

START RESCUE PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PACIFIC RESIDENT THEATRE

A WORLD PREMIERE

UK UNDERDOG

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

UNDERGROUND

ONE-MAN SHOW

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY
STEVE SPIRO
Directed by Ann Bronston



ALL proceeds of ticket sales go directly to START Rescue and selected Animal Rescue & Anti-Bullying Organizations

START Rescue
In Association With
PACIFIC RESIDENT THEATRE
present

UK UNDERDOG

A World Premiere Production
The Zephyr Theatre, Los Angeles, California
September 20 – October 28, 2018

Written and Performed by Steve Spiro

Directed by Ann Bronston

Produced by Ginger Perkins

Lighting Design by Simon Knowles

Sound Design by Michael Woody

Stage Manager Daniel Coronel

Publicity by Lucy Pollak

There will be no intermission.
Running time is approximately eighty minutes.

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Follow UK UNDERDOG

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“The Birthplace of the fortunate sends out its invisible waves of recollection. It always has and it always will, until even the last of us come home.” - Clive James



GLOSSARY

WORDS YOU WILL HEAR IN THIS PLAY BUT MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR WITH

- BOLLOCKS – Testicles
- HE'S THE BOLLOCKS – He's the Best
- BONKERS - Crazy
- BOTTLED IT – Cowardice
- BRILLIANT – Excellent
- CACKED – Crapped Your Pants
- CHIPS – French Fries
- FLAT – Apartment
- GOBSMACKED – Astonished, Amazed
- KAYNAHORAH (Yiddish) Ward Off the Evil Eye
- KNACKERED – Exhausted
- KNOB – Penis
- MASHUGANA (Yiddish) – Crazy Person / Jackass
- MENSCH (Yiddish) - A Person of Integrity and Honor
- QUID – A British Pound Note Equivalent to a “Buck” or a Dollar
- SCHMUCK (Yiddish) Stupid / Foolish
- Snogged – Kissing Passionately
- WANKER – A Jerk/Asshole
- WANKING – To masturbate
- WILLIE – Penis



CREATIVE TEAM



Steve Spiro (Playwright/Actor) was born and raised in London, England, and has appeared in both film and theatre. Steve is excited to be performing his one-man show, *UK Underdog*, at the Zephyr Theatre, where he last appeared in Harold Pinter's, *The Caretaker*. Steve has written several screenplays, including a script about the life and times of early 20th Century fighter Sam Langford (based on the book by Clay Moyle), who was regarded as the greatest fighter never to fight for a title. He is also a co-writer of the 30-minute dark comedy *Unleashed*, about the world of animal rescue, which he and his partners (Alison and Sylva) plan to film in early 2019. www.Unleashedtvshow.com.

Steve is one of the original founders of START Rescue, a nonprofit animal transport and spay/neuter group. Since its inception in 2011, START has transported over 10,500 dogs/cats from high-kill California shelters to loving "forever homes" in the Pacific Northwest and funded over 5,500 spay/neuter surgeries for low-income households. Steve's a huge pit bull fan, which inspired START's formation. The START team has rescued over 1,000 pit bulls/mixes, many who have become service dogs and treasured family members. It's time to stop blaming the wrong end of the leash!

As an expression of his gratitude, Steve would like to gently rip his heart out and hand it on a plate to the following: Linda Raznick and Ellen Lavinthal for the incredible support they've given to this project; to Marilyn Fox and Jen Lonsway of the Pacific Resident Theatre; to Ann Bronston (Steve's talented and smarter-than-she-looks Director) and to the "bloody wonderful" Ginger Perkins, Lucy Pollak, Susan Dexter, Daniel Coronel, Natalie Ford and Michael Woody.

A big thanks to Erch, a lifelong friend (and his wife Annie for putting up with him!). Welcome to LA! Much love to my parents Judy and Brian Spiro, who I cherish and adore, and to my incredible wife/life/right arm/missus/better half, Suzanna Urszuly, aka Chopsy. Uch Mud Shabat!

