

NEWS RELEASE

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ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S PLAY ABOUT HIS UNUSUAL PATH TO SOBRIETY WILL OPEN OFF-BROADWAY, OCT. 4 "The White Chip," A Dry Comedy About Drying Out, Is ATC's First Off-Broadway Appearance in 20 Years

Arizona Theatre Company Artistic Director Sean Daniels' play about his unusual path to sobriety, *The White Chip*, a co-production with 2014 Broadway Global Producer of the Year Tom Kirdahy (*Hadestown, Frankie & Johnnie in the Clare Du Lune, Anastasia*) will be on stage Off Broadway at 59E59 Theaters in New York City from Oct. 4-26.

A dry comedy about drying out, *The White Chip* follows Steven as he spirals out of control from a place on top of the world with a solid marriage, good friends and steps away from his dream job running one of the hottest theaters in the country to rock bottom. The play follows his life from first sip to first love and critical hit to critical care on a wild theatrical journey to recovery.

"To be part of Arizona Theatre Company's return to Off-Broadway after more than two decades in my first year with ATC and as part of a team with five-time Tony Award nominated producer Tom Kirdahy is an incredible experience on so many levels," Daniels said. "To be able to tell my story as we launch our effort to position Arizona

Theatre Company as local theatre company that the world pays attention to is icing on the cake."

Arizona Theatre Company, the Official State Theatre of Arizona, is the only LORT Theatre (League of Regional Theatres) in Arizona, and is the nation's only LORT theatre operating out of two cities (Phoenix and Tucson).

On May 22, Kirdahy received the Commercial Theater Institute's Robert Whitehead Award for Outstanding Achievement in Commercial Theater Producing.

The White Chip, directed by Tony-nominated director Sheryl Kaller **(Mothers & Sons)**, will close out 59E59 Theaters' eight-show summer season that was announced this week.

"What a tremendous opportunity for Sean and for Arizona Theatre Company to work alongside Tom, who we are thrilled to have has part of the ATC family," said ATC Managing Director Billy Russo, who worked for 15 years in the Off-Broadway arena. "It's also a great launching point for us to talk on a national scale about the artists we work with in Arizona."

The Pittsburgh Post Gazette described **The White Chip**, named for the beginner's token in Alcoholics Anonymous, as "both surprising and hilarious. A 90-minute spin cycle of laughter and pathos ... it's a play that invites you to laugh, cry and wash and the tears and start all over again."

To purchase tickets and for more information, visit: https://www.59e59.org/shows/show-detail/the-white-chip/

Daniels will make his directorial debut during Arizona Theatre Company's 2019/2020 season in the riotous comedy, *Women in Jeopardy!*, by Wendy MacLeod (April 18-May 9 in Tucson, May 14-31 in Phoenix). During its 53rd season, ATC also will present *The Royale* by Marco Ramirez, directed by Michael John Garcés (Sept. 9-28 in Tucson, Oct. 3-20 in Phoenix); *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson, directed by Casey Stangl (Oct. 22-Nov. 9 in Tucson, Nov. 14-Dec. 1 in Phoenix); *Cabaret*, music by John Kander, lyrics by Fred Ebb, book by Joe Masteroff, directed by Sara Bruner (Nov. 30-Dec. 29 in Tucson, Jan. 1-26, 2020 in Phoenix); *Master Harold and the Boys* by Athol Fugard, directed by Kent Gash (Jan. 18-Feb. 8 in Tucson, Feb. 13-March 1 in Phoenix); and *The Legend of Georgia McBride* by Matthew Lopez, directed by Meredith

McDonough, a co-production with Milwaukee Repertory Theater (March 7-28 in Tucson, April 2-19 in Phoenix).

To purchase tickets and for more information, visit www.arizonatheatre.org.

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About Arizona Theatre Company:

Arizona Theatre Company (ATC) is the preeminent fully professional theatre in the state of Arizona committed to inspiring, engaging, and entertaining - one moment, one production, and one audience at a time. Boasting the largest seasonal subscriber base in the performing arts in Arizona, ATC is the only resident company in the U.S. that is fully based in two cities providing its wide array of programming and community outreach across the region. Now in its 52nd season, more than 130,000 people a year attend our performances at the historic Temple of Music and Art in Tucson, and the elegant Herberger Theater Center in downtown Phoenix. Each season of home-grown productions reflects the rich variety of world drama—from classics to contemporary plays, from musicals to new works—along with a wide array of community outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives and new play programs. Designated The State Theatre of Arizona, ATC is led by Artistic Director Sean Daniels, Managing Director Billy Russo, and a dedicated Board of Trustees.