRE
at the University of Tennessee

2019



For Immediate Release:
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“Airness” to Play in the CBT Lab Theatre

Chelsea Mercantel’s play “Airness” will play in the Lab Theatre March 25 – April 5, 2020. A talk back with the artists will take place April 5 following the 2:00 pm matinee. The open captioned performance will be held Sunday, March 29 at 2:00 pm. The production is sponsored by WUOT, WUTK and The Daily Beacon.

Prepare to have your face melted by Shreddy Eddy, Golden Thunder and the reigning champ, D Vicious, at the National Air Guitar competition! Nina, a real guitar player, enters the competition thinking it will be a cinch to take the championship. She soon discovers she has a lot to learn. A tribute to good friends, killer rock classics, and the joy of letting go.

Mercantel has lived and made theatre among the tribes of the Midwest, Appalachia, the Mid-Atlantic, and now the West Coast. In 2016, she completed a Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Fellowship at The Juilliard School. Her plays, which have been produced across the US and Canada, include “Everything is Wonderful,” “Tiny Houses,” “Ladyish,” and “Devour.”

(Director and Choreographer) **Steve Sherman** makes his directing debut at the CBT. He received his MFA in Acting from UT in 2016 and has performed in 12 productions at the CBT including “The Whipping Man,” “Spamalot,” “4000 Miles,” “Of Mice & Men,” “The Open Hand” and “King Charles III.” Theatre directing credits include The Actor’s Nightmare and Scapino, as well as short play festivals and showcases. In 2018 he began teaching acting and theatre undergraduate courses at UT. He has worked as an actor and writer all over the country. On camera work includes several independent films and commercials.

This production includes actors from UT Theatre undergraduate program including **Callie Bacon** (Nina), **Brady Craddock** (Announcer/Sprite Exec/Hooded Figure), **Celeste Pelletier** (Astrid “Cannibal Queen” Anderson), **Andrew Shipman** (Mark “Facebender” Lender), **Jordan Gatton-Bumpus** (Ed “Shreddy Eddy” Leary); and local actors **Malik Baines** (Gabe “Golden Thunder” Partridge), and **Brady Moldrup** (David “D Vicious” Cooper).

The creative team for this production includes: **Carrie Ferrelli** (Scenic and Projections Designer); **John Merritt** (Costume Designer); **Bill Miller** (Lighting Designer); **Jack Clark** (Sound Designer); and, **Kelli Cool** (Stage Manager).

The Previews for “Airness” are Wednesday March 25 and Thursday, March 26, followed by Opening Night Friday, March 27. The production runs through April 5. The Clarence Brown Theatre only sells tickets online through KnoxvilleTickets.com. For tickets, call the Clarence Brown Theatre Box Office at 865-974-5161 or order online 24/7 at www.clarencebrowntheatre.com

With a dual mission to train the next generation of theatre artists and to provide top quality professional theatre, the Clarence Brown Theatre at the University of Tennessee Knoxville is one of only 12 academic LORT (League of Resident Theatre) institutions in the nation. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Calvin MacLean and Managing Director Tom Cervone, the CBT season runs from September through May and features eight productions ranging from musicals to drama.

For more information, tickets or accessibility accommodation requests including Open Captioning, American Sign Language, and assistive technologies, please call the CBT Box Office at 865-974-5161 or visit us online at clarencebrowntheatre.com/access. Stay Connected to the Clarence Brown Theatre on Facebook (Clarence Brown Theatre), follow us on Twitter (@ClarenceBrown), and Instagram (@clarencebrowntheatre).