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Hand2Mouth Theatre presents

MY MIND IS LIKE AN OPEN MEADOW

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY **ERIN LEDDY**
DIRECTED BY **JONATHAN WALTERS**

AUGUST 1 - 19, 2012

FRINGE THEATER



HAND2MOUTH THEATRE
PRESENTS

MY MIND IS LIKE AN OPEN MEADOW

PERFORMER & CREATOR ERIN LEDDY+
PERFORMER SARAH BRAVEMAN
DIRECTOR JONATHAN WALTERS+
DRAMATURG ALEX HUEBSCH^
STAGE MANAGER KATE DIAL
SCENIC & LIGHTING DESIGNER CHRISTOPHER KUHL^
COMPOSER ASH BLACK BUFFLO
SOUND DESIGN & IMAGINEERING CASI PACILIO
CHOREOGRAPHER JANE PAIK
COSTUME DESIGNER ANNA COHEN
SONG ASSISTANT HOLCOMBE WALLER
PRODUCTION MANAGER CHRISTOPHER KUHL^
PROJECT MANAGERS ERIN LEDDY+ AND JONATHAN WALTERS+
ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER KATELAN BRAYMER
SOUND LEAD KORTNEY BARBER
SOUND HIRE ANDREY RODOVSKY
SCENIC ARTISTS RYAN NICOLAI AND RUSTY TENNANT
SET CONSTRUCTION BRIAN GUERRERO AND MICHAEL JONES
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT MOLLY GARDNER

h2m
hand2mouth

The running time of *My Mind Is Like An Open Meadow* is 60 minutes without an intermission.

+ Hand2Mouth Company Member | ^ Hand2Mouth Associate Artist

ERIN LEDDY

(Performer/Creator)

Erin is a company member and performer for Hand2Mouth. Erin has been with the company for nine years and has been a performer and co-creator in 15 original productions. Erin attended Emerson College in Boston, where she graduated with a degree in Radio.

SARAH BRAVEMAN

(Performer)

Sarah was born in 1917 in Boston, MA. Sarah worked as an actress in Boston, Manhattan, and Upstate New York from the 1930's until the 1990's. She worked with many companies and at many houses including Rooftop Theatre, the Living Theatre, Caffe Lena and the Homemade Theatre. Her favorite role was Anna Livia in ***Finnegan's Wake*** at the Poet's Theatre in Cambridge. Sarah has taught yoga and meditation for over 40 years in Saratoga Springs, NY, where she resides now.

JONATHAN WALTERS

(Director)

Jonathan founded Hand2Mouth Theatre in Portland, Oregon in 2000 and functions as Artistic Director. Described by *The Seattle Times* as having *"the kind of promise, fearlessness and energy that the American theater needs, and should encourage,"* H2M's work has been presented at leading arts centers across the US, Latin America and Europe. Jonathan directs the bulk of H2M's shows, devising them together with the H2M ensemble. He also teaches theatre and directs new works at colleges across the Northwest. Jonathan is a recipient of a Career Development Program for Directors Fellowship administered by Theatre Communications Group and the National Endowment for the Arts.

CHRISTOPHER KUHL

(Scenic and Lighting Designer)

Christopher is a lighting, scenic and installation designer for new performance, theatre, dance and opera. Recent work includes ***Everyone Who Looks Like You***, ***Project X***, ***Dos Pueblos***, ***Uncanny Valley***, ***Undine*** (Hand2Mouth Theatre). Chris has had the pleasure of making art at the Sundance Film Festival, EMPAC, REDCAT, On the Boards, The Walker, CTG, Primary Stages, BAM, Philly Live Arts, Jacob's Pillow, Arena Stage, St. Ann's Warehouse, SF Symphony, LA Opera, Beijing Music Festival, Carnegie Hall, Queer Zagreb, KVS Belgium, MAC France. In 2011 Chris was the recipient of the Sherwood, Drammy, Horton, and Ovation Awards. Chris is originally from New Mexico and a graduate of Calarts.

