

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Release Date: 03/16/2020

Harlequin suspends operations in adherence with COVID-19 mitigation measures

Olympia, WA March 16, 2020 – On March 15, 2020, Governor Inslee announced a new statewide proclamation to temporarily shut down restaurants, bars and entertainment and recreational facilities. In addition, all gatherings under 50 participants are prohibited unless previously announced criteria for public health and social distancing are met. Please see Governor Inslee's statement here.

We strongly support all measures to protect the health of our patrons, artists, and staff. Given these new guidelines, Harlequin will suspend the final weekend of *The Highest Tide* along with all future operations until further notice. This includes the operations of our administrative staff.

This is an evolving crisis with many unknowns. If you are a ticketholder, we will honor your tickets and will contact you as soon as our plans solidify. We will humbly add that transferring your ticket to a donation supports Harlequin during these uncertain times. If you are not currently a sustaining member of Harlequin, please consider becoming one. Information on membership is here. The Seattle Times has provided information on how to help artists and culture workers generally. That information is here.

Please see our website and Coronavirus Preparedness page for updates as this situation evolves: https://harlequinproductions.org/

https://harlequinproductions.org/2020/03/03/coronavirus-preparedness/

More Information:

- Thurston County Department of Public Health and Social Services coronavirus information page
- University of Washington's novel coronavirus information page
- UW School of Public Health coronavirus response page
- Washington State Department of Health coronavirus information page
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) coronavirus situation summary
- Washington State Coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline at 1-800-525-0127

Harlequin Productions is a professional not-for-profit theater company in Olympia, WA. We seek to invigorate, educate, and empower our community and all people to feel more, think more, play more, and judge less through the mirror of real live theatre.

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