



Placer Repertory Theater

Performing arts, cultural & economic enrichment for Placer County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Rifts in Time* finale show promises twists and reveals**

Will you help to save the world, will it be destroyed, or will we find ourselves in a stalemate, a continuing eternal struggle, as you participate at the RIFTS IN TIME season finale show on Sunday, October 23 in Roseville? From Jack the Ripper's 1888 London, 1692 Salem witch trials and World War I Poland to 1970s Detroit, 1990s Silicon Valley and 700 AD Persia, our reluctant adventurers and immersed audience have rift surfed through history, explored cultural lores and gathered artifacts from throughout time in preparation for this FINAL CONFRONTATION that completes the 2022 season for this monthly show.

"If you've never seen *Rifts in Time*, have no fear," says the storyteller/gamemaster, Teresa Stirling Forsyth, "We recap key moments before we begin our adventure for the evening." The show's conceiver, Teresa employs her love of storytelling, history, role-playing games, science fiction, fantasy, mysteries, and puzzles as well as her background as a gamer and haunted house designer, to cast a spell on the professional actors and the audience alike to captivate their imaginations and encourage their participation in building a collaborative show. "Placer Rep may employ the actors, but they know only what the audience knows, and at any moment, an audience or actor choice can turn the story in a completely new direction. It's quite a challenge to remain flexible as a storyteller and go where the collaborative story leads us, and it makes for a very engaging ride for the audience," said Teresa.

Many actors find it terrifying when they have no script, no lines and don't know how to engage with this new newer form of theater. But over time, the actors have found this interactive theatrical form that uses improvisation quite exhilarating and strangely freeing. The actors have the power to ride the wave of a story or choose to combat the story elements. For example, Kevin Foster plays Purdy (Niklaus Perdiopolis); this



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character is a Pete Buttigieg impersonator and Mary Kay Salesperson with skills, like acting-in-disguise, that can be used to combat sticky situations and navigate them in a whole new direction. For example, Purdy has dressed as a 1692 Salem Puritan woman to extract information and a 1799 Egyptian dance girl who attracted Napoleon's guard away from his post. During one of the summer shows, Purdy flung caution to the wind and chose to slap the black cloaked villain, which took the story down a completely unplanned path that led to Purdy receiving a mental map of an undersea kingdom. Several shows later, all the right things happened that Purdy was actually able to use that mental map to visit Pavlopetri, the oldest submerged city in the world, where he found a priceless artifact.

In addition to Kevin Foster, the remaining core actors for the 2022 shows include Anne Merino and Matt Heyer. Anne Merino's character is Sage Melbourne, who is a professor of physical anthropology, with knowledge of wilderness lore and bargaining & evaluation. Matt Heyer's character is Damien Rodriguez, whose hobby is leading the half-time marching band, but who in fact is an astrophysicist with martial arts skills. Damien made some poor choices in a prior episode, so he is haunted by an "evil" entity. This led to Damien's recent affliction of a "splinter in his mind," which has caused a loss of self-control. "Damien instantly acts on any idea he blurts out and has a minus-two modifier to all of his six-sided die rolls whenever he attempts any action," said Teresa, the gamemaster.

Sunday, October 23 is the ***Rifts in Time*** finale show for 2022. Audiences have an opportunity to work with the characters to save the world, end the world or achieve a stalemate that continues our struggles with the black cloaked entity. Enjoy the unexpected twists as all questions are answered and everything is revealed in the finale show at the Holistic Lighthouse event room, 401B Vernon Street in Roseville. FREE tickets for the ***Rifts in Time*** finale show are NOW AVAILABLE on Eventbrite.com: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/242594234887>.

Placer Repertory Theater (<https://PlacerRep.org>) is a regional award-winning professional theater company that serves Placer County and surrounding areas. A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Placer Rep's mission is to offer educational and quality-of-life enriching professional performing arts and cultural programs relevant to the people of Placer County, while supporting local organizations and acting as an economic engine for the area. Follow Placer Repertory Theater on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram: @PlacerRep, and subscribe to our YouTube Channel to access our digital recordings.