CASI PACILIO

(Sound Design and Imagineering)

Casi has been working in theatre since she was five. It has always felt like home - sometimes peaceful and safe; sometimes alienating and challenging. From Northside School of the Performing Arts to City Theatre to PS122 to the Helen Hayes Theatre to La Jolla Playhouse/UCSD to Portland Center Stage, all have been an adventure, but she feels home again working with Hand2Mouth and especially with ***My Mind Is Like An Open Meadow***. I want to thank Hand2Mouth and Darron West for always encouraging me to be a better designer and collaborator. I feel lucky.

JAY CLARKE

(Composer)

Jay is a Portland-based composer and experimental musician working under the name Ash Black Bufflo. Clarke composes music for feature-length films, short films, documentaries, and dance and theater projects. He recently scored music for the critically acclaimed documentary ***Marwencol***. He performs and records with numerous Portland-area projects including Dolorean, Holy Sons, and Grails. Clarke's debut solo CD *Andasol*, the first recorded document of his emerging experimental voice, was released on Knitting Factory Records in 2011.

KATE DIAL

(Stage Manager)

Credits include ***The Golden Veil*** (The Kitchen), ***UltraViolet Live*** (NYU - Skirball), ***Helen on 86th Street*** (Chernuchin), ***Finding Penelope*** (Sojourn Theater - Milwaukee), ***Stop Kiss*** (PPAS), ***Paper Angels*** (San Francisco Fringe), ***Conveniences of Modern Living*** (NY Fringe), ***Civilization*** (Sundance Lab - Governor's Island), ***Red Cross***, ***The Disappearance*** and ***Top Girls***. A native of Florida, Kate received her B.F.A. from Brooklyn College. Contact at **dialkate@gmail.com**

ALEX HUEBSCH

(Dramaturg)

Alex has worked with Hand2Mouth as a writer/dramaturg/assistant director for seven years. He has a degree in English literature and creative writing. He has published poems, written for periodicals and written for film and theatre. He is the co-owner of Runaway Mustache Productions LLC, a video production company where he is writer/director/producer. They are currently releasing the feature documentary ***In This Together*** based around Portland's PHAME Academy's regional tour.

ANNA COHEN

(Costume Designer)

Anna has spent more than ten years as a designer, illustrator, stylist and creative director. She built and led ANNA COHEN, a successful apparel company from 2005-2008 that attracted multiple prestigious awards and international press including Vogue, ELLE France, and covers of WWD, for bringing excellent design together with sustainability into the forefront of the fashion industry.

JANE PAIK

(Choreographer)

Jane began producing works under the name Janet Pants in 1997 and founded the Janet Pants Dans Theeatre (later Leg and Pants Dans Theeatre) in 2001. Often hailed as a pioneer in bringing experimental modern dance to the underground music scene - in a style that has been described as *"punk rock in dance form"* - she continues to mash together her take on dance/film/music in various performances, videos, and sounds.



A NOTE FROM THE CREATOR

We are each a great metropolis made up of intricate pathways, physical, emotional, mental, spiritual. We can never truly know another's experience; we can never truly navigate another's environment. But we dig and we dig.

In 2001 I lived with my grandmother for a year to dig up her stories and record her memoirs. I left with over 20 hours of tape, which became the bones for this performance. I am so grateful that she opened the gates of her city to me so fully and so transparently.

The act of walking with my grandmother through her memory has been one of the great privileges of my life.

This project has given me the opportunity to watch, both my art and my family, transcend into a magical realm where they blend and become something bigger, something mystical and strange. She and I have now created a new story together that will no doubt be the one that I want to pass on if I live to be an old woman.



MY MIND IS LIKE AN OPEN MEADOW

Originally premiered in January of 2011 at the Fertile Ground Festival in Portland, OR. It has since toured to the New Orleans Fringe, the PuSh Festival in Vancouver, BC, the City Arts Festival in Seattle, the Ko Fest in Amherst, MA, and to colleges and small towns across Oregon. Early versions of the show were presented at On the Boards in Seattle and at Portland Center Stage's JAW Festival.

Original songs ***Drops in the Ocean***, ***I Know What Tomorrow Brings***, ***Slipping Away*** and ***Little Ships*** written by Erin Leddy with Ash Black Bufflo and Holcombe Waller. ***Gypsy*** written by Stevie Nicks. Poems ***Forgetfulness*** and ***The Dead*** by Billy Collins. ***Renascence*** by Edna St. Vincent Millay.