I dedicate the entire run of this show to the animal rescue community, all of those individuals who continue to give their precious time and soul to the cause and are among the most compassionate, dedicated and silent heroes on our planet. By saving 4-legged lives, they also bring joy to countless people and, as a result, make our world a happier place one 4-legged angel at a time! THANK YOU!!

Ann Bronston (Director) is an actress, writer and director. She is a member of Rogue Machine Theatre, Pacific Resident Theatre and City Garage. She directed a workshop production of *U.K. Underdog* in the Pacific Resident Theatre Co-Op space, working with Spiro to develop and shape his work. Other directing credits include Bryony Lavery's, *Dirt*, a Rogue Machine and SRS Production Wing co-production at the Raven Playhouse; Donald Margulies's, *Dinner with Friends*; Kenneth Jone's, *Two Henrys*; Martin McDonagh's, *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*; Sharr White's, *Annapurna*; Gina Gionfriddo's *Becky Shaw*; and Tennessee William's *Baby Doll*, all at the PRT Co-Op. Her short stories have won awards and appeared in numerous literary magazines including "Mississippi Review" and "New Millennium". Thank you to Steve for including me in this journey, for being such a funny, gracious person and for bringing so many characters to life.

Ginger Perkins (Producer) is an award-winning theatrical producer. She produced plays, dance and music programs and art exhibits for the Edinburgh International Festival Fringe for twenty-five years winning both a "Best of the Fringe" award and a coveted "Fringe First" award. Perkins was best known in Edinburgh for her innovative and critically acclaimed outdoor "walking" productions of *Macbeth* and four original Sherlock Holmes plays, an original play about Mary Queen of Scots as well as two popular children's plays. She co-authored and produced *Beneath the Veil*, a play which toured to major cities in the US and played at The Kennedy Center with the endorsement of Frist Lady, Laura Bush. Other producing credits in Los Angeles include *Beggars in the House of Plenty*; *Land of the Tigers*; *Stop Kiss*; *Orpheus Descending*; *Macbeth*; *If the Price is Right*; *The Knife Thrower's Assistant or A Life on the Cutting Edge*" and *Oktoberfest the Musical: An Almost True Story*. Perkins has a degrees in Theatre from Texas Tech University and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration from the University of Utah.

Simon Knowles (Lighting Designer) is from the UK and moved to Los Angeles three years ago. He is an artist who goes under the pseudonym Stomach Pop and has a bachelor's degree in Fine Art. He started out in theatre working in London's West End where he has held multiple positions including three years on Disney's award winning *The Lion King*. His theatrical career has literally taken him around the world working on several 5-star cruise lines as well as extended stays for productions in Cyprus, Brazil and Turkey. When not lurking in the wings of theaters he can be found creating silly songs and drawings to entertain his daughter.

Michael Woody (Sound Designer) began designing theatrical sound in San Francisco in 1983 and has since worked with One Act Theatre, Magic Theatre, Eureka Theatre, Julian Theater, the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Encore and Subterranean Shakespeare. He's also been a member of the experimental theater companies Group 6, Fifth Floor, The High Risk Group, Soon 3, George Coates Performance Works and a co-founder of the multi-media band SUNZ of Alien Teknowledgy. In 2017, Michael was brought to Venice Beach to design for the PRT Co-Op which led to this production of *UK Underdog* and he is very glad to be reunited with Steve Spiro and Ann Bronston to bring it to the Zephyr Theatre tonight.

Daniel Coronel (Stage Manager) is thrilled to return as the stage manager for *UK Underdog*. Working with Steve and being a part of a dedicated crew has been a great experience. No Aunt Sallys, gas treatment, nor dead arms will be administered during the show.

Thank You

.....so much

I would like to dedicate this page to those who helped bring this show to life. Also, for putting up with me and being incredibly supportive for this "pawsome" cause.

