



Richard Hopkins
Producing Artistic Director

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FST IMPROV ANNOUNCES FALL SEASON LINEUP

(Sarasota, FL) – **Florida Studio Theatre (FST)** announces its lineup of upcoming **FST Improv** performances October 8 – December 31, 2022. From the no-holds-barred comedy showdown ***Out of Bounds*** and the improvised holiday musical, ***Treble in Paradise***, to a comedic whodunit, ***To Die For***, and more, this fall season features a wide array of performance styles and techniques. Tickets are \$15 and are now on sale at FloridaStudioTheatre.org or 941.366.9000.

Kicking off the fall season on Saturday, October 8, is ***Out of Bounds***, where two teams of improvisers go head-to-head in the ultimate comedy competition. In back-to-back rounds of fast-paced games, spontaneous scenes, and off-the-cuff songs, experienced improvisers duke it out to win over the audience's laughter and applause. At ***Out of Bounds***, the audience decides which team will emerge triumphant.

"*Out of Bounds* is one of my favorite shows of the year," said **Will Luera**, FST's Director of Improv. "The competitive spirit of the show gets all the performers amped up, but at the end of the day, we are all teammates. In our hearts, we're laughing at the other team's jokes just as much as we're laughing at our own."

Just in time for Halloween, FST Improv presents ***We're Doomed***, an original, fully-improvised horror movie, for just two nights: Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29. Based on a title provided by the audience, members of FST Improv will create an entertaining and humorous show featuring all the twists and turns, suspense, and tropes that are synonymous with thrillers.

Next up is ***Treble in Paradise***, an all-new improvised holiday musical playing Friday nights beginning November 25. Inspired by one location and three random notes on the keyboard, the cast of ***Treble in Paradise*** creates a fully improvised musical on the spot. With no scripts, no musical score, and absolutely no idea what will happen next, FST's ensemble of improvisers will deliver full-blown musical numbers, drama, and spontaneous choreography in this musical improv show.

"We've done improvised musicals in the past, but this is the first time that we've had a holiday-themed musical improv show play for weeks in a row," said Luera. "There's this undeniable connection between music and the holidays, so we thought it was fitting that we mash up the two as we start to get into a celebratory spirit."

Playing Saturday nights alongside *Treble in Paradise* is ***To Die For***, a comedic whodunit with a new suspect every night. After debuting this spring, *To Die For* returns to FST's Bowne's Lab on December 2—this time with a fun, film-noir spin. This popular murder mystery show features a cast of quirky characters and a plucky detective who will go to extreme lengths to crack the case.

Bringing FST Improv's fall season—and the calendar year—to a close is ***Resolution Rewind***, a collage of the best games, sketches, and more, of 2022. Core members of FST Improv will put together a lineup of the audience's favorite games to provide audiences with a comedic retrospective. Audiences should be prepared to share their highlights of the past year and to join FST's improvisers for a champagne toast to ring in the new year.

Back for another season of laughter are returning cast members: **Kevin Allen, Ariel Blue, Valerie Dale, Sylvia Day, Sarah Durham, Darryl Knapp, Emily Levin, Will Luera, Shawn McWhinnie, Kathryn Parks, Sal Piccolo, Kyle Shoemaker, Basia Sroka, Autumn Steiner,** and **Matt Walker**. New members of FST Improv are **Jack Bausch, Cameron Clements, Keegan Penny, Sammy Pontello,** and **Storm Tracy**. **Jim Prosser** or **Helena Rankin** will serve as musical improvisers on the piano at each performance.

FST IMPROV PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Out of Bounds

Saturday, October 8, 15, and 22 at 7:30PM

Saturday, November 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 7:30PM

We're Doomed – An Improvised Horror Movie (TWO NIGHTS ONLY)

Friday, October 28 at 7:30PM

Saturday, October 29 at 7:30PM

Treble in Paradise – An Improvised Holiday Musical

Friday, November 25 at 7:30PM

Friday, December 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 7:30PM

Friday, January 6 and 13 at 7:30PM

To Die For – A Comedic Whodunit With A New Culprit Every Night

Saturday, December 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 7:30PM

Saturday, January 7 and 14 at 7:30PM

Resolution Rewind (ONE NIGHT ONLY)

Saturday, December 31 at 7:30PM

ABOUT FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE

Florida Studio Theatre (FST) is Sarasota's contemporary theatre. Founded in 1973, FST has grown to a village of five theatres located in the heart of Downtown, Sarasota. Each theatre is small in size and large in impact— providing intimate and engaging settings for high-quality, professional performances.

Today, FST has established itself as a major force in American Theatre. FST is the largest subscription theatre in the state of Florida and among the largest in the country, serving more than 230,000 live attendees each year across its diverse programs: Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, Children's Theatre, The FST School, New Play Development, and FST Improv.

Even with its growth, Florida Studio Theatre remains firmly committed to making the arts accessible and affordable to as many people as possible. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Richard Hopkins, FST develops theatre that speaks to our living, evolving, and dynamically changing world. Hip and historical, entertaining and challenging, we are the theatre where the street meets the elite — where everyone is welcome to engage in the art of theatre.

ABOUT FST IMPROV

Since its founding in 2001, FST Improv has grown into a robust, year-round program, offering never-before-seen shows week after week. FST Improv celebrates the full spectrum of Improv disciplines, going beyond game-focused Short-Form improvisation, to also incorporate Long-Form, Musical, and Free-Form styles. FST also produces the annual Sarasota Improv Festival, bringing the best improv troupes from across the country and around the world to Sarasota each year for a whirlwind weekend of spontaneous art. Today, the Sarasota Improv Festival is the premier festival of its kind in the Southeast United States.

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