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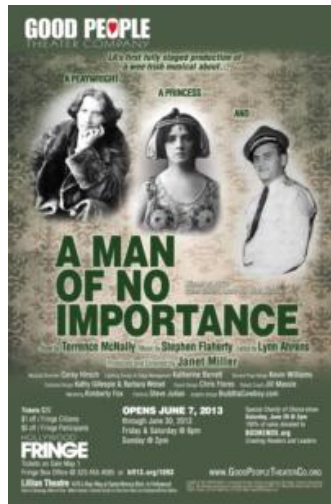
Janet Miller Launches Good People Theater; Announces 1st Show A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE, 6/7-30

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Thursday, May 2, 2013; 05:05 PM - by [BWW News Desk](#)



Today, a newly formed Board of Directors joined with Producing Artistic Director [Janet Miller](#) to announce the launch of a non-profit theater venture-the Good People Theater Company (GPTC)-and its opening show, LA's first fully staged production of A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE.

Offered as part of the Hollywood Fringe Festival (Project #1093) with direction and musical staging by Miller and musical direction by Corey Hirsch, GPTC's "wee Irish musical" features a 15-member cast of accomplished actors-many of whom are drawn from Miller's most successful productions. Winner of New York City's Outer Circle Critics Award for Best Musical when it debuted, the show has a book by [Terrence McNally](#), with music by [Stephen Flaherty](#) and lyrics by [Lynn Ahrens](#). The musical tells the story of Alfie Byrne, a modest, poetical Everyman in 1960s Dublin weighed down by a secret love that, when exposed, tests the boundaries of true friendship and finally mutual tolerance.

According to Miller, the key members of the Good People team-organizational, technical and actor principals-are people she's known for decades. "All these years, at the close of another show we would always find ourselves saying, 'isn't it great to work with good people'? So we decided that was it: we each wanted a home to do great work with good people. We found a show that deserved an LA production, we hooked up with the Hollywood Fringe Festival for momentum, and the Good People Theater Company was born!"

Good People's first show, A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE, opens June 7 at the Lillian Theatre Hollywood (1076 Lillian Way at Santa Monica Boulevard) and runs each weekend through June 30 (Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 2pm.) Tickets are \$20 general admission, with discounts for Fringe insiders (Citizens and Participants). All dates go on sale today (May 1) through the Fringe Box Office by calling 323-455-4585 or online at the show's Hollywood Fringe Festival project page www.hff13.org/1093.

As a part of the their commitment to "good people doing good work," the GPTC also announced a special

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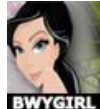
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would surely appreciate, 100% of the ticket proceeds from this performance will be donated to BookEnds, an LA-based non-profit that recycles quality children's reading material to help build library collections at schools and youth centers in underserved areas across Southern California.

In a city blessed with many fine smaller theater companies, the GPTC Board feels there is artistic justification for giving [Janet Miller](#) a special forum. "Each Board member has known Janet for years and has long appreciated her talents as both director and choreographer, her ability to balance professionalism with humor, and her impeccable instinct for spotting, casting and developing talent," said Board President and Company Marketing Director Kimberly Fox. "We each felt it was time to build a Company around Janet's vision."

Fox pointed out Miller was a [Lucille Lortel](#) nominee for her work on The Marvelous Wonderettes. "Janet's won many honors here in Los Angeles, including Ovation, LADCC, and Garland awards. She's successfully delivered more than 100 shows in her thirty-five year career. The Board doesn't feel it's taking much of a risk showcasing someone we consider one of LA's most interesting director/choreographers." Fox confirmed the Board's plan treats the GPTC Fringe production as a test run for future shows: "We know our theatrical resources are running at 100%, so we're using this first production to get the Company's full administrative functions up and running. Based on what we learn this time around, we'll fine-tune our planning and announce future shows."

The Good People Theater Company believes there are three good reasons to launch another small theater company in Los Angeles:

We believe you can never have enough intimate plays and chamber musicals performed to the highest standards by actors and theater techs of many generations. We like seeing good people of all ages do great work.

We believe [Janet Miller](#)-the company's founding artistic director-is a walking theater encyclopedia and a true triple threat as a director of straight plays, a director of musicals and a choreographer. We believe Janet is one-of-a-kind. She deserves a professional forum for her talents and ideas, so we're giving it to her.

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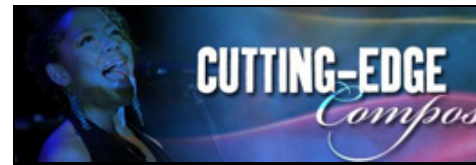
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Janet Miller · Adjunct Professor at Theatre Dept., Cerritos College and CSULA

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