



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Life Sucks!
...and yet we persevere
(or, Happy Holidays!)

[San Francisco, California – 11/27/23]

ARC presents a live reading of ***Life Sucks!*** by Aaron Posner, directed by Amy Kossow

When: Monday, December 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Run Time: 2 hours, including intermission

Where: Marin Shakespeare Company at 514 Fourth St., San Rafael, 94901

Tickets:

https://www.purplepass.com/#271654/Marin_Shakespeare_Company-Life_Sucks-Marin_Shakespeare_Company-December-04-2023.html

The Actors' Reading Collective presents a live reading of acclaimed playwright Aaron Posner's ***Life Sucks: Or the Present Ridiculous***, an irreverent, yet resonant adaptation of Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*. Best known for his 2013 play *Stupid Fucking Bird*, an adaptation of Chekhov's *The Seagull*, in ***Life Sucks*** Posner presents "befuddled, bemused and bedraggled" characters who "struggle mightily against their obstacles - not fully realizing they are mostly of their own creation." Join the **Actors' Reading Collective** for a live, **in-person reading of *Life Sucks* on Monday, December 4th at 7pm at the Marin Shakespeare Company's new indoor space at 514 Fourth St., in San Rafael, CA.**

About the play:

Life Sucks follows a group of old friends, ex-lovers, estranged in-laws, and lifelong enemies grappling with life's thorniest questions—and each other. What could possibly go wrong? Incurably lustful and lonely, hapless and hopeful, these seven souls collide and stumble their way towards a new understanding that LIFE SUCKS! Or does it?

Playwright Aaron Posner crafts a deft and sweet-tart **meditation on love, longing and loss.**

Cast:

Directed by Word-For-Word's **Amy Kossow**, and featuring a cast that includes **Sylvia Burboeck, Ron Chapman, Charisse Loriaux, Tanya Marie, Leontyne Mbele-Mbong, Luisa Sermol, Robert Sicular, and David Sinaiko.** ***Life Sucks*** is adapted from Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*.

About the Playwright:

Aaron Posner is a nationally recognized playwright, director, teacher and former Artistic Director. He is currently a professor at American University in Washington DC. He has won an Off-Broadway Alliance Award, an Outer Circle Critics Award, an Elliot Norton Award, a Joseph Jefferson Award, a Bay Area Critics Award, two Barrymore Awards and six Helen Hayes Awards as a playwright and director. His plays and adaptations include THE HEAL, JQA, STUPID FUCKING BIRD, LIFE SUCKS, NO SISTERS, DISTRICT MERCHANTS, WHO AM I THIS TIME (AND OTHER CONUNDRUMS OF LOVE), THE CHOSEN, MY NAME IS ASHER LEV, SOMETIMES A GREAT NOTION, CYRANO, A CHRISTMAS CAROL, and more. His musicals include A MURDER, A MYSTERY & A MARRIAGE and WHAT HO, JEEVES! His plays for young people include THE GIFT OF NOTHING and ME...JANE: THE DREAMS & ADVENTURES

OF YOUNG JANE GOODALL. He has directed more than 100 productions at major regional theatres across the country and was the founder and Artistic Director of the Arden Theatre Company and a former Artistic Director of Two River Theatre.

About ARC:

The Actors' Reading Collective's (ARC) mission is to share the **artistic, spiritual, and emotional** passion uniquely inherent to theater and **storytelling**.

ARC is deeply committed to changing the way BIPOC members are cast, and practice gender and age inclusion to move our mutual humanity forward, to listen to what is needed and to what is lacking.

We challenge ourselves to change.

When the Pandemic began and theaters shuttered around the world, artists lost voices, identities, and jobs overnight with no hope of potential stage work for the foreseeable future. ARC was born out of a **reaction to that sudden silencing** and mutual need to tell stories through our mutual **love of words**, of Theatre and **our need to gather** and **celebrate each other** and the craft we love.

ARC is moving out of its Zoom box origins and onto the Stage.

ARC aims to distill performances down to the simplest, purest form of Theatre: the **playwright's words** to create a **one-time, immediate, and visceral experience**. In the deft hands of ARC actors, who hail from across the country, these stories have blossomed to life in unexpected ways, and have captivated those that experience them with their beauty and simplicity.

Health & Safety:

Masks recommended but not required.

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