



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Stage Unframed Series presents <u>Acts of Creation</u> A Play by Brianna Barret

Jackson, Mississippi – The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre presents *Acts of Creation* by Brianna Barret May 5th-6th at 7:30pm and May 7th at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until May 5th at 5:00pm. If seating is still available, tickets may also be purchased at the door for \$15 one hour before each show. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre, which is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. *Acts of Creation* contains adult content and language, and is recommended for mature audiences only.

Acts of Creation, directed by Lindsey Neville, is a beautiful new play that will leave you with much to discuss. Convinced that death is at her door, an aged actress invents an AI algorithm that will create an artistic masterpiece as an attempt to leave behind a legacy. Meanwhile, her adopted daughter struggles with her identity as she prepares to become a mother herself and her step-daughter decides if she can open up enough to ask for help. The family struggles with what a legacy really is and how best to honor it. Neville plans for an unconventional staging of the play with the aim to bring the audience closer and feel as if they're peering into the private lives of this unique family as they discover questions they never thought to ask before. Acts of Creation is a play for people who want to be challenged, and leave the theatre with much to think about.

"This play will leave you wondering, along with this unconventional family, what it means to create art in a world of technology, what it means to be family, and whether we get to decide how we're remembered or the mark we leave on the world," says Neville.

Brianna Barret is an award winning playwright, screenwriter, and artist. Her other works in include *Still Harvey Still*, *Florence Fane in San Francisco*, *After This Episode*, *Moderates*, and *36 Perfectly Appropriate Mealtime Conversations*, the last of which won 1st place in Page to Stage V at Hillsboro Artists' Regional Theatre. Other of Barret's accolades include being a finalist in the Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival, being a finalist in Lanford Wilson New American Play Festival, and being the recipient of the Mark Twain prize in Comic Writing.

"I am thrilled that Lindsey Neville discovered this brand new work and proposed it for Unframed this season," says New Stage Theatre Artistic Director Francine Reynolds. With its unique characters and topical subject matter, *Acts of Creation* is a very intriguing play and a perfect choice for The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre.

The cast of *Acts of Creation* includes Wendie Sheppard (Thea), Kate Woodley (Reed), Nora Katz (Francine), Rashundra Powell (Marigold), and Thomas McBride (Mason).

Created in 2006, The Unframed at New Stage Theatre series provides a distinctive theatre experience to the community. The focus is on producing new works and contemporary drama as an alternative to the traditional New Stage subscription series. Unframed at New Stage provides artistic opportunities to emerging artists allowing them to get more experience working with a professional theatre company and on fresh, exciting material that's not typically produced on the main stage. This season, Unframed has made its post-pandemic premiere with gripping shows such as *Small Mouth Sounds*, *Sunset Baby*, and *Acts of Creation*. We are excited to close Season 14 with the world-premiere of the new show, *Acts of Creation*.

Acts of Creation opens Friday, May 5th at 7:30pm. Additional performances are Saturday, May 6th at 7:30pm, and Sunday, May 7th at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online in advance at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until May 5th at 5:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$15 one hour before each show. Acts of Creation contains adult language and content (including substance abuse) and is recommended for mature audiences only. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre. The theatre is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. For more information on The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre, find us on Facebook or Instagram at Unframed at New Stage Theatre or call 601.948.3533 (ex. 222.)