And special acknowledgment to the artists who helped create earlier versions of this show: John Berendzen, Rosalie Lowe, Ariana Karp, Jesse VanBuren, Scott Thorson and Kyoko Nelson.

Creation of ***My Mind Is Like An Open Meadow*** is made possible in part with generous support from The Oregon Arts Commission, On the Boards, The Celebration Foundation, The William T. Colville Art Fund, and the Yaddo Corporation. Travel to Yaddo was partially funded through a Professional Development Grant from the Regional Arts & Culture Council.

Hand2Mouth's 2012-13 programs are supported in part by The Kinsman Foundation, The James F. & Marion L. Miller Foundation, The Oregon Arts Commission, and the generous support of our individual donors.

These performances are dedicated in loving memory to Sydney & Roberta Braveman, Alice & Seymour Fisher, Ethyl Healey, Ballard Johnson, Violet Rainy Lang, Mary & Clifford Leddy and Grandma Viola.

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HAND2MOUTH'S MISSION

Hand2Mouth is a theatre ensemble committed to creating original work. Drawing from dance, music, theatre and design, Hand2Mouth strives to connect honestly with audiences and collaborators, blurring the line between performance and reality. We celebrate the raw, charged potential of the live encounter, and our methods and styles change to meet the demands of the work. Hand2Mouth performances push boundaries towards theatre that is bold and accessible.

ABOUT HAND2MOUTH

Described by *The Seattle Times* as having *"the kind of promise, fearlessness and energy that the American theater needs, and should encourage,"* Hand2Mouth is a permanent ensemble of performers led by Artistic Director Jonathan Walters. Founded in 2000, the company has created over 18 original performances from its home in Portland, Oregon. Hand2Mouth has received multiple Portland 'Drammy' Awards, including Outstanding Production and Outstanding Ensemble Performance. Recent performances have been presented by La MaMa E.T.C. (New York, NY), Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, On the Boards (Seattle, WA), Bumbershoot Arts Festival (Seattle, WA), Ontological Hysteric Incubator (New York, NY), Myrna Loy Center (Helena, MT), furyFACTORY Festival (San Francisco, CA), and the Network of Ensemble Theaters (San Francisco, CA).

Hand2Mouth's full ensemble will return to New York in January 2013 with their newest performance ***Something's Got Ahold of My Heart***. For more information and to support the company, please visit **www.hand2mouththeatre.org**.

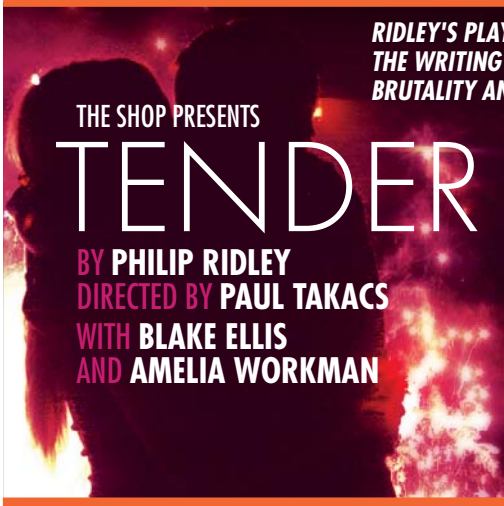
SPECIAL THANKS

The staff at 59E59 Theaters, the artists of Hand2Mouth Theatre, Debi Coleman, Ronni Lacroute, Sabrina Hamilton and the KO Fest, Yaddo, On the Boards, Peter West, Portland Community College, Portland Center Stage, The Leddy Family, Casey Whisler, Jo-Ellen & Fred Grzyb, Penelope Benson-Wright, Elizabeth Robinson, Laurel & Rachel Goode, Lena Kaminsky, Marissa Bellino, Kate Kiehl, Kelli Pennington, Karen Whisler, Merridawn Duckler, Sydney Licht, Gina & Matt LaRocco, T-star Kim, Mandi Hoyt-MacBeth, Jenna Abernathy, Heather Kenneson, Cristine & Jon Roy and all the folks at Serratto.



Cover Photo: Kate Kiehl. Production Photos: Kelli Pennington and Tim Summers.

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