

Bring *oblivion* to your community.

Expand the conversation about faith & LGBTQ+ identity



"The piece speaks to everyone, no matter orientation, age or background"

~ *Samantha MacDonald, Lunchbox Theatre Associate Artistic Producer*

"Raw, authentic, and worth seeing. If you are battling between your true self and your faith, you must watch oblivion. You are not alone."

~ *Pace Anhorn, Hillhurst United Church Youth Leader*

"There wasn't a dry eye in the place...meaningful and timely. As we as societies, cultures, and religious groups wrestle with understanding and acceptance, this is the story that will build those bridges."

~ *Sarah T, Third Street Theatre patron*

DESCRIPTION

oblivion is a semi-autobiographical play that beautifully portrays the complexities surrounding faith and queer identity. Step into a pivotal moment in the life of Tim, a gay man who has left the conservative church and reparative therapy behind to try and reconcile his faith and his sexuality. Paralyzed by his past, Tim stands at a crossroads where he must decide the future of his faith before it destroys him.

oblivion is a unique opportunity to collectively witness a true to life story about faith and sexual orientation. To react, respond and ask hard questions and then decide how this experience will affect the way you approach your own life and the lives of those in your community.

ABOUT THE FORMAT

oblivion is a staged reading presented in two acts.

Act One is a 60-minute staged reading where professional actors interpret the play with the script in their hands.

Act Two is a conversation with the audience. In past performances, the conversation has lasted 30-60 minutes but exact timing is up to the presenter. This act allows for reflection, feedback and dialogue and is an opportunity for audience members to tell their own stories, ask questions of the artists, and digest what they have just witnessed together.

PRODUCTION BACKGROUND

oblivion has been presented as a staged reading at:

- The frank theatre company, 2014-2015 Season (Vancouver, BC)
- Spirit Pride Conference, during pride week (Vancouver, BC)
- Hillhurst United Church, during their Affirming celebrations for pride week (Calgary, AB).

Third Street Theatre | 204-1027 1 St NW, Calgary AB, T2N 0A8 | jonathan@thirdstreet.ca

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

oblivion is the most important play Jonathan has ever written. He feels it holds the power to open the hearts of many without vilifying the humanity and faith of those closest to the story. Jonathan is the Artistic Director and co-founder of Third Street Theatre, Calgary's only queer Theatre Company dedicated to the positive reflection of queer culture, stories and values on Calgary stages. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drama from the University of Calgary. He has just received a 2015 Arch Award from University of Calgary for outstanding alumni achievement. He works full time in professional theatre as the Youth Engagement Manager at Alberta Theatre Projects.

Jonathan has also worked in full time ministry, communications, broadcasting, journalism, marketing, arts administration and human resources. A born and raised Calgarian, Jonathan is passionate about theatre as a vehicle for discussion, education and activism. He is a publicist, producer, actor, writer and musician.

PRESENTATION FEES

One performance: \$1500*

Two consecutive performances: \$1800*

Three consecutive performances: \$2100*

*These fees do not include venue rental, however the Presenter is welcome to provide their own space. Alternate venue rental prices and suggestions are available upon request.

WANT TO READ THE PLAY?

Please contact Jonathan Brower at jonathan@thirdstreet.ca to read a confidential PDF of *oblivion*.

OBLIVION IN THE NEWS

Oblivion | Doug Dirks for CBC Radio's The Homestretch

<http://www.cbc.ca/homestretch/episode/2014/03/05/oblivion-1/>

Calgary reading delves into being openly gay and religious

Jeremy Simes, MetroCalgary

<http://www.metronews.ca/news/calgary/2015/08/19/calgary-reading-delves-into-being-openly-gay-and-religious.html>

Gay and Evangelical Christian: can a person be both?

Steve Schelling, DailyXtra World News

<http://www.m.dailyxtra.com/arts-and-entertainment/gay-and-evangelical-christian-can-person-100056?market=5>

For audience feedback & photos from the last presentation, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.783818238412891.1073741835.215473748580679&type=3>