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ON STAGE

"Hairspray," through Oct. 6, Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 N. Michigan Road; www.beefandboards.com

"The Legend of Georgia McBride," through Oct. 6, Phoenix Theatre, 705 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis; phoenixtheatre. org

"The Diviners," through Oct. 6, The Switch theatre in Ji-Eun Lee Music Academy, 10029 E. 126th St., Fishers; theswitchtheatre.com

"Trap," through Oct. 6, Buck Creek Players,11150 Southeastern Ave., Indy; www.buckcreekplayers.com.

"Ragtime," through Oct. 13, Footlite Musicals, 1847 N. Alabama St., Indianapolis; footlite.org

"The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance," through Oct. 13, Main Street Productions at Westfield Playhouse, 1836 W. SR 32; westfieldplayhouse.org

"The Birds," through Oct. 13, NoExit Performance in The Power House at Central State, 202 Steeples Blvd., Indianapolis; noexitperformance.org.

"The Wiz," through Oct. 6, Indiana Performing Arts Centre at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan, Indianapolis; ipacindy. org

OPENING

NOTE: "Voices of Yesteryear" at Storefront Theatre of Indianapolis has been postponed; new date TBA, storefrontindy.com

"Mamma Mia!" Oct. 4-19, Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre, The Center for the Performing Arts, Carmel; www. civictheatre.org

"The Brothers Paranormal," Oct. 11-Nov. 3, Fonseca Theatre at its new home, 2508 W. Michigan St., Indianapolis; http://www.fonsecatheatre.org

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Theatre Bulletin

Indianapolis & Central Indiana

FREE

No. 0011 - October 3, 2019

ATI new-play program makes picks

CARMEL [from Press Release] – Actors Theatre of Indiana presents a new program designed to nurture new plays and playwrights. The **ATI Theatre LAB Series** has chosen from more than 20 submissions and will present the three plays in special readings at ATI:

"Hollywood, Nebraska," by Kenneth Jones (NYC), reading Tuesday, Nov. 5

In the panhandle of Nebraska, two actresses of a certain age are making a homecoming in their small town. Jane's in from L.A. to check up on her ailing mother. Andrea's back from New York to bury her father. A new comedy about the urge to be creative, the itch to move away and the ache of reconnecting with the family and feelings that you left behind.

"Rattler," by Lindsay Adams (Kansas City, Mo.), reading Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020

After Jen's son Wyatt is accused of sexually assaulting his ex-girlfriend at a party, she is introduced to a support group for women whose relations have been accused of rape. With their encouragement, she decides she will stop at nothing to get to the truth of the matter and to get Wyatt's charges dropped.

"Provenance," by Ethan Mathias (Fishers, Ind.), reading Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Philanthropist Stephen Aldridge was a legend in Bayleigh, Indiana. Just days before the local museum is scheduled to open a new exhibit honoring his legacy, his granddaughter Allison returns home for her father's funeral. Sorting through her family's history with the devoted staff of the Heartland Museum, Allison discovers new friends and new stories about her beloved grandfather that challenge her memories and force everyone to think carefully about how much we value truth, and which truths are most important.

"There are so many great stories out there that deserve development, said ATI Artistic Director Don Farrell. "ATI wants to do what it can to invest in the future of theatre by investing in the future of new plays and playwrights."

Playwrights will enjoy an intensive weekend of workshopping, discussion and development with a cast of professional actors and directors in a creative laboratory setting. Each play will have a reading and a talk-back session with live ATI audiences, staff, cast and playwright.

For information or to order The LAB Series tickets, call 317-843-3800 or visit atistage.org.

REVIEWS

Edited; see full reviews online at www.playswithjohnandwendy.com

NoExit's 'Birds' flock to Central State

Members of NoExit Performance have speculated what happened in the years after the events of Alfred Hitchcock's "**The Birds**," and crafted a theatre experience that tells a story from the animals' point of view. The story has the feel of great Greek and Shakespearean dramas, but cast members keep their movements and expressions constantly birdlike. The play is outdoors on the grounds of Central State; audience members are asked to bring lawn chairs.

Shakespeare vs. six-shooters in Westfield

Based on the original short story rather than the 1962 film, "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" brings the Old West to the Westfield Playhouse. More than the events surrounding a legendary shootout, this is a story of love and loyalty, finding the strength to make one's self and world better, and bravery beyond the ability to hold a gun steady.