

# PRESS RELEASE

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What Happens to your Shadow While you Sleep?

Discover the Answer at

Trusty Sidekick Theater Company's Production of

SHADOW PLAY

a Multimedia Performance for Ages Two to Five

(and the Young at Heart),

Presented by Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

November 3-4, 2018, 12:30 and 2 pm

(Beverly Hills, CA October 2) What happens to your shadow while you sleep? Families with kids ages two to five, will discover the answer at Trusty Sidekick Theater Company's production of *SHADOW PLAY*, presented by the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, on Saturday and Sunday, November 3 and 4, 2018, 12:30 and 2 pm, in The Wallis's Lovelace Studio Theatre. This innovative, original performance for youngsters – and the young at heart – tells the story of Flash, whose shadow turns out to be more mischievous than he'd ever imagined. Soon after moving into his new home, Flash discovers that his shadow has moving plans of his own. In the middle of the night, the shadow packs up a few belongings and goes in search of a new home on the moon. Flash embarks on a quest to bring his shadow home in this playful production that utilizes stunning animation, video production and an original score to create a highly sensory, multimedia experience designed with a very young audience in mind.

Shadow Play stars Drew Petersen, Trusty Sidekick's Artistic Director, and is directed by Paul Brewster, Trusty Sidekick's Managing Director. The production was developed as part of The Performance Project @ University Settlement and based on an original concept by Jonathan Shmidt Chapman, Trusty Sidekick's Co-Founder, and Edie Demas. Chris Gabriel composed the score. Shadow Play uses innovative lighting and projection design by Simon Harding and video animations and design by Zack Ramadan.

Based in New York City, Trusty Sidekick Theater Company creates bold, original productions for young people and their families. Hailed by *The New York Times* for "blur[ring] the boundaries between the imagined and the real," Trusty Sidekick is known for crafting new ways for audiences of all ages to interact with live performance.

The Wallis brings audiences world-class theater, dance and music performed by many of the most sought-after artists.

Single tickets are \$25. Visit <u>TheWallis.org</u>, call 310.746.4000, or stop by in person at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services Office located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

## **About the Artists:**

**DREW PETERSEN** (*Performer*) a New York City based theater practitioner, musician, and educator, has co-created and performed in almost every Trusty Sidekick production. He is currently with Park Avenue Armory, The New Victory Theater, Brooklyn Academy of Music and City Center. As an artist, he is the Artistic Director for Trusty Sidekick Theater Company. He has been commissioned by and has created original work with Lincoln Center Education, The Kennedy Center, Park Avenue Armory, New Victory Theater, Cleveland Playhouse Square, PACE University, The Tank and Curio Theater Company in Philadelphia. He has also worked creatively and/or educationally with John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, People's Light and Theater Company, Villanova Theater, Mumpuppet Theater, Commonwealth Classic Theater Company, Egopo Productions and Hedgerow Theater.

**PAUL BREWSTER** (*Director*) is a theatre artist, educator, and administrator residing in NYC. As Roundabout Theatre Company's Assistant Director of Education, he has overseen teaching artist training and curriculum development, annually serving 6,000+ students and educators (roundabouttheatre.org). Brewster is also Managing Director for Trusty Sidekick Theater Company. He teaches coursework in both theatre for young audiences and technical theatre for educators at City College of New York, and has numerous directing and stage management credits at regional and off-Broadway theatres. MA, NYU Steinhardt; BFA, Tisch School of the Arts.

JONATHAN SHMIDT CHAPMAN (Original Concept) is an artist, producer, writer, curator, and educator dedicated to the field of Theatre for Young Audiences. Most recently, he served as the first Producer of Family Programming at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, creating ways to reimagine the Lincoln Center campus as an international arts destination for families. Chapman is also the Co-Founder of New York's Trusty Sidekick Theater Company. Recent artistic credits include co-creator of The Cerulean Time Capsule for the Kennedy Center, and director of the world premiere of The Boy at the Edge of Everything (Finegan Kruckemeyer) at Seattle Children's Theatre. He has held artistic and education-focused roles at The New Victory Theater, True Colors Youth Theatre, and the Cloud Foundation. He serves as an adjunct faculty member at New York University, where he teaches coursework on Theatre for Young Audiences.

**EDIE DEMAS** (*Original Concept*) is a leader in the field of arts education and theater for young audiences. She currently is Executive Director of Jacob Burns Film Center and has worked to develop new education programming at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles. She also served as the Director of Education for The New Victory Theater (2001-2010), during which time she has more than doubled the number of school and community-based partners and launched the New Vic in the Classroom Program.

**CHRIS GABRIEL** (Score) is a Brooklyn and L.A. based musician, composer, singer, filmmaker and writer. In addition to writing music for Trusty Sidekick's productions of *Up and Away, Shadow Play*,

The Haunting of Ichabod Crane and Off the Map, he composes music for commercials, films, documentaries and web series. Most recently, he was co-director for the full length film, The Relationtrip.

**SIMON HARDING** (*Lighting and Projection Design*) is an award-winning designer for live performance. He has designed nationally and internationally for theater, dance, and performance art work. Harding was a co-founder and the resident designer for SaBooge Theatre, designing all of its productions including the critically acclaimed shows, *Hatched, Fathom* and *Every Day Above Ground*. Other projects include *Custodians of Beauty* (Palissimo), *Strangers in Paradise* (Opera Omaha), *The Iceman Cometh* [Act IV] (Target Margin Labs).

**ZACK RAMADAN** (Video Animations and Design) oversees all video and animation work at The New Victory Theater as the Digital Marketing Associate. Shadow Play is the show that sparked his involvement with Trusty Sidekick five years ago, and since its initial runs in 2012 and 2013, he has designed projections and graphics for Trusty Sidekick's productions of Off the Map, Earth, and Up & Away. His love of TYA is most likely tied to his unhealthy obsession with the 80s cartoons of his youth.

#### ABOUT TRUSTY SIDEKICK THEATER COMPANY

Based in New York City, Trusty Sidekick Theater Company creates bold, original productions for young people and their families. Hailed by *The New York Times* for "blur[ring] the boundaries between the imagined and the real," Trusty Sidekick crafts new and exciting ways for audiences of all ages to interact with live performance. By developing new work in collaboration with young audiences as dramaturgs, the theatre-going experience is redefined. Having created works in both unique settings like a Revolutionary War-era battleground and traditional theater spaces, every adventure is rooted firmly in the belief that kids deserve theater that ignites their imaginations and makes them think about the world in a new way. Recent partnerships and presentations include Lincoln Center (*Shadow Play*), Seattle Children's Theater (*The Boy at the Edge of Everything*), The Park Avenue Armory (*The Haunting of Ichabod Crane, The 7 and ½ Mysteries of Toulouse McLane*), and Classic Stage Company (*The Stowaway*). Commissions by Lincoln Center of multi-sensory work designed specifically for audiences on the autism spectrum (*Up and Away, Campfire*) have garnered international attention for Trusty Sidekick's hallmark of keeping the audience in mind when creating every element of a show. trustysidekick.org

### **About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:**

Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented more than 250 dance, theatre, opera, classical music, cinema and family programs to an ever-expanding audience. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, California, The Wallis brings audiences world-class theater, dance and music, performed by many of the world's most talented and sought-after artists. Featuring eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its notability as the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis offers original and revered works from across the U.S. and around the globe. The mission of The Wallis is to create, present and celebrate unique performing arts events and educational programs that reflect the rich cultural diversity of our community. Nominated for 46 Ovation Awards, seven L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of six architectural awards since opening in 2013. The Wallis is a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot venue that celebrates the classic and the modern and was designed by Zoltan E. Pali,

FAIA, of Studio Pali Fekete architects. The building features the restored, original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places) that serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and houses the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW at The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education (a gift of Gregory Annenberg Weingarten and Family and the Annenberg Foundation) and the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Together, these structures embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: <a href="https://doi.org/Press.10.2">TheWallis.org/Press</a>. For downloadable photos, please visit: <a href="https://doi.org/Press">TheWallis.org/Press</a>. Like The Wallis on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter and Instagram.

# **EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

WHAT:

Trusty Sidekick Theater Company's Production of

SHADOW PLAY

Performed by Drew Petersen

Director Paul Brewster
Original Concept Jonathan Shmidt Chapman and Edie Demas
Score Chris Gabriel
Lighting and Projection Design Simon Harding
Video Animations and Design Zack Ramadan

### WHEN:

November 3-4, 2018, 12:30 and 2 pm

### WHERE:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Lovelace Studio Theater 9390 N. Santa Monica Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210

### **TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:**

\$25 (prices subject to change)
TheWallis.org
310.746.4000
Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

### **RUNNING TIME:**

Running time is 40 minutes with no intermission

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