

**THE 99-SEAT BEAT**

BY MARGARET GRAY

Being where you're not supposed to be, seeing what you're not supposed to see, hearing people say what they're not supposed to say — the threat and thrill of transgression can give so much power to live theater.

## A spooky 'What Happened'

**The essentials:** Chris Fields puts the audience inches from the action in an immersive staging of Daniel Talbott's spooky memory play about three siblings snowed in at a farmhouse without electricity.

**Why this?** Fields and his team have a reputation for producing adventurous new work with strong casts, and Times theater critic Charles McNulty called Echo Theater "my go-to place in Los Angeles for symbiotic ensemble acting." Talbott, a member of Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, is also the author of "Slipping," a gay coming-of-age story that generated buzz when it played in L.A. in 2013. Time Out Chicago praised an earlier production of "What Happened When" for its "air of Pinterian menace."

**Details:** Echo Theater Company, Atwater Village Theatre, 3269 Casitas Ave., Los Angeles. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays; opens April 12 and ends April 26. \$34. (310) 307-3753 or [www.echotheatercompany.com](http://www.echotheatercompany.com).