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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **June 15, 2018.**

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<http://therhino.org/press-room/#oedipus>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/events/169136273908153/>

Theatre Rhinoceros presents...

OEDIPUS AT PALM SPRINGS

Written by the Five Lesbian Brothers

Directed by Kathryn Wood

July 12 – 22, 2018

Limited Engagement - 2 Weeks Only! - 12 Performances.

Opening Night: Sat. July 14 - 8:00 pm (Reception to follow)

Gateway Theatre - 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111

www.TheRhino.org

SYNOPSIS:

In *Oedipus At Palm Springs*, The Five Lesbian Brothers have their way with a queer romp through a classic story. During a sunny vacation for two committed lesbian couples, the fun-loving surface of tanning, mixed drinks, golf, and sport utility vehicles meets the messy infrastructure of long-term relationships, maternal love, and gay marriage.

Oedipus At Palm Springs, written by The Five Lesbian Brothers follows the dark adventure of two couples on a retreat to the desert resort town of Palm Springs, CA. While new parents Fran and Con try desperately to jump-start their sex life, May-December love bunnies Prin and Terri can't keep their hands off each other. What begins as a hilarious, gin-soaked weekend takes a horrific turn after a dark secret is revealed. Two parts comedy with a shot of tragedy shaken over ice, *Oedipus at Palm Springs* is a brave examination of the messy workings of relationships.

Shows are at **Gateway Theatre, 215 Jackson St., (at Battery St.) SF, CA 94111**

– Embarcadero BART **Tickets are \$15 - \$45** and available at

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3414710>

or **1-800-838-3006**. (All Previews are pay-what-you-wish at the door. BPT tix are \$20)

Oedipus At Palm Springs features Bay Area Actors:

AJ Davenport (*Joni*); **Eliza Gibson** (*Fran*); **Elaine Jennings** (*Prin*); **Jensen Power** (*Terri*); **Desiree Rogers** (*Con*).

Tech Credits:

Kathryn Wood (Director); **EI Verschelden** (Stage Manager); **James Goode** (Sound Designer); **David Draper** (Costume Designer); **Anne-Marie Russo** (Stage Crew); **Bert van Aalsburg** (Set Designer); **Sean Keehan** (Lighting Designer); **Arcady Darter** (Fight Choreographer).

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Perf. Dates & Times: **Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. - 8:00 pm**
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To arrange an interview with director Kathryn Wood or any of the actors or for additional info, contact **Lawrence Helman - 415- 661-1260 lhelman@sbcglobal.net**

The Five Lesbian Brothers create provocative lesbian theater for the masses through the fine feminist art of collaboration. They are **Maureen Angelos, Babs Davy, Dominique Dibbell, Peg Healey** and **Lisa Kron**. The Brothers came together as a theater company in 1989 after performing in various other combinations at the Obie award-winning WOW Cafe Theatre.

Oedipus at Palm Springs premiered at the NY Theater Workshop, in 2005.

The cast consisted of The Five Lesbian Brothers and was directed by Leigh Silverman.

The show then toured to Theater Offensive in Boston and Out North in Anchorage, Alaska.

Their repertoire includes four full-length plays, *Voyage to Lesbos*, *Brave Smiles*, *The Secretaries* and *Brides of the Moon*, as well as numerous event-specific show-stopping acts. The Brothers' plays have been produced Off-Broadway and Off-Off Broadway and beyond by NY Theatre Workshop, The Public Theatre, the WOW Cafe Theatre, Downtown Art Company, Performance Space 122, Dixon Place, La Mama, the Kitchen and the Whitney Museum of American Art at Phillip Morris. They have toured to London, LA, SF, San Diego, Houston, Columbus, Seattle, Philadelphia, Boston and Michigan. Their plays have also been produced by other companies throughout the USA and, believe it or not, in Zagreb, Croatia.

In addition to their theatrical work, the Brothers have also written a book of lesbian humor for Simon and Schuster and three short films for HBO. They were selected, along with Kiki and Herb and Tammy Faye Starlight, to host episodes of "Late Night Out" on the Showtime Network. Their work is taught in theater and queer/feminist studies courses in universities throughout the USA.

The Brothers are the recipients of a Village Voice Obie Award, a NY Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie"), and a NY Press Award as Best Performance Group.

An anthology of their plays entitled "Five Lesbian Brothers/Four Plays" was published in 2000 by Theatre Communications Group.

