



Cosmic Comedy 'Now. Here. This.' Slated for The Studio Theatre

Performances in May will feature four friends exploring a museum, along with their own histories.

By **KRISTEN FIORE**
Daily Sun Senior Writer

Stay in the present, embrace the now and take a journey through space, time, music and comedy during "Now. Here. This." — an upcoming summer song cycle at The Studio Theatre Tierra del Sol.

Tickets for the show are \$25 and can be purchased online at thevillagesentertainment.com or at any Villages Box Office location.

Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. May 17 through May 24 and 2 p.m. May 25.

"Now. Here. This." centers on four friends as they explore a natural history museum, as well as their own personal histories.

"It's kind of an existential wandering, and it's semi-autobiographical to the people who wrote it," said Nathaniel Niemi, who will direct the production.

As the characters wander through the museum, they revisit memories of times where they weren't in touch with what was happening in



Submitted photo

Tickets went on sale this week for "Now. Here. This.," an upcoming summer song cycle at The Studio Theatre Tierra del Sol.

their lives and reflect on their regrets.

"We get to visit those memories with them and hear their stories," Niemi said.

Niemi describes the song cycle as a quick show with no intermission.

"There are short scenes that connect through it," he said. "It's a nice, light evening of entertainment."

There's hilarity and excellent music, but there's also a lot of depth to the show, Niemi said.

"These characters let us in to really hear some vulnerable moments from their lives," Niemi said. "The idea was that in order to find happiness, we have to stay in the present. There's freedom in being happy by not dwelling on the past or future and making meaning of

what we're experiencing now."

Niemi said he hopes audience members walk away from the show feeling tickled and delighted by the funny stories, but also having related to some of the harder moments in the show.

"I think as people, we have a tendency to reflect and be caught up on things that

happened in the past," Niemi said. "(I hope they) walk out with the idea of being present at that moment in their life, rather than thinking about before or after. What is the now in your life and how will you make meaning out of that in a beautiful way?"

The cast for this show will be announced soon. To stay up to

date on cast announcements and other important information, check The Studio's Facebook page, "The Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol."

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