

The Best Theatre in Greene County



"Pure dynamite! ... This company is fearless." J. Peter Bergman, Berkshire Edge

We're nearing the finish line of our groundbreaking 2023 season and want to take a moment to look back at what a phenomenal ride it's been!

March kicked off with "SoloFest", a mini-Festival of four thrillingly eclectic one-person shows: Lauren Lettelier's quirky, endearing *The Village Cidiot*, Melinda Buckley's funny, moving *MOTHER (and me)*, Michael Garfield Levine's gripping and inspirational *Spinning My Wheels*, and Daniel Hall Kuhn's eerie excursion into the works of Edgar Allan Poe *Alone*. Our 2023 Subscription Season got under way with yet another extraordinary BST world premiere - Eric Hissom's literally Shakespearean *Rude Mechanics* produced virtually non-stop laughs. Next, Hannah Moscovitch's shattering *East of Berlin* left audiences gasping for breath. This year's edition of Bridge Street Belly Dance, *the light between the trees*, brought a thrilling kinetic charge to the words of poet Alysia Quinn. Summer saw the return of our annual all-student summer musical – *Monty Python's Spamalot* packed the house for all eight performances. Walton Beacham's *I Am Barbie* launched our Fall season in campy, hysterical, and unexpectedly touching fashion, followed by a critically acclaimed rendition of Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* that scraped the barnacles off this classic work and allowed audiences see it with totally fresh eyes. And we finished up in November with a magnificent ensemble cast in Lanford Wilson's *Sympathetic Magic*, a late, neglected masterpiece from one of America's most cherished playwrights.

Of course, that's not all we've been up to. Our collaborations with Works & Process at the Guggenheim (for developmental dance residencies) and Round the Bend Theatre (for readings of new plays by local playwrights) are ongoing. And we are currently in talks hoping to expand our partnering opportunities for 2024 and to continue to serve as a creative hub for artistic expression, to nurture local talent, to bring fresh original works and ever-greater diversity to our offerings, and to give our patrons themselves a chance to be an intimate part of the creative process.

We're a five-time consecutive winner of "Best Theatre/Performance Space" at the annual Best of Greene County Awards. And the Greene County Chamber of Commerce honored us as the "Not-For-Profit Business of the Year" for 2023. As we approach our 10th Anniversary Season in 2024, our plans include more electrifying plays, partnerships, and entertainment events. But without your support, none of it is possible. Please help us keep the magic alive and the lights on! Whether you're a first-time donor or a longtime friend, every little bit genuinely helps. If you're able, you can make a donation by using the envelope we have enclosed. Or you can also go to BridgeSt.org/support to make a secure on-line donation. Your gift is tax-deductible, and it means the world to us.

Thanks for being part of this crazy, wonderful journey. We are so excited about what next year will bring, and we hope you'll be part of it!

The 2023 Season



RUDE MECHANICS by Eric Hissom

"Completely enjoyable! ... Scoots around on the theater's intimate stage like a manic ballet, with the dialogue rat-a-tatting as if it came out of a Howard Hawks film." **Byron Nilsson, Words and Music**

EAST OF BERLIN by Hannah Moscovitch

"A work of art ... Held the audience rapt for ninety minutes. Not a cough, not even a sneeze, one could feel the concentration. Bridge Street has a well-deserved reputation for producing offbeat and challenging work. *East of Berlin* is one of their best." **Macey Levin, Berkshire On Stage**



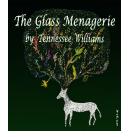


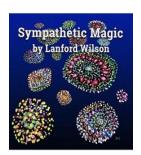
I AM BARBIE by Walton Beacham

"Box office gold! ... Sargent shines in the lead role. She captures the innocence of her character who struggles to understand why, despite fame and an adventurous life, she feels empty and unsatisfied " **Bob Goepfert, WAMC**

THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Tennessee Williams

"Shatteringly good! ... Like an orchestra choosing Beethoven's Ninth or Barber's 'Adagio for Strings', another *Glass Menagerie* needs no excusing or explaining if it's as well done as this one." **Steve Barnes, Albany Times Union**





SYMPATHETIC MAGIC by Lanford Wilson

"A rewarding gem! ... An outstandingly sensitive, sympathetic, and loving production at Bridge Street. And best of all, it grows in stature the more you think about it." **Patrick White, Nippertown**

Sincerely,

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John Sowle, Artistic and Managing Director

SEF

Steven Patterson, Associate Director

Bridge Street Theatre is a 501(c)3 Corporation. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Phone: 518-943-3818 Email: <u>contact@BridgeSt.org</u> Website: <u>BridgeSt.org</u>