



September 22, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER:
THE HISTORY (AND MYSTERY) OF THE UNIVERSE
October 1-25, 2015 at The Balzer Theater at Herren's (downtown Atlanta)

You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one.

STARRING

TOM KEY* as R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER!

**member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States*

FROM THE LIFE, WORK and WRITINGS of R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER

WRITTEN BY
D.W. Jacobs

DIRECTION
David de Vries

The Outfit's '15-'16 Season of Courage continues with this unconventional one-man show!

Hop onboard a captivating quest chronicling the Leonardo da Vinci of the twentieth century in this unconventional one-man show blending multimedia, poetry and humanist humor. Can humankind sustain itself on Earth, and if so, how? Do we have the courage to reinvent ourselves? So ponders R. Buckminster Fuller – engineer, environmentalist, futurist, philosopher and inventor of the geodesic dome. A visionary who foretold many of today's challenges, Bucky teaches us to save the planet by doing more with less. Meet the mesmerizing man behind the world-saving mission.

"Extraordinary ... a whirlwind of impassioned ideas!"

– Boston Herald

Publicity pictures available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k2zjssboqv4u7df/AACpKzqfiZf5ds3QY29iMxqra?dl=0>

Photo Credit: Mark & Tracy Photography

Production shots to be added/available week of September 28, 2015.

R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER: October 1 – 25, 2015

- PREVIEWS: 7:30 p.m. on October 1 and October 2.
 - OPENING: 7:30 p.m. on October 3.
- Remainder of RUN: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; and 2:30 Saturday and Sunday.
 - Post-Show Talk Back on October 16.

Run Time: two hours with one ten-minute intermission.

TICKETS:

\$25-\$50

678.528.1500

www.theatricaloutfit.org/shows/r-buckminster-fuller-the-history-and-mystery-of-the-universe

DID YOU KNOW?

Theatrical Outfit is committed to using the best Atlanta talent onstage and behind the scenes.

MEET the STAR and DIRECTOR of *R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER*:

TOM KEY (R. Buckminster Fuller); now in his 20th season The Outfit, is dedicated to the Theatrical Art Form as a catalyst to creating community. He has served as Artistic Director of Theatrical Outfit since 1995 where his drive to tell “Stories That Stir The Soul” in the heart of downtown with the best artists of the city has developed the company into one of Atlanta’s major performing arts institutions. As an actor, he has appeared in over a 100 productions from off Broadway to Los Angeles and is one of Atlanta’s most celebrated performing artists: Alliance Theatre (*Art, Grapes of Wrath, Candide, Our Town, A Christmas Carol*), The Atlanta Ballet (*Peter and the Wolf*), The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (*The Defiant Requiem* and Beethoven’s *Egmont*), Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theater and Arena Stage in Washington DC (*Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner*) and Theatrical Outfit (*Big River* Suzi Winner, *Young Man From Atlanta* Suzi Nominee, *Red* Suzi Nominee). He has performed his solo dramatization, *C.S. Lewis On Stage*, across North America including residencies at Harvard and Yale Universities as well as Oxford University of England. At The Outfit, he has directed Horton Foote’s *Dividing the Estate* (ArtsATL “Best Production of the 2013-2014 Season), Athol Fugard’s *Master Harold and the Boys, Hank Williams Lost Highway, Godspell* (Suzi Nominee), his adaptation of Walker Percy’s *The Moviegoer* and *Lost in the Cosmos: The Last Self-Help Seminar*, and Cecil Dawkins’ adaptation of Flannery O’Connor’s *The Displaced Person*. His off-Broadway musical hit, *Cotton Patch Gospel*, which he created, co-authored with the late Harry Chapin, and starred in nationally continues to be one of the most celebrated and produced musicals in the Dramatic Publishing catalogue. He has received The Governor’s Award in the Humanities; the Georgia Arts and Entertainment Legacy Award, Two Dramalogue Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Theater and two Mayoral proclamations for his service to the city of Atlanta. *Creative Loafing* describes Tom Key as: “An actor with such energy that even standing still, he seems to quiver like a divining rod.”