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Publishers: Contact: Kevin Foster, Outreach Director at Outreach@PlacerRep.org.

WHO:



TERESA STIRLING FORSYTH – Storyteller / Gamemaster

MFA, MS, is an award-winning & critically acclaimed professional director/playwright who is also Producing Artistic Director for Placer Repertory Theater. Previously, the artistic director for two San Francisco theater companies, her performing arts background includes international tours as an actor/singer/dancer, and director/playwright for national and international touring productions with renowned performing artists, such as Brenda Wong Aoki, and Equity theater companies like Dell'Arte Players. As an educator, she has instructed and/or directed at UC Davis, University of San Francisco, University of Minnesota, and other educational institutions.

Projects on which Forsyth worked performed at venues such as the Kennedy Center, Dallas Theatre Center, San Diego Repertory Theater, and many other renowned venues, with the works receiving Dramalogue Awards, Critics Circle Awards, Broadway World Awards, as well as numerous grants from the NEA, NEH, CAC, ACPC and corporations. She is a Gloria Burt Fellow in Literature and a member of: Stage Directors & Choreographers Society (SDC), The Dramatists Guild (DG), The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), TCG and NNPN/New Play Exchange.

ACTOR BIOS



KEVIN FOSTER – Kenny Greene

Kevin Foster is a Rocklin local and Sacramento area native, excited to work at Placer Repertory as Outreach Director and in various other capacities. He began training in acting at UC Davis while earning his B.A. in Music Performance. After graduation and his return from a professional stint in New York, he performed at Davis Musical Theater Company in *Peter Pan*, *The King and I*, *Damn Yankees*, and the Elly Award winning production of *Chicago*. His other credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Chautauqua Playhouse and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at Sacramento Theater

company, where he taught youth theater classes. He played Bridgers in *New Beginnings*, Dr. Watson in *An Evening with Sherlock Holmes*, and he may be seen online in Placer Rep's digital series *Sherlock Holmes: Domestic Mysteries* on YouTube.



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ANNE MERINO - Dr. Dessa Dagmar

Merino danced for the American Ballet Theatre and London Festival Ballet and won the Vanguard Award for Choreography. Merino's traditional theatrical training was received at Chicago's Goodman Theatre, Second City with Del Close and Jim Belushi and under Alan Rickman at the British American Drama Academy. As an actress, and former member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA, Ms. Merino performed with The Groundlings and Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang and is a member of the theatre faculty at William Jessup University.



MATTHEW HEYER – Kenny Greene / Guide Master Jack track (understudy)

Graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where he received his BFA in Theatre, Matthew won the Irene Ryan award for his ensemble work in 2018 and for his performance as Elliot in Completeness in 2019. His favorite mainstage productions include Stanley in A Streetcar Named Desire, Charles in As You Like It, Thomas Putnam in The Crucible, and Shakespeare in The Bard on Broadway. Matt studied IPA and performs duties as a Dialect Coach for Placer Repertory Theater productions. As an actor, for Placer Rep in 2021, Matthew has played the characters George and Milo in From the Mind of Scott Charles, and the title role in "An Evening with Sherlock Holmes" featuring a new play based on The Sign of the Four by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.



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THE EVENT

Rifts in Time: Interactive Adventure Theater – Finale Show.

DETAILS

ENTITY:

Placer Repertory Theater

WHAT:

Finale Show. ***Rifts in Time***: Interactive Adventure Theater

WHERE:

Holistic Lighthouse event room, 401B Vernon Street in Roseville. Backside of First Bank building.

FREE TICKETS: Eventbrite.com: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/242594234887>.

WHEN:

Sunday, October 23, 2022 @ 7 PM

WHO:

Placer Repertory Theater

Playwright / Storyteller / Gamemaster - T.S. Forsyth

CAST:

Anne Merino, Matt Heyer, Kevin Foster

GRAPHICS BELOW



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Rifts in Time

Interactive Adventure Theater



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