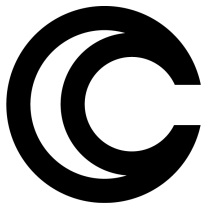


Open Circle Theatre produces high-quality, inventive theatre productions that provide opportunities for professional theatre artists with and without disabilities.



open circle theatre

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NEWS RELEASE

Open Circle Theatre Announces Cast of *The Who's Tommy*

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SILVER SPRING, MD -- Open Circle Theatre (OCT) announces the cast list for their upcoming production of *The Who's Tommy*, directed by Artistic Director **Suzanne Richard** with Music and Lyrics by Pete Townshend, Book by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff. After a five-year hiatus, OCT bursts back onto the scene with a challenging piece based on the beloved rock opera of the 70's. *Tommy* uses driving rock rhythms to explore the story of a young boy traumatized by a violent act as he struggles through different stages of his recovery. Featuring Music Direction by **Jake Null** (2016 Helen Hayes Award Winner, for *Avenue Q*), Choreography by **Dance Exchange (Cassie Meador**, Executive Artistic Director, and **Matthew Cumbie**, Associate Artistic Director), and **Neil (Michael) Sprouse** as Lead ASL Master, *The Who's Tommy* runs **October 27 through November 20, 2016** at the **Silver Spring Black Box Theatre**.

"Jake, Neil and I have assembled a highly talented and diverse cast of actors for this iconic musical theatre piece. We're happy to have on board some of the best performers of the current DC theatre scene!"

Suzanne Richard, Artistic Director

The Who's Tommy stars the previously announced **Russell Harvard** (Broadway's *Spring Awakening*, *I Was Most Alive With You*, *Tribes*, and television's *Fargo*) as older Tommy, **Will Hayes** (*The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Colossal*, *Camp David*) as Tommy (in the mirror), **Malcolm Lee** as Captain Walker, **Autumn Seavey Hicks** as Mrs. Walker. Rounding out the principals are **Mikey Cafarelli** as Uncle Ernie, **Carl Williams** as Cousin Kevin, **Maggie Walker** as the Acid Queen and **Molly Janiga** as Sally Simpson.

The large *Tommy* cast includes the following ensemble members:

- **Elver Ariza-Silva**
- **Rachel Barlaam**
- **Jen Bevan**
- **Tina Ghanchilar**
- **JP Illarramendi**
- **Christian Kelly**

- **Monica Lijewski**, as previously announced, is making a return to the musical theatre stage
- **Aarron Loggins**
- **Jackie Madejski**
- **Amy Maniscalco**
- **Jose Martinez**
- **Edward Nagel**
- **D'Arcee Charington Neal**
- **Lynley Peoples**
- **Michelle Schaefer**
- **Eric Teran**

The creative team for *Tommy* also includes Producers **Jen Bevan** and **Mikey Cafarelli**, Lighting Designer **Marianne Meadows**, Sound Designer **Ed Moser**, Set Designer **Jimmy Stubbs**, Costumer **Anya Randall Nebel**, and Projection Designer **Arnulfo Moreno**.

Please visit our website and blog at www.opencircletheatre.org for more information and press from past years.

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