

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors, Reviewers and Calendar Listings

Chance Theater proudly presents the regional premiere of

Tigers Be Still

Before *New Girl*, Kim Rosenstock wrote this ferociously hilarious comedy which will be the third show in Chance Theater's 21st Anniversary Season

April 16, 2019 ... Anaheim, California ... Chance Theater, Anaheim's official resident theater company, is delighted to present the regional premiere of Kim Rosenstock's comedy, ***Tigers Be Still***. Written by Kim Rosenstock and directed by Marya Mazor, ***Tigers Be Still* will preview from May 3rd through May 10th; with regular performances beginning May 11th and continuing through June 2nd on the Fyda-Mar Stage at the Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center.**

This deliciously dark comedy centers around the infinitely-(trying-to-be-) optimistic Sherry Wickman. Despite having to move back in with her family after college, things take a turn for the better when she's hired as an art teacher. Now, if only her mother would come downstairs, her sister would stop watching Top Gun from the couch, her first patient would do one assignment, her boss would leave his gun at home, and someone would catch the actual tiger that escaped from the local zoo, everything would be just perfect! Rosenstock's play was critically acclaimed in its New York premiere and snagged her a spot on Charles Isherwood's Top 10 List of 2010 plays in *The New York Times*.

Recommended for ages 13 and up. Contains adult language.

"An offbeat and nuanced comedy... Rosenstock finds fresh humor and anguish in two outrageously troubled suburban families in a world of real danger" – *Newsday*

"Devastatingly hilarious" – *New York Times*

**** Top Ten Plays of 2010 -- Charles Isherwood, *New York Times***

**** Outer Critics Circle Award Winner -- John Gassner Playwriting Award**

"Playwright Kim Rosenstock calls *Tigers Be Still* a 'comedy about depression,' said director Marya Mazor. "In a note to the play, Kim tells us that she is interested in how people 'locate joy in dark times.' The story centers on a young art therapist who is starting her very first job, and at the same time trying to lift the spirits of her depressed family. It's a story to which anyone who's ever suffered dark thoughts can relate, and yet it is told with such playful abandon! I am

especially drawn to it because it captures the power of art -- whether it be theatre or popsicle stick art projects -- to lift us out of our daily woes and help us, as Rosenstock suggests, 'locate joy' in the tiniest of victories."

Tigers Be Still premiered at the Roundabout Theatre Company in October 2010, and was an instant hit. The story struck a chord with audiences. It was a surprisingly funny, funny show with endearing and relatable characters dealing with some not funny stuff. These people -- much like all of us -- are so wrapped up in their own personal dramas that they can barely bring themselves to pay attention to a literal tiger running through the streets.

MEET THE TEAM

Kim Rosenstock (Playwright) has written several plays including *Tigers Be Still* which played a sold-out run in its premiere at Roundabout Underground and was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award. She is currently working on commissions for Dallas Theater Center, Roundabout Theatre Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Ars Nova, where she was the 2011 Playwright-in-Residence. Awards include the Clauder Prize from Portland Stage Company and Aspen Theater Masters' Visionary Playwright Award. She is a graduate of Amherst College where she first began writing plays under the mentorship of Constance Congdon, and holds an MFA in playwriting from Yale School of Drama. She is originally from Baldwin, Long Island and currently resides in Los Angeles where she writes for the television show, *New Girl*.

Marya Mazor (Director) is a critically acclaimed, award-winning director of theatre and film whose work has been seen across the country. She was one of eight women chosen to participate in the AFI Directing Workshop for Women, where she directed *The Winged Man*, featuring Ana Ortiz, written by Academy-Award Nominee Jose Rivera (*Motorcycle Diaries*). *The Winged Man*, which premiered at the prestigious Rhode Island International Film Festival, has since played at festivals around the country and abroad, including ComiCon and Athens International; it also aired nationally on SiTV and is now available on Amazon. Marya recently directed *The Model Apartment* at The Geffen Playhouse and *Ivy & Bean* at South Coast Repertory Theatre; her fall 2013 production of *Time Stands Still* at Chance Theater garnered rave reviews. In 2012, Marya directed *Aladdin* for Walt Disney Imagineering Creative Entertainment. She also directed the world premiere of Brian Nelson's *Overlooked* at Chance Theater and Churchill's *Mad Forest* at the Open Fist Theatre, both to critical acclaim. Her hit production of Albee's *The Goat* was named Best Play of 2011 by *OC Weekly*.

The cast for this regional premiere includes returning Chance Theater artist, **Piper Power** (*Tribes*) as Sherry, and three performers making their Chance debut -- **Steven Biggs** as Joseph, **Joseph Bricker** as Zack, and **Erica Farnsworth** as Grace.

In addition to Marya, the production team for ***Tigers Be Still*** currently includes scenic designer **Bradley Kaye** (*Big Fish*), lighting designer Jeff Brewer (*Good People*), sound designer Rebecca Kessin, costume designer Marisa Melideo, stage manager Wade Williamson (*Good People*), dramaturg Madi Lang-Ree (*The Other Place*), and props designer Megan Hill (*James and The Giant Peach*).

The Executive Producers for this production are The Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar. Bette & Wylie Aitken are the Season Producers and for the entire 2019 Season.

To schedule press interviews, request photos, schedule press comps or for any additional information, please contact Casey Long at (714) 900-3284 or by e-mail at casey@chancetheater.com.

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, CHANCE THEATER has received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for “nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.” The Chance has won six Ovation Awards, including two for Best Production of a Musical – Intimate Theater for its West Coast premiere of *Triassic Park – The Musical* and Southern California premiere of *Jerry Springer – The Opera*, as well as four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater “the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim” in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as “Outstanding Arts Organization.” Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, Orange County Theatre Guild, and LA Stage Alliance, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: **TIGERS BE STILL**

This deliciously dark comedy centers around the infinitely-(trying-to-be-) optimistic Sherry Wickman. Despite having to move back in with her family after college, things take a turn for the better when she’s hired as an art teacher. Now, if only her mother would come downstairs, her sister would stop watching *Top Gun* from the couch, her first patient would do one assignment, her boss would leave his gun at home, and someone would catch the actual tiger that escaped from the local zoo, everything would be just perfect!

Recommendation: Ages 13 and up. Contains adult language.

WHEN:

Preview Performances: May 3-10, 2019

Fridays at 7:45pm; Saturday at 7:45pm; Sunday at 7pm

Regular Performances: May 11 - June 2, 2019

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:45pm; Sundays at 2:45pm

Special Thursday performance on May 16 at 7:30pm

REVIEWERS and OTHER PRESS are encouraged to attend:

Press Performance on Friday, May 10 at 7:45pm

WHERE: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center on the Cripe Stage
5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

TICKETS: \$20.00 - \$39.00. Call (888) 455-4212 or visit www.ChanceTheater.com.
Discounts available for children (ages 4-12), seniors, students, and military.

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