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***A Night at the Farm* is a big take on fun for littles**

**World premiere production features collaboration between
Omaha artist Quinn Corbin, musician Graham Ulicny and The Rose Theater**

(OMAHA, Nebr.) A collaboration between The Rose Theater and two Omaha-based artists will soon result in a boisterous onstage dance party that will have families rolling – and dancing – in the aisles.

The Rose will collaborate with C+C Mini Factory (an artistic duo with ties to Omaha) and noted Omaha-based musician Graham Ulicny to bring the children’s book, ***Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party***, to life in a world premiere production, adapted by Jackie Kappes, The Rose’s education director and Omaha resident.

Directed by Omaha-based Suzanne Withem, ***Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party*** finds a barnyard that is anything but sleepy! As the farmer drifts off to sleep, the animals get ready for the wildest party this side of the barn. A young goat named Kid is excited to attend the party for the first time and can’t wait to help his farm friends get ready. From baking pies with Uncle Horse, to taking a bath as instructed by the Pigs, to deciding what to wear alongside Uncle Sheep, the audience gets to participate alongside Kid as the night culminates in a raucous dance party.

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Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party
at The Rose Theater
Page 2 of 4
Contact: Kori Radloff, 402-502-4641

C+C Mini Factory is the work of artists Chelsea Cates of Brooklyn and Quinn Corbin of Omaha. Cates and Corbin have built a worldwide social media following centered around placing miniatures in fanciful and otherworldly environments and photographing the outcome. The result is photography that is nostalgic, theatrical, sometimes absurd and always playful. The artists were recently recognized as “Instagrammer of the Year” at the Shorty Awards. They have worked with brands including Starbucks, Refinery 29, Mozilla Firefox, and florist Putnam and Putnam, among many others – and now, The Rose.

Corbin, a native of Omaha, grew up as a “Rose kid.” As she explains, “My involvement there was instrumental in my lifelong career path in theatre - including 13 years working in Broadway and Off Broadway in NYC and now as Manager for Great Plains Theatre Commons here in Omaha.”

She returned to Omaha during the pandemic, eventually connecting with Rose Artistic Director Matt Gutschick where the idea of turning ***Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party*** into a stage adaptation began to form.

“Quinn Corbin is a theater superstar,” Gutschick says. “Together with her collaborator Chelsea, they make these delightful miniatures that totally transport the viewer to whimsical worlds that feel just like what it meant to play with toys as a child, to open up your imagination with fairly rudimentary objects.”

Night at the Farm is what Gutschick calls an “anti-bedtime story.” “It has all kinds of fun and silly audience participation to go alongside a bopping musical score by one of the best musicians our city has ever produced in Graham Ulicny,” he says.

= MORE =

Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party
at The Rose Theater
Page 3 of 4
Contact: Kori Radloff, 402-502-4641

Ulicny, a multi-instrumentalist and current keyboardist of Omaha-based band The Faint, has composed original music for ***Night at the Farm***. His vast resume includes recording and touring with noted artists and bands and performances with many large national festivals including Bonaroo, Governor's Ball, Lollapalooza, Austin City Limits, Sasquatch, Beach Goth, Electric Forest, Wakarusa, and others. His work was last seen at The Rose in the 2016 production of *Plastic Drastic*. He was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Music in a Play along with collaborators Daniel Ocanto and Sean Smith.

"Graham has created a truly unique aural world for ***Night at the Farm***. He combines the best of indie rock and pop in this score to create memorable tunes that suit the colorful characters," says Gutschick.

Adapted by Rose Education Director and Omaha resident Jackie Kappes, ***Night at the Farm*** promises an hour of raucous laughter and family fun. Kappes brings an understanding on how to appeal to young children and a brilliant sense of humor and playfulness, according to Gutschick. "As an educator, Jackie knows how to write really fun invitations for the audience to participate in key moments of the story along with the actors," he says.

In fact, audiences are encouraged to come dressed in their finest evening attire – their pajamas! "We are looking forward to a wacky pajama party each night at the theater," says Kappes. "I'm most excited for how interactive this piece is going to be. There will be opportunities to get up and dance, to sing along, to give answers to our actors and to cheer on our hero. We made this piece to not only entertain but to actively engage our youngest audience members."

Corbin agrees. "We cannot wait to see the live reactions of children in the audience seeing the animals celebrate a bedtime party!"

= MORE =

Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party
at The Rose Theater
Page 4 of 4
Contact: Kori Radloff, 402-502-4641

“It is exciting to showcase the talents of so many Omaha-based artists,” says Gutschick. “***Night at the Farm*** is going to be an exuberant celebration of local talent. What could be more fun than that?”

Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party is 60 minutes long without an intermission and will be presented Jan. 19 - Feb. 4, 2024, Fridays at 7 pm, Saturdays at 2 and 5 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets for ***Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party*** are \$30 for general admission tickets. Rose members will receive discounted tickets. Discounted tickets are also available at all area Hy-Vee stores.

Night at the Farm: A Bedtime Party is sponsored by Children’s Nebraska, Nebraska Furniture Mart, Max I. Walker, the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Kiewit Companies is the Opening Night sponsor.

For more information, cast bios and tickets, visit www.rosetheater.org.

About The Rose

The Rose Theater is one of the largest and most accomplished children’s theaters in the nation, with a reputation for enriching the lives of children and families through top-quality professional productions and arts education.

In 2016, American Theatre magazine named The Rose one of the 20 top children’s theaters in the United States.

The Rose is committed to making the arts accessible to all children, providing opportunities for thousands of children throughout the community to attend shows and participate in classes each year. Over the course of a year, approximately 70,000 people attend the public performances held at the theater, and nearly 30,000 students attend field trip shows annually.

The theater strives to introduce young people to a mix of both traditional favorites and ground-breaking original productions. A number of plays and musicals have made their world premiere on The Rose stage, including *Van Gogh & Me*, *The Meaning of Maggie*, *Pete the Cat: The Musical*, *Sherlock Holmes & the First Baker Street Irregular*, *Zen Ties*, *Leo Lionni’s Frederick*, *A Palette of Possibility*, *Thumbelina*, *Buffalo Bill’s Cowboy Band*, and *The Grocer’s Goblin & The Little Mermaid*.

We take pride knowing that The Rose is the place where children of all ages experience theater for the first time, and we are dedicated to helping them appreciate theater for a lifetime. It is The Rose’s goal to inspire young people to discover the magic of theater, to find their voices and enrich their communities.