



**Girl Friday Productions presents *Winterlight*
Stories, poems and songs to illuminate the season**

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Minneapolis, MN, November 17, 2020 – *Winterlight*, created by Girl Friday Productions, is a three-episode digital series of relevant and reflective stories, poems and songs to warm the soul during this season of light. This eclectic mix of winter tales features beloved classics, rediscovered works and original storytelling. Each episode is short (under 20 minutes) and will be available to the community at no cost. Episodes will be released on December 14, 21 and 28 and will be accessible to the public indefinitely. No tickets or reservations required.

Once available, links and full episode descriptions will be on the Girl Friday Productions' YouTube channel, Facebook page and website: www.girlfridayproductions.org

Winterlight is directed by acclaimed Twin Cities' theatre artist and frequent Girl Friday collaborator **Craig Johnson**. Editor & Technician for the project is **Aaron Fiskradatz**. The 10 actor cast includes: **Kirby Bennett, Reese Britts, Craig Johnson, Willie E. Jones III, Sam Landman, Hope Nordquist, James Rodriguez, Taj Ruler, Sophina Saggau, and Dana Lee Thompson.**

"The events of 2020 continue to hit hard across all our communities, and we deeply miss sharing the same physical space with our Twin Cities' actors and audiences," said Girl Friday Productions' Artistic Director Kirby Bennett. "We are grateful for the opportunity to wade into virtual theatrical snow banks with *Winterlight*. Each artist is putting their own special mark on these seasonal and timely tales that reflect on economic disparities, sacrifice, redemption, hope... and of course the stark beauty and delight of winter! We hope *Winterlight* will be a balm for troubled times."

The final order of material within the three episodes is still in progress. Pieces that will be included are:

Kitty Clover's Letter to Santa Claus by anonymous (featuring Dana Lee Thompson)

Ms. Puckett, an original story written and performed by Sam Landman

The Burglar's Christmas by Willa Cather (featuring Kirby Bennett, Reese Britts, James Rodriguez, and Taj Ruler)

The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry (featuring Willie E. Jones III and Sophina Saggau)

The Sermon in the Cradle and Good Will Toward Men (excerpt) by W.E.B. DuBois (featuring Dana Lee Thompson and the Company)

The Evergreen – A German fairytale by anonymous (featuring Taj Ruler)

Yuki-Onna: The Snow Woman – A Japanese folktale by anonymous (featuring Hope Nordquist)

The Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Andersen (featuring Craig Johnson)

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost (featuring James Rodriguez)

Winter Poetry Medleys featuring works by Oliver Herford, Gertrude Parthenia McBrown, Sara Teasdale, Margaret Widdemer, William Carlos Williams and several anonymous authors (featuring the Company)

“All Through the Night” traditional song (featuring Reese Britts)

“I Saw Three Ships” traditional song (featuring Hope Nordquist)

About Girl Friday Productions

“It's wonderful to see these rarely produced gems.” – GFP audience member

The little company that does big plays, Girl Friday Productions typically focuses on larger scale American plays of exceptional literary merit that are less frequently produced today. The company's mission is to nurture artists, inspire audiences and illuminate the human condition. Girl Friday Productions focuses on a singular major project every other year, which maximizes efforts to work with challenging texts, large and skilled ensemble casts, and distinguished directors and designers. Girl Friday Productions' work is characterized by exceptional literature, humanity, relevance and stimulating theatricality. Founded in 2004 by Artistic Director Kirby Bennett, Girl Friday Productions' most recent production was the critically acclaimed *THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH* by Thornton Wilder, presented at Park Square Theatre in Feb. 2019.

Girl Friday Productions presents *Winterlight*

Location: www.girlfridayproductions.org

Released online December 14, 21 and 28, 2020

No tickets or reservations required.

In the spirit of the season, we encourage *Winterlight* viewers to consider a donation to the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center: www.miwrc.org/donate

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