

THE ECHO THEATER COMPANY & FRANK'S PRESENT

**THIS ENDS
BADLY**

FEATURING SHORT PLAYS BY

FRANK DEMMA

MARLANE MEYER

JOHN POLLONO

BENJAMIN WEISSMAN

SHARON YABLON

3269 CASITAS AVE LOS ANGELES

APRIL 22 APRIL 29 MAY 6 MAY 13

Welcome to the ninth installment of the theater project known as **FRANK'S**. In the last two years, our nights of short plays have amused and baffled audiences at the New Theater Hollywood, the Elysian, Pacific Resident Theatre, Theater of NOTE, the Potrero Stage in SF, and a very large backyard in Filipinotown. We are thrilled to be at the Echo Theater, and to present these five new-ish works by some of the city's most scintillating dramatists.

In no particular order, the plays are...

...a method-out Venice Beach farce by the playwright Marlane Meyer

...an art world debacle by the writer Benjamin Weissman

...a dark and simmering monologue from playwright Sharon Yablon

...my own time-bending two-hander

...and a Boston-inflected backstage satire from the playwright and screenwriter, John Pollono.

The title for this evening came to me via my partner, Riley Quinn Scott. It's a misquote of an arm tattoo she saw on Nan Goldin's Instagram, which reads "This will not end well." Some have expressed their distaste for the title, in particular my mentor and tormentor, Marlane Meyer, who called it a "shitty title." I hope that it strikes the right note of impending calamity, present in all the plays, of people striving for the good in a despairing world, and having their hopes forcibly readjusted.

I hope you enjoy this night out at the theater. I know how dispiriting it can be to watch bad plays, and I hope this is not one of those nights. Thanks for buying a ticket, thanks for attending, thanks for putting your faith in us. I hope you like it.

-Frank Demma, Artistic Director, 2026

RABBIT HOLE

Written and Directed by Marlane Meyer

Cosmo.....Zaya Kolia
Katerina.....Victoria Davidoff
Connor.....Edward Hoke
Glen.....Frank Demma

HARRIET & KEITH AT THE WHITNEY BIENNIAL

Written by Benjamin Weissman

Directed by Benjamin Weissman, Amy Gerstler and Roxanne Rogers

Harriet.....Suzanne Fletcher
Keith....Conor Murphy
Bomb Girl.....Isabel Marcus

MATADOR

Written and Directed by Sharon Yablon

Music by Cody Nicholls

Performed by Silas Weir Mitchell

MUIR WOODS

Written by Frank Demma

Directed by Roxanne Rogers and Frank Demma

Him.....Wes Walker
Her.....Shawna Casey

ILLUMINATI

Written by John Pollono

Directed by Ned Mochel

Candace.....Jennifer Pollono
Billy.....Keith Stevenson
Roger.....Michael Redfield

Stage Manager: Bianca Rickheim

Set Design: Alex Mollo

Lighting Design: Matt Richter

SPECIAL THANKS

To the Echo Theater Company, and especially to Chris Fields for his incredible generosity. To the cast, crew, and creative team of *For Want of Horse*, for allowing us to borrow their stage for a few Wednesday nights. To Wes Walker and all the members of his weekly writing group for their indispensable insights and support. And as always, to Lucy Parks Urbano, Edward Hoke, and Moses Mascuch, forever my comrades in art.

On Instagram: @cometofranks



Nan Goldin, 2022

FRANK'S

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FRANK'S graphics and design by Moses Mascuch