

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Milagro presents the National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere of

# **JUMP**

A Co-Production with Confrontation Theatre
A story of family, fantasy, and mental health



WHO: Milagro WHAT: JUMP

By Charly Evon Simpson

Directed by La'Tevin Alexander

**WHEN:** March 21 — April 13, 2019

Preview Performance: Thursday, Mar. 21 at 7:30 PM - Complimentary wine tasting,

courtesy of Coopers Hall preceding the performance

Opening Night/Post-Show Reception: Friday, Mar. 22 at 7:30 PM - Post-Show Reception to

follow, catered by Le Bistro Montage

Thursday – Saturday at 7:30 PM, Sunday at 2 PM Closing Performance: Saturday, Apr. 13 at 7:30 PM

WHERE: Milagro Theatre, 525 SE Stark Street, Portland

TICKETS: Adult tickets are \$27 in advance, \$32 at the door.

Senior tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door.

Student/ Veteran tickets are \$20 in Advance, \$25 at the door. Special Pricing: Preview tickets are \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door

Opening night pricing: \$40 for all general admission tickets

Additional discounts for groups 15+, and welcomes Arts for All pricing.

Buy tickets: 503-236-7253 or milagro.org or https://milagro.org/event/jump/

**NOTE:** Jump is presented as a co-production between Milagro and Confrontation Theatre, and as a

National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere

SHOW IMAGE ATTACHED: Photo credit: Russell J. Young ADDITIONAL HIGH RES PHOTOS: Available on Flickr PRODUCTION PHOTOS AVAILABLE: March 21, 2019

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. Portland, Oregon | February 20, 2019.** Starting March 21, 2019, Milagro presents the National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere of <u>Jump</u>, a new play from Charly Evon Simpson, and a co-production with <u>Confrontation Theatre</u>. *Jump* runs from March 21 — April 13, 2019 on the Milagro MainStage.

## **ABOUT THE PLAY**

Where are we? Here. What time is it? Now.

A bridge that spans a deep gorge draws tourists, joggers, and more than a few wandering souls. Reeling from the death of her mother, 20-something Fay comes to the bridge looking for solace and a good place to vape, but what she finds is a journey of self-discovery. In the whimsically theatrical world of Jump, lights flicker, hearts heal – and you never know when the unexpected will literally fall from the sky.

An original work from Charly Evon Simpson, *Jump* is the all too familiar story of family, fantasy and mental health. Milagro is proud to present *Jump* as a co-production with Confrontation Theatre, and as a National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere.

#### ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Charly Evon Simpson's plays include *Jump, Behind the Sheet, Scratching the Surface, form of a girl unknown, it's not a trip it's a journey,* and more. Her work has been seen/developed with Ensemble Studio Theatre, Ars Nova, The Tank, Chautauqua Theater Company, Salt Lake Acting Company, P73's Summer Residency, NNPN's Kennedy Center MFA Playwrights Workshop and National Showcase of New Plays, and others. She's a member of WP Theater's 2018-2020 Lab, The New Georges Jam, The Amoralists 18/19 'Wright Club and she's The Pack's current playwright-in-residence. She's a former member of SPACE on Ryder Farm's The Working Farm, Clubbed Thumb's 17/18 Early Career Writers' Group, EST's Youngblood, and Pipeline's PlayLab. BA: Brown. MSt: Oxford. MFA: Hunter College. <a href="https://www.charlyevonsimpson.com">www.charlyevonsimpson.com</a>

#### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR - LA'TEVIN ALEXANDER**

With God in the forefront of my life I'm at peace
Art is a tool that if properly used can keep kids off the street
I love telling stories that affect me, my culture, & my community
Confrontation Theatre hopes that all our stories encourage unity
From the themes and ideas that come out of rehearsal
I love stories that are specific but the impact, universal
I've directed with Portland Playhouse for their Fall Festival of Shakespeare
I'm now working on Henry 5 with a high school for this year
In the past I've done The Dutchman & the Every 28 Hours plays
I'm through with stories that only portrays us as slaves
Charly Evon Simpson's Jump is now a go
Looking forward to seeing you in the house at Milagro

# **ABOUT CONFRONTATION THEATRE**

Confrontation Theatre is a non-profit professional theatre company with the mission to present excellent, affordable theatre, by and about the African diaspora. We explore the black experience from a black perspective. Our stories are for us and by us, but we welcome all to come and experience a perspective that may be different than their own. We proudly display new work. By staying current, Confrontation Theatre can explore new playwrights and tell stories that you may have never heard before. Our goal? To create a window into what black life is actually like throughout the diaspora.

# ABOUT THE NATIONAL NEW PLAY NETWORK ROLLING WORLD PREMIERE

The National New Play Network's flagship initiative, the <u>Rolling World Premiere</u> (RWP) program, is shifting the new play paradigm of the one-and-one premiere to a diversified, traveling, multi-production premiere. The RWP

program models a process for developing and producing new plays — one that results in stronger work overall and the momentum needed for a play to join the repertoire of frequently produced New American Works.

Each RWP supports three or more theaters that choose to mount the same new play within a 12-month period, allowing the playwright to develop a new work with multiple creative teams in multiple communities. The playwright is part of the process, working on the script and making adjustments based on what is learned from each production.

NNPN has contracted 80 RWPs in its 20 year history, with Milagro's participation in five: *Guapa* by Caridad Svich, *Into the Beautiful North* by Karen Zacarias, *The Mermaid Hour* by David Valdes Greenwood, *Jump* by Charly Evon Simpson (co-production with Confrontation Theatre), and *Wolf at the Door* by Marisela Treviño Orta.

Milagro and Confrontation Theatre are one of three theatres producing Jump as part of the National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere. The other participating theatres are <u>PlayMakers Repertory Company</u> in Chapel Hill, NC and <u>Actor's Express</u> in Atlanta, GA.

# **JUMP**

By Charly Evon Simpson
Directed by La'Tevin Alexander
A Co-production with Confrontation Theatre
A National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere

#### **ENSEMBLE**

Andrea Vernae\*| Fay Jasmine Cottrell | Judy Charles Grant | Hopkins Wrick Jones | Dad

\*Member of <u>Actor's Equity Association</u>, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

#### **CREATIVE TEAM**

Playwright | Charly Evon Simpson
Director | La'Tevin Alexander
Scenic Designer | Emily Wilken
Lighting Designer | Blanca Forzan
Costume Designer | Viola Horton
Sound Designer | Phillip Johnson
Props Master | Kyra Sanford
Rehearsal Stage Manager | Shira Goldeen
Production Stage Manager | Erin MacGillivray
Lighting Programmer | Joseph Gibson

Visit the <u>Jump Who's Who</u> page for full biographies.

# MEDIA CONTACTS | MEDIA PASSES | ARTIST INTERVIEWS

Contact Laurel Daniel, Marketing & Communications Director at marketing@milagro.org, 503-236-7253 x117

#### MORE INFORMATION

milagro.org | https://milagro.org/event/jump/

## **ABOUT MILAGRO**

As the premiere Latino arts and culture center of the Pacific Northwest since 1985, Milagro provides extraordinary Latino theatre, culture, and arts education for the enrichment of all communities. Milagro MainStage produces a full season of regional or world premieres, including one Spanish language play each year, as well as our long-running Día de Muertos signature production. Teatro Milagro, Milagro's touring and arts education program, presents its original bilingual plays and educational residencies to diverse and underserved communities across the nation. Milagro provides a home for Latino arts and culture at El Centro Milagro, where it enriches the local community with a variety of community engagement projects and educational programs designed to share the diversity of Latino culture. We entertain our audiences; we give them pause to think, feel and imagine; and, through the cultural lens of Latinidad, we reflect the full spectrum of humanity.

Milagro's 2018/19 season can be found here.

#### **SEASON 35 SPONSORS**

The Collins Foundation, James F & Marion L Miller Foundation, M J Murdock Charitable Trust, Meyer Memorial Trust, Ronni Lacroute, The Shubert Foundation, The Kinsman Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Work For Art, Juan Young Trust, US Bank, EC Brown Foundation, The Jackson Foundation, First Interstate Bank, The Oregonian, El Centinela, A to Z Wineworks, Portland Roasting Company, Poster Garden.

milagro.org

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