Bios: (alphabetically)

AJ DAVENPORT (Joni) has been strutting her stuff on Bay Area stages since 1995. She is a member of Left Coast Theater Company, Custom Made Theater Company, and Multi Ethnic Theater. She has directed, produced, costume designed and written for theater, but much prefers acting. As a day job she leads tours for SF Movie Tours and has developed several tours for FOOT! Fun Walking Tours which she owns and operates out of her apartment near Alamo Square. She also is ordained and you can book her for your nuptials! AJ has garnered several BACC and TBA nominations for her theatrical endeavors and has also won awards for her ensemble work. AJ is ecstatic to be working with Kathryn Wood [who also used to be a member of Unconditional Theater] and Theater Rhino.

ELIZA GIBSON (Fran) is a writer and performer based in SF. Her award-winning solo show - *BRAVO 25: Your A.I. Therapist Will See You Now*, directed by David Ford, will be produced at The Marsh in SF for several weeks in Sept. 2018. Trained as a classical pianist and drummer, she wrote her first show - *Dialogues with Madwomen* - in 1995 after returning to the U.S. from the former Yugoslavia, where she had been a humanitarian aid worker. *And Now, No Flip Flops?!*, also directed by David Ford, was performed in multiple venues in the Bay Area as well as in festivals in Fresno, NYC and Providence, RI (2014 -16.) A clinical social worker, Eliza currently works at a health technology company which may or may not have provided inspiration for *BRAVO 25*. elizagibsonperforms.com

ELAINE JENNINGS (Prin) Elaine appeared as Alice B. Toklas in *Gertrude Stein And A Companion* with Theatre Rhinoceros in 2016. She has also performed in original musicals at the Musical Café Showcase. Her recent work includes Julianna in *The Other Place*, Kate in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Sister Aloysius in *Doubt* and Alice in *Clever Little Lies* with Upstage Napa Valley. Elaine performed with Bay Area companies, including TheatreWorks and Berkeley Stage Company, and toured with the New Shakespeare Theater Company as Helena in *Midsummer Nights Dream* and Viola in *Twelfth Night*.

JENSEN POWER (Terri) is thrilled to be a part of this amazing cast and fabulous production with Theater Rhinoceros! Recent credits include *The Effect* (U/S, SF Playhouse), *Orlando* (ACT Fellowship Program), *Erinyes & Eumenides* (Custom Made Theatre Co.'s Undiscovered Works series reading), and the *FlashPlays! One Act Festival* (The Playwrights Foundation). Jensen is a Kansas City native and a graduate of St. Olaf College.

DESIREE ROGERS (Con) loves to do work that entertains and educates. She recently got that opportunity playing Susan in Tim Pinckney's "*Still At Risk*" at NCTC, Deborah Lacks in Lauren Gunderson & Greetha Reedy's "*Helga*" - TheatreFIRST, Alberta Hunter in Jewelle Gomez's "*Leaving The Blues*" - NCTC, Siara in Patricia Milton's "*Enemies Foreign & Domestic*" - CentralWorks, 3 characters in Jewelle Gomez's "*Waiting For Giovanni*" - NCTC, 5 characters in Laurinda D Brown's "*Walk Like a Man*" - Theater Rhinoceros, understudying 3 roles in Naomi Wallace's "*The Liquid Plain*" - OSF Ashland & playing 6 Characters in Ed Decker & Robert Leone's "*Rights Of Passage*" - NCTC.

KATHRYN WOOD (director) has been an actor and director in the Bay Area for almost thirty years. Along with Elaine Jennings, she appeared in Theatre Rhino's audience favorite *Gertrude Stein and a Companion* during the 2016-2017 season. As a director, her work has been seen in various venues throughout SF in addition to venues in New Mexico and NYC

Theatre Rhinoceros - Founded in 1977, The Rhino is the longest running LGBT theatre in the nation. We develop and produce works of theatre that enlighten, enrich, and explore both the ordinary and the extraordinary aspects of our queer community. Our emphasis is on new works, works about under-represented members of the larger queer community, and revivals of lesser known queer classics. Over the years Theatre Rhinoceros has received many awards of recognition including: Theatre Rhinoceros Day in the City Proclamation from Mayor Gavin Newsom, State Assembly Certificate of Recognition from Senator Mark Leno, recognitions from Congressperson Nancy Pelosi and Assembly Persons Tom Ammiano and Carole Migden, numerous Cable Car, BATCC and TBA Awards and Nominations, and the GLAAD Media Award for Best LGBT Theatre.

Calendar Editors:

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Public Service Announcements (PSA's) for

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15 seconds:

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