DAVID DE VRIES (Director): is a T.O. Associate Artist with connections extending back to *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*, which opened The Outfit’s space at the Kress building in 1982. He appeared in many T.O. shows like *I’m Not Rappaport, Baby and the Bathwater*, and most recently as Sigmund Freud in *Freud’s Last Session*. As a director, he cut his teeth at The Outfit with shows like *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You*, the 2012 Suzi Award winner for best production, *Red*, and most recently *Storefront Church*. David performed on Broadway and on several National Tours as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*—an association that lasted 11 years, along with three different companies of *Wicked*. Regional appearances include *Carapace* (Alliance Theatre), *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (The Acting Company) and *A Tuna Christmas* (Actor’s Theatre of Louisville). He most recently spent the holiday season playing Scrooge in the Alliance’s production of *A Christmas Carol*. Television and film credits include “Halt and Catch Fire,” “Nashville,” “Devious Maids,” and the features “Kill the Messenger” and the upcoming “Lila and Eve.” As a voice artist, David is an award-winning audio book narrator, with over 100 titles for children and adults to his credit. He holds degrees from American University and Gonzaga University and is the proud father of his son Willem.

D. W. JACOBS (Author) is a playwright, director, actor and producer. In 1968, a year filled with demonstrations, riots and assassinations, Jacobs saw Bucky speak at the College of Creative Studies (UCSB), at the invitation of his brother, Steve, who was studying painting. In 1976, Jacobs co-founded San Diego Rep with Sam Woodhouse, and served as Artistic Director for 20 years. They created an interdisciplinary arts complex, presented multicultural work, and nurtured surprisingly diverse audiences. In 1997, Jacobs resigned to find time to write *R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE*, from the life, work and writings of Bucky Fuller. World Premiere: San Diego Rep, 3/31/2000. Often directed by the author, this play has had almost 1,000 performances in the US, Canada and Poland. Foghouse Productions produced it in San Francisco for 15 months, with Ron Campbell playing Bucky. Recent productions: San Jose Rep, Arena Stage, A.R.T. It returns to San Diego Rep in 2016 as a cornerstone of their 40th Anniversary Season. Jacobs has taught the design principles of playmaking for Playwrights Foundation (SF), Synergetics Collaborative/RISD, and the Fuller Future Festival in Carbondale. He has twice lectured on Fuller at the Wrocław University of Technology, Poland. In LA, Jacobs recently co-founded a new company, *TEATRO ARROYO // Theater Stream*.

OUR 2015-2016 SEASON OF COURAGE:

Theatrical Outfit continues its vision of creating compassion – one story at a time – by starting the conversations that matter. Our thought-provoking and soul-stirring 2015-2016 season lineup will transport audiences from the radio airwaves and smoky music clubs of Tennessee in the 1950s with *Memphis* (a musical co-production with Aurora Theatre); into the mind of one of the 20th Century's brightest visionaries with *R. Buckminster Fuller: The History and Mystery of the Universe*, from Africa to Victorian London via the pluck of an unstoppable young girl with *A Little Princess* (a musical); around the globe as a mysterious book trades hands and evolves in the world premiere of *Moxie*; and into the complex hearts of a mother and daughter vacationing in a sunshine-filled Tuscany of yesteryear with *The Light in the Piazza* (a musical). From Tony-winning musicals to one-man shows to a family-friendly holiday musical to world premieres, our courageous Season 2015-2016 truly offers something for everyone!

THEATRICAL OUTFIT:

Atlanta's second-oldest continually-operating professional theatre company was founded in 1976 and has been led by Artistic Director Tom Key since fall 1995. Key led the company through the creation of its award-winning downtown home, the Balzer Theater at Herren's, the first U.S. theater to achieve LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The theater is on the historical site of Herren's, the first Atlanta restaurant to voluntarily desegregate (in 1963). Theatrical Outfit tells consistently high-quality, soul-stirring stories, often from great classics and contemporary literature that feature many of the best writers of the American South: Carlyle Brown, Truman Capote, Evan Davis, Horton Foote, Harper Lee, Cormac McCarthy, Flannery O'Connor, Walker Percy, Sherry Shepard-Massat, Elyzabeth Gregory Wilder, Hank Williams and Tennessee Williams. Theatrical Outfit is in the midst of transformation. After retiring its mortgage debt, the organization turned its attention to creating a new, multi year strategic plan, which was finalized in mid-2014. The new plan is a growth model and the first action was to hire a managing director, Lee Foster, who has just completed her first year with the organization.

OUR VENUE:

R. Buckminster Fuller will be performed at the Balzer Theater at Herren's at 84 Luckie St., NW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Theatrical Outfit recently installed a Loop Listening System, making The Balzer Theater at Herren's the first theater in the state of Georgia to incorporate this technology. Attendees with T-coil hearing aids may participate automatically, and others needing enhancement may obtain system-compatible headsets from our lobby Box Office.

678.528.1500

OUR VISION: Creating compassion — one story at a time.

OUR MISSION: Starting the conversations that matter.

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