

MIDNIGHT COMPANY TO PRESENT “NOW PLAYING THIRD BASE FOR THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS...BOND, JAMES BOND” IN MAY

The Midnight Company will present the premiere of the full version of NOW PLAYING THIRD BASE FOR THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS...BOND, JAMES BOND, opening May 28 and running through June 13 at The Chapel, 4238 Alexander Drive, 63105. There will be performances Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, with a matinee on Sunday, June 7, at 2pm. Tickets, at \$20, will be on sale through brownpapertickets.com in early April.

The one-man play is written and performed by Midnight Artistic Director Joe Hanrahan. It was performed in a shortened version at the 2018 St. Louis Fringe Festival, and audiences responded enthusiastically and critics raved. Snoops Theatre Thoughts said “A delightful show that’s part personal memoir, part history lesson, part nostalgia, and all fascinating. A difficult show to describe but what it is is excellent.” Limelight said “Hanrahan jumps from omniscient narrator to 15-year old movie fanatic to baseball and theatre historian, the audience hanging on every word. The Cardinals are the talk of the town again. This show should be the talk of the town, too!”

Hanrahan said, “There’s never been a play we’ve done that’s received such enthusiastic, visceral reaction, due, surely, to the St. Louis history of the show. At the Fringe, productions are limited to one-hour playing time, and this new version will allow us to incorporate new material that should make the show ever more entertaining and informative.”

NOW PLAYING THIRD BASE FOR THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS...BOND, JAMES BOND concerns a teen-age boy in 1964. JFK’s assassination still casts a pall on the nation. The Beatles’ emergence in February of ’64 starts to lighten the mood of the nation. The Cardinals continue the good times in St. Louis with a mad dash toward the pennant. And when a new movie hero hits the screens that summer, a bunch of boys on a baseball field have their first theatre experience when one of their gang offers a 30-minute one-man show of FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE. Throughout, the playwright draws links between what’s happened and happening - from JFK to James Bond, from segregation in St. Louis to segregation in baseball’s Southern Leagues and Florida stadiums where The Beatles were supposed to play, from WWII to British film production crews and JFK hit squads, from the first cave man who stood up by the fire to the theatre musings of Peter Brook...all of it swirling in front of the eyes of a young boy, and the memory of that time.

Shane Signorino will direct the show as he did at The Fringe (Shane just received a Theatre Critics Circle nomination as Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy for Midnight’s POPCORN FALLS), Kevin Bowman will serve as Production Designer, Michael B. Perkins will design video support (as he did for Midnight productions of A MODEL FOR MATISSE, JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG, and LITTLE THING BIG THING), and Elizabeth Henning will be Stage Manager. There will also be a concurrent exhibit in The Chapel lobby of memorabilia from 1950’s/60’s baseball and James Bond films, presented by George Venegoni.

Hanrahan has acted, written and directed for The Midnight Company, appearing last year in POPCORN FALLS, CHARLIE JOHNSON READS ALL OF PROUST, and his scripts of PATIENT #47 (at The Crawl) and A MODEL FOR MATISSE (which received a Theatre Critics Circle nomination for Best New Play). And he has written and will direct a new script, LAST CALL, for this year’s Theatre Crawl in June, featuring a cast of Shane Signorino and Chris Ware. Last year,

he was also in Stray Dog's THE CRUCIBLE, and so far this year he's appeared in Metro Theater's GHOST and SATE's APHRA BEHN FESTIVAL.

For more information, visit midnightcompany.com.

