

# **NEW STAGE** *Theatre*

**In partnership with the  
LGBTQ Fund of Mississippi  
Presents**

## **Sons of Levi**

*In a Premiere Staged Reading*

Adapted for the stage by Randy Redd  
from the novel *How to Survive a Summer* by Nick White  
Directed by Taylor St. John

Presented in The Mississippi Plays Series as part of the Eudora Welty New Plays Series  
Monday, August 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

### **CAST**

**Will Dillard read by Sam Lovorn**

**Bevy read by Lauren Parkinson**  
also plays **Brenda, Debra Rose (Will's mother), Commentator**

**Zeus read by Michael "Monte" Montgomery**

**Mother Maude read by Mandy Kate Myers**

**Father Drake read by Ben Kahre**

**Christopher read by Will Dungey**

**Rumil read by Aaron Lu**

**Sparse read by Tim Magee**

**Dale read by Taylor Roberts**

**Rick read by Erick Weeks**  
also plays **Punk, Holy Warrior, Frank (Will's father), Host**

**Larry read by Drew Stark**  
also plays **Hipster, Holy Warrior**

**The play runs 90 minutes. There will not be an intermission.**

NOTE:

*This adaptation plays fast and loose with time and space. Imagine a simple, creative staging that relies on lighting and sound to move us effortlessly between NOW and THEN with a simple design that serves only to support the time-traveling narrative.*

Originally, from Mississippi, **Nick White** is the author of the novel *How to Survive a Summer* (Blue Rider/Penguin, 2017) and the story collection *Sweet and Low*. He is an Assistant Professor of English at The Ohio State University's MFA Program in Creative Writing. His short stories, poems, and essays have appeared in a variety of places, including *The Kenyon Review*, *Guernica*, *Catapult*, *The Hopkins Review*, *Indiana Review*, *The Literary Review*, *Lit Hub*, and elsewhere. He is currently working on a new novel.

**Randy Redd's** directing credits include *Swing Wings*, *Extraordinary Joe*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Smoke on the Mountain*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Fiction in Photographs*. As an actor, Broadway credits include *Parade*, *Ring of Fire*, *MDQ*, Terrence McNally's *Some Men*, *The Burnt Part Boys*, Randy Newman's *Faust*, *Pump Boys & Dinettes*, Alain Boublil's *Manhattan Parisienne*, *Allegro* directed by John Doyle, and *The View Upstairs*. Film/TV: *Beautiful Creatures*, *The Last Five Years*, *After the Storm*, *Kinsey*, *From Broadway With Love* (PBS), the *Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade*, and the *Tony Awards*. His first play, *Mississippi Sugar*, based on the works of Lewis Nordan, was developed and produced at The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. Other original work: *Awful/Good*, *Touché*, *What's That Smell*, *Elkin Dab*, and *The Black and White*.



**The Eudora Welty New Play Series** was established in 1984 for the discovery and development of new American plays. It was named in honor of Eudora Welty, an active member of New Stage Theatre's board of directors. *Sons of Levi* is being presented tonight as part of a new initiative, The Mississippi Play Series. In its world premiere, *Sons of Levi* is being read for the first time in front of an audience. As the first audience, your input is a valued voice in this very beginning of the play's creative process and artistic journey to being fully workshopped, and ultimately, fully produced on stages throughout the country.

Let us know what you think of *Sons of Levi* and our New Plays Series. Your feedback helps us plan our programming. Thanks!