In no particular order of age, race, breed, IQ or soccer team:

MUM AND DAD ~ Suzanna Urszuly ~ **Ren (Grenade) and Jay Ruston** ~ **Alicia (MM) Esken** ~ **Candace (CVS) Modrell** ~ **Phillip Gharabegian** ~ Liz (QS) Schiavone ~ **Linda (HK) and Rob Raznick** ~ Christina Snyder ~ Tally and Bill Wegner ~ Adam and Amber Tarshis ~ **Dean and Dawn Theodore** ~ Ellen Lavinthal ~ Mark Smolin ~ **Marilyn Fox** ~ Jennifer Lonsway ~ Susan Dexter ~ Ann Bronston ~ John Flynn ~ Alex Fernandez ~ Jahleel Starks ~ Dana and Scott Jackson ~ **Natalie Ford** ~ Christina Jencks ~ **Dwight Lowell** ~ **Sheldon and Annie Charach** ~ Jeremy DeGuc ~ Judy Pacione ~ Jennifer Jones ~ Andrea and David Stanley ~ Delores Horn ~ Simon (BHC) Brooke ~ **Norm, Sot, Cos and C.J.** ~ Barbara Minnucci ~ **Fay Krokower** ~ Scott Richter ~ Aharon and Ferdi ~ Too Fun Sue ~ Vicki and Lori ~ Katalin Urszuly ~ Alexa, Audrey and Amelia Urszuly ~ **Erika Nadir** ~ Orson Bean ~ **Bryan Kent** ~ Michael Woody ~ Angela Stimson ~ Amber Bruegel ~ Mike Lorre ~ Marc (Howie) Charach ~ Command D ~ Dan Bronzite ~ Keith Stevenson ~ **Steven Houska** ~ Chris Stone ~ Dr. B SAAA ~ In Training ~ Lorin Salm ~ Ginger Perkins ~ **Lucy Pollak** ~ Daniel Coronel ~ Carla Meyer ~ Stan and Kathy Ward ~ **Chip and Karen Witherill** ~ Monica Fox ~ Marc Rinder ~ **Barrie Roberts** ~ Jaclyn Wishnow ~ Bobbe and Tim Moore ~ **Tony Low-Beer** ~ Charlotte Chou ~ Billie Cohen ~ Philip Gharabegian ~ Marc (for you leadership in TieRack) and Lynn Cohen ~ Flo Chrusciel ~ **Chris and Cindy DeRose** ~ Sylva Kelegain ~ Hidden Hills Magazine ~ Jude Ciccolella ~ Bruce and Blanche Rubin ~ Larry Moss ~ **Jamie Donovan** ~ Mitchell Wexler ~ Jen Howell ~ Suzy, Emil and Jesse ~ **Simon Brooke** ~ Vicki and Lori Brooks ~ Aunty Sandy ~ Scott Harris ~ Jay Ingleton ~ Clay Moyle ~ Facé ~ Gina Momary ~ **Dr. Alan Schulman** ~ Mike Gottlieb ~ Maria Robson ~ **CLAUDE MORADY** ~ Ranelle Anorga ~ Randi Swindel ~ **Ivani Baldasso** ~ Mike Resnick and Alexander Werner ~ Justin Brauer and Stephanie Klein ~ **BRITT AARONSON** ~ Liz Blackman ~ Ray Simmons ~ Liz Block ~ **Cary Jones** ~ Lesley Fera ~ Ned Mochel ~ David and Dorothy Raznick ~ Kaytlin Hall ~ Juan-Felipe Orrego ~ **MISSY AND BILL CALVERT** ~ **Elise Karl and Terry Friedman** ~ Mitchell and Lynda Jacobs ~ Michael and Kelley (Welly) Avery ~ Erica Nielsen ~ **Wilba Hussey** ~ **Bark N Bitches** ~ **Ace of Hearts** ~ **Foxy and the Hounds (FATH)** ~ **Kitten Rescue** ~ **Operation Blankets of Love** ~ **Pet Adoption Fund** ~ **Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM)** ~ **Stop Poaching Now!** ~ **Wild Foundation** ~ **Wildlife SOS** ~ **The Youth Policy Institute** ~ **Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Los Angeles** ~ **Linda Blair WorldHeart Foundation** ~ **CHUNKY, MARBLE, BABY MOY, SOPHIE**