



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Harlequin Productions Announces Free Radio Series

**Olympia, WA** – September 7, 2020 – Along with other live events across the nation, Harlequin Productions' 2020 Season was halted in March 2020. To complete this year's season, the theater announces a six-week online radio series, to run September 20 – October 31, 2020. Productions will run for one week each, premiering Sundays at 7:30pm PST, with a run proceeding Tuesday – Saturday of that week at 7:30 pm PST. Local and regionally known directors will helm each work. All performances are free to the public; space is limited for each performance. To reserve a free ticket or for more information, visit [HarlequinProductions.org](http://HarlequinProductions.org) or [HarlequinProductions.org/Radio](http://HarlequinProductions.org/Radio).

Sept 20 – Sept 26: ***The Highest Tide*** directed by Aaron Lamb

A sensory experience emanates from the pages of local author Jim Lynch's bestselling novel, which instantly transports us beneath the waters of a marine world teeming with infinite life and exquisite possibility.

Sept 27 – Oct 3: ***For Peter Pan on Her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday*** directed by Kathryn Dorgan

The refusal to grow up confronts the inevitability of growing old in Pulitzer Prize-nominated playwright Sarah Ruhl's lyric comedy.

Oct 4 – Oct 10: ***A Bright Room Called Day*** directed by Aaron Lamb

From the Pulitzer-winning playwright behind *Angels in America* comes a dramatic parable for our time. This early Tony Kushner work follows a group of artists and political activists struggling to preserve themselves in 1930s Berlin as the Weimar Republic surrenders to the seduction of fascism.

Oct 11 – Oct 17: ***This Flat Earth*** directed by Lauren Love

Stuck at home in a state of shocked limbo after a horrific school tragedy, Julie and Zander, two twelve-year-olds, try to make sense of what they witnessed, their awkward crushes, and an infinitely more complicated future — but the grown-ups are no help at all. An urgent response to our times by playwright Lindsey Ferrentino.

Oct 18 – Oct 24: ***Snow in Midsummer*** directed by Desdemona Chiang

In a contemporary re-imagining of one of China's most famous classical dramas, a young widow curses those who executed her for a crime she did not commit. Frances Ya-Chu Cowhig's new interpretation of the Guan Hanqing original was first produced as part of the "Chinese Translations Project" at the Royal Shakespeare Company. A second production was received in 2018 at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Oct 25 – Oct 31: ***Halloween Surprise*** directed by Corey McDaniel

For our last offering in the series, join us for a gripping radio drama in the best Harlequin tradition of chills and thrills, just in time for All Hallow's Eve.

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**Aaron Lamb** is the Artistic Director of Harlequin Productions. This past season, Lamb directed *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol*, *Love and Information*, *A Doll's House* and *Man of La Mancha*. In eleven seasons as an actor and director with Harlequin he has also directed *The 1940s Radio Hour*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *Three Days of Rain*, *Ruthless!*, *August: Osage County*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Time Stands Still*, *Middletown*, and *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. As an actor, he most recently appeared in the January 2020 production of *Noises Off*, as Frederick Fellowes. Lamb has worked in Seattle for Village Theatre, Taproot Theatre, Book-It Repertory Theatre, and Seattle Shakespeare Company, and has worked regionally throughout the country. He holds an MFA in Acting from California State University, Fullerton, and a BA from Washington State University.

**Kathryn Dorgan** recently retired from teaching after 22 years as Theatre Arts teacher at Olympia High School, and has served as Artistic Director for Creative Theatre Experience since 2003. She has directed local productions at St. Martin's University, South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia Little Theatre and Olympia Family Theatre. Kathy received her BFA in theatre at Pacific Lutheran University and an MFA from the University of Portland. She has trained at the Teaching Artist Lab at Seattle Repertory Theater and is a 2014 Juilliard School Directing Fellow.

**Lauren Love** has been the Drama Professor for SPSCC since 2018, for which she has directed productions ranging from *Cloud 9* to last year's *Fun Home*. She holds an MFA from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and a Ph.D. in Theater History from the University of Minnesota.

**Desdemona Chiang** is the co-founder of Seattle's Azeotrope theater. Her regional credits include the Guthrie Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, South Coast Repertory, Seattle Repertory Theater and ACT Theatre. She is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including three Gregory Awards for Outstanding Direction. She holds an MFA in Directing from the University of Washington, and a BA from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Corey McDaniel** is the founder and Producing Artistic Director of Seattle's Theatre22 as well as a freelance director, actor and teaching artist. As a director, McDaniel has staged a wide variety of productions throughout Southern California, Japan, and the Puget Sound Region. For Harlequin, he has directed *Noises Off* and *I Ought to be in Pictures*.

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**WHAT:** Harlequin Productions presents a free six-week online radio series, completing the 2020 season.

**WHEN:** September 20 – October 31, 2020 at 7:30pm (Mondays are dark)

**WHERE:** [HarlequinProductions.org/Radio](http://HarlequinProductions.org/Radio)

**TICKETS:** Space is limited for each performance; audiences should reserve their free tickets online at [harlequinproductions.org/radio](http://harlequinproductions.org/radio)

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**AGE RECOMMENDATION:** All ages with guidance (adult themes)

**All CASTS TBA**

*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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