



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harlequin to postpone productions until March 2022

Olympia, WA – January 5, 2022 – In the interest of artist and patron safety amid the current surge in COVID-19 cases with the Omicron variant, Harlequin Productions will be postponing further production until March 2022. The next scheduled production, *Murder for Two*, which was to run January 21 – February 19, will now run March 11 – April 2. The production that was to run at that time, Samuel Beckett’s *Endgame*, has been canceled.

Says Artistic Director Aaron Lamb, “We realize that producing work in the middle of a surge like this new wave would be dangerous and next to impossible. We have hope that this will pass quickly, and we will be able to produce work on a regular basis moving forward. Our community has been too long without Real. Live. Theatre. We hope that we can get back to it without pause shortly.”

Subscribers and single ticket holders in the first four weeks of the run will be contacted by the Box Office, and their tickets will automatically be moved to the corresponding new dates in March. The Box Office will be reissuing and mailing out the new tickets by February 1. If ticket holders in the first four weeks need to reschedule, they are urged to contact the Box Office via email, at boxoffice@harlequinproductions.org, or by phone at 360.786.0151. Business hours are Tues – Friday, 12:00 to 5:30 PM.

The March run of *Murder for Two* will shorten, from five weeks to four weeks. Patrons with tickets for the fifth week of *Murder for Two* and/or patrons with tickets to *Endgame* will be contacted and asked to complete an online form, which offers several options including a full refund, or to contact the Box Office directly. Patrons are asked to respond by March 1, after which their tickets will be automatically refunded.

Murder for Two is a murder mystery musical comedy in which two actors play all the characters investigating a dastardly crime. Both actors, Katherine Strohmaier* and Jon Lutyens*, play the piano throughout. In his Director’s Notes regarding the production, Corey McDaniel writes, “Being in the rehearsal room with Kathrine and Jon has been a true and unique gift. Witnessing these two very skilled actors and musicians dissect and execute the rapid-fire changes of thought, characters, physicality, and a multitude of key changes was thrilling.” He adds, “Generally speaking, what I love most about theatre is our opportunity to gather as a community and reflect on what it means to be within the human experience.”

It is just that human experience that Harlequin looks forward to returning to in March of this year.

All Harlequin employees will remain on staff; no one will be furloughed during this time. Harlequin Productions will resume rehearsals and other production-related activities in late February.

* Indicates membership in the Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

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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