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CATCO Presents *Every Brilliant Thing* Jan. 23-Feb. 10

British tour de force an exploration of hope, finding joy in life

A young man tries to boost his mother's spirits as she suffers from mental illness. Fear of the onset of his own chronic depression and processing his sadness leads him to make a list of a hundred, then a thousand, then a million of the greatest things the world has to offer.

This one-character tour de force called *Every Brilliant Thing*, which will leave audiences with a deeper understanding of joy, will be presented Jan. 23-Feb.10, 2019, at CATCO. All performances will be at the Studio Two Theatre, Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High St.

"This solo piece forces us to take a break for a bit from our busy day-to-day routines to think about what makes it great to be alive, and, in the process, makes us both laugh and cry," said Steven C. Anderson, CATCO's producing director and the director of *Every Brilliant Thing*, which features New York City's Timothy Elliott (*Buyer & Cellar* and *An Act of God*) as the narrator.

Every Brilliant Thing, an intimate, 70-minute theatre experience, premiered in June 2013 at the Ludlow Fringe Festival, a collaboration between Duncan Macmillan, George Perrin and Jonny Donahoe, a stand-up comedian, who originally performed the role of the narrator. It made its North American debut in December 2014 at the Barrow Street Theatre in New York City. The theatre adaptation, more than a decade in the making, came from a short story, *Sleeve Notes*, written by playwright Macmillan. It was made into an HBO movie in 2016.

"*Every Brilliant Thing* ... takes the chill off the depths of a light-starved winter," says *The New York Times*. "Makes for thrilling and deeply intimate theatre ... one of the best plays of the year," says *NOW Toronto Magazine*.

Elliott is a New York city-based actor, who was last seen at CATCO performing in *An Act of God* during the 2016-17 season. Before that he performed in *Buyer & Cellar*. Other credits include performing in the world premiere of *Marvelous: An Illuminated Tale* for the New York City Fringe Festival and appearing as Sir Isaac Newton in the *Physicists* for Lonesome George Productions, and Kirk in *Tiny Bubbles* for New Directions. He essayed the role of the Narrator in Craig Wright's *The Pavilion*, where he played no less than 17 different characters.

Anderson's directing credits include plays as diverse as the central Ohio premiere and first non-touring production in Ohio of *Fun Home*, as well as *Eubie!*, *Aspects of Love*, *Educating Rita*, world premiere of *Henry Ford's Model E, I Do! I Do!*, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, *An Act of God*, *Mothers and Sons*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Elephant Man*, *Avenue Q*, and the highly acclaimed production of Doug Wright's *I Am My Own Wife*. He has also directed *Candide* and *Hair* at The Ohio State University Theatre Department; *Love! Velour! Compassion!* and *The Taste of Sunrise* at CATCO; *Big River* and *Pippin* at Actors Theatre; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at New Harmony Theatre; and *Greater Tuna*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Assassins* at the former Players Theatre Columbus where he served as Associate Producing Director.

Every Brilliant Thing ticket prices are Wednesdays, \$20; Thursdays, \$30; Sundays, \$35; and Fridays and Saturdays, \$40. Student tickets can be purchased for \$15 for any performance based on availability and valid I.D. All tickets can be purchased online at www.catcoistheatre.org, at the box office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location.

The presenting sponsor for *Every Brilliant Thing* is Equitas Health.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 34th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Helen E. Sandfort Arts-in-Education and Florence E.K. Hurd Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library; and media sponsor is WOSU public media. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org.

CATCO's remaining shows for the 2018-19 season are:

- ***Life Sucks.***
By Aaron Posner
Adapted (sort of) from Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*
March 20-April 7, 2019
Studio One, Riffe Center
77 S. High St.
- ***Holmes and Watson***
By Jeffrey Hatcher
May 29-June 16, 2019
Van Fleet Theatre, CPAC

CATCO is Kids remaining shows for the 2018-19 season are:

- ***Sunshine***
Book by Jennifer Draganski and Sean Hartley
Lyrics by John O'Neil and Sean Hartley
Music by John O'Neil
Based on the book by Ludwig Bemelmans
Jan. 11-20, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Babe The Sheep Pig***
By David Wood
Based on the book by Dick King-Smith
March 1-10, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Seussical Kids***
Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty
Music by Stephen Flaherty, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
March 23-24, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Haroun and the Sea of Stories***
Co-production with Columbus School for Girls
Adapted by David Tushingham and Tim Supple
Based on the book by Salman Rushdie
May 3-12, 2019
Agnes Jeffrey Shedd Theater, Columbus School for Girls
56 S. Columbus Ave.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.