



ALLEYWAY THEATRE

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Alleyway Theatre To Premiere I'M FINE

Alleyway Theatre will present the world premiere of **I'M FINE** by Neal Radice on April 20, 2017. Mr. Radice will direct the new play which is the company's third production of its 37th season dedicated to presenting new plays and musicals.

I'M FINE

After a marriage that spanned his adult life, Mike finds himself a middle-aged widower learning the importance of a sense of humor as he travels the road back from grief. He's confronted by a thorny universe of family and finances, cooking and career, religion and regrets, loneliness and even the absurdities of online dating!

Inspiration for I'M FINE

Mr. Radice wasn't planning to write a play about the issues and circumstances of living as a widower. The first thought of doing so came with an email from an old friend and former Alleyway Theatre board member, Herb Knoll. Mr. Knoll moved away from Buffalo many years ago but thought to contact Radice to propose that he write a play that would complement the book that Knoll was writing: *The Widower's Journey*. Knoll was basing his book on personal experiences as well as interviews and the input of psychologists and researchers. Some months passed and Radice considered putting the idea aside, but in late December, 2014 those months of mulling it over proved beneficial as the play took shape in a sudden burst. Mr. Radice observed, "It seemed that I was cold to the idea until, in a strange moment of realization, it occurred to me that my own Dad is a widower. It had to occur to me because, in all these years since my mother's passing, I had never thought to apply that title to his circumstance. Now, the play has nothing to do with my Father, yet the connection with him seemed to build a bridge to the insights I needed to step into the work."



Playwright Neal Radice

Mr. Radice is Founder and Executive Director of Alleyway Theatre. In addition to having produced, directed, designed or acted in hundreds of stage plays, musicals or operas during the past fifty years, he has taught directing and acting for the British Theatre Association, directed and designed for the Stephenville Festival of Newfoundland, and represented the United States at the International Theatre Association Conference in Krakow, Poland.

More...

Mr. Radice served as Assistant to the Chair of the University of Buffalo Department of Theatre and Dance, Managing Director of Center Theatre, and Theatre Manager of Studio Arena Theatre. As a designer, he has created scenery, costumes, or lighting for well over two hundred productions and his credits as a playwright, composer, or lyricist include: *Be Yourself, Jack!*, *Beowulf: The Rock Opera*, *What Are We Doing In Buffalo?*, *The Miss Greater Loesserville Pageant*, *Minimum Habitat*, *Peer*, *Gilgamesh*, *Sherlock In Love*, *Sherlock Alone*, *Sherlock Forever*, *The Road To Bethlehem*, *Pan-Ambitions*, *Over The Falls*, *Shadow Serenade*, *Columbus*, *Italian Serenade*, *Tooley And Mary*, *The Ghost Of Fort Niagara*, *Night Work* and *Granny Bird*. Mr. Radice's beloved stage adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* has been playing to sold out audiences at Alleyway Theatre for over three decades.

The cast of I'M FINE will feature Ray Boucher, Emily Yancey, James Cichocki and Joyce Stilson.



Ray Boucher starred in the Alleyway Theatre 2007 world premiere of *THE SEABIRDS* and will play the lead role of Mike in **I'M FINE**. Mr. Boucher has performed for over twenty years as a stage and screen actor and stand-up comedian. He has been seen in many productions in the Buffalo area, as well as in New York City, Newport, RI, and Beijing, China. A full resume can be found at www.