

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***  
**May 29, 2020**

## **Asolo Rep Presents *FOUNTAIN***

### **Part Two of its Ground Floor Series: Making Musicals**

**(SARASOTA, FL)** – Asolo Rep continues its GROUND FLOOR SERIES: MAKING MUSICALS, on Thursday, June 4 at 6pm with a preview of *FOUNTAIN*, a new musical set in Florida with book, music and lyrics by Christopher Anselmo and Jared Corak:

Andi was born on the night of the biggest hurricane Florida has ever seen. Raised by "Pop", her master storyteller of a grandfather in their roadside shop full of mystical relics and oddities, her imagination is topped only by her devotion to family. When forces nefarious and natural combine to threaten that family, Andi must journey to the ends of the Earth – or at least into the dankest swamp in Florida – to save the day. This joyful story of imagination will inspire audiences of all ages and reminds us that home is more than where we keep our stuff.

The four-part MAKING MUSICALS competition, designed specifically for an online audience, will preview four new and original musicals broadcast live on Asolo Rep's Facebook and YouTube pages. Upcoming musicals include *JOHNNY AND THE DEVIL'S BOX*, book, music, and lyrics by Douglas Waterbury-Tiemen, on June 18; and *MAYA*, book and music by Cheeyang Ng, book and lyrics by Eric Sorrels, on July 2. The series debuted on May 21 with SOPHIE BLANCHARD'S HIGH FLYIN' ROCK AND ROLL EXTRAVAGANZA, book, music and lyrics by Lizzie Hagstedt. Each 30-minute session consists of a fifteen-minute preview performance of one new musical, followed by a fifteen-minute discussion with the playwright/composer and James Monaghan, Asolo Rep Dramaturg and Literary Manager, and Celine Rosenthal, Asolo Rep Associate Artistic Director, who serves as the Director of the Ground Floor Series and is also directing all four musicals. After the four musicals have aired, the audience will be asked to vote for their favorite and the winner will receive a full staged reading at Asolo Rep.

To add to the fun, the Theatre is incorporating a Virtual Happy Hour into the presentation. One day prior to each performance, patrons will receive an email notice of the broadcast that includes a cocktail recipe specifically chosen to compliment the theme of that week's new musical. The cocktail recipe can also be found on Asolo Rep's Facebook page the day before the event.

Patrons wishing to vote for their favorite musical will be required to register online through a link on Asolo Rep's website: [asolorep.org](http://asolorep.org). Following the last performance, registered patrons will be emailed a ballot to be filled out and submitted to the theatre within 48 hours. To qualify to vote, patrons must be registered, they must have viewed all four performances and they will only be able to vote once.

***FOUNTAIN* Creative Team Bios:**

**Christopher Anselmo** is a songwriter whose work has been heard across the country and internationally. His musicals include *ATLANTIC* (Edinburgh Festival, American Music Theatre Project / Royal Conservatoire of Scotland); *FABLE* (NYMF); *HAUNTED TRAIN* (TNC); and the New York Times Critic's Pick adaptation of the best-selling children's series, *THE POUT-POUT FISH* (TheatreWorksUSA / The New Victory Theater). By day, he works for composer Jeanine Tesori. Member of ASCAP, Dramatists Guild and the BMI Advanced Workshop. Northwestern '16. [christopheranselmo.com](http://christopheranselmo.com)

**Jared Corak** is a writer and performer originally from sunny South Florida. He has written the New York Times Critic's Pick adaptation of *THE POUT-POUT FISH* (TheaterWorks USA / The New Victory Theater), as well as countless musicals as a teaching artist with the Lovewell Institute for the Creative Arts. When he is not writing musicals, he works on the CBS TV show *FBI*. Proud member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and Northwestern alum.

## Performers:

**D.C. Anderson:** Broadway credits include: *THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA*. Nat'l tours: *THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA*, *PIPPIN*, *THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF NICHOLAS NICKLEBY*, *MARTIN GUERRE*. Off B'way: *QUEEN OF THE MIST*, *STORYVILLE* Regional: Steppenwolf, Guthrie, Great Lakes Shakespeare, Florida Studio Theatre, Penobscot Theatre, Rep Theatre of St Louis, Northlight, Goodspeed. Ten recordings of original and cover songs on the LML MUSIC label. Hobby: Photography Website: [www.dcanderson.net](http://www.dcanderson.net)

**Lizzie Hagstedt** is an actor/singer/musician/composer from Sayville, New York. Performing credits include: *SOUTHERN COMFORT* (The Public, Barrington, CAP21), *SWEET CHARITY* (New Group starring Sutton Foster), *SWEENEY TODD* (National Tour), *AUGUST RUSH* (World Premiere), *THE BLACK CROOK* (Abrons Arts), *1969: THE SECOND MAN* (NYTW), *TAMING OF THE SHREW* (Virginia Stage), and *THE MUSIC MAN* and her own musical *SOPHIE BLANCHARD'S HIGH FLYIN' ROCK AND ROLL EXTRAVAGANZA* with Asolo Rep. [www.lizziehagstedt.com](http://www.lizziehagstedt.com)

**Angel Lin** is an actor, musician, and anything synonymous to the word "geek". National Tour: *ONCE* (Emcee, u/s Girl), *KANSAS CITY CHOIR BOY* (by Todd Almond, starring Courtney Love, A.R.T/C.T.G). Select NYC/Regional: *1969: THE SECOND MAN* (NYTW), *INTERSTATE* (NYMF), *CINDERELLA* (Papermill Playhouse), *OTHER JOSH COHEN* (Geva Theater, Dir. Hunter Foster), Atlantic Theater, Ars Nova, Joe's Pub, Lincoln Center, and more. Voiceover work include *PINKALICIOUS* (PBS), and various work with Dreamworks, Nickelodeon and Rockstar Games. BFA: NYU Tisch. [www.angeldoesthings.com](http://www.angeldoesthings.com)

**Ann Morrison:** Broadway credits include: *LOVEMUSIK*; *CHILDREN AND ART*; *MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG* (1982 Theatre World Award). London West End: *PEG*. Off Broadway: *GOBLIN MARKET* (Drama Desk Nomination), *FORBIDDEN BROADWAY*. Regional Theater includes; Asolo Reps: *THE SOUND OF MUSIC*; *BEATSVILLE*; *MY FAIR LADY*; *MURDERERS*; *SWINGTIME CANTEEN*; *1940'S RADIO HOUR*; Free Fall Theatres: *MUSICAL OF MUSICALS THE MUSICAL*, *INTO THE WOODS*, American Stages: *ON THE VERGE*, Banyan theaters: *A CLEAN HOUSE*.; Recordings, Cabarets and Concerts throughout the U.S. and England.

Patrons may access the livestream by visiting [the Asolo Rep Facebook page](#) where the video will appear at the top of the page starting at 6pm on Wednesday, May 21.

Viewers can also watch on Asolo Rep's YouTube Live by visiting [our YouTube channel](#).

Asolo Rep will also post a recording of each broadcast on its Facebook and YouTube channels.

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## **ABOUT ASOLO REP**

Now looking forward to its 62nd season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 10 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the [FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training](#). Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and groundbreaking education and community programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

[asolorep.org](http://asolorep.org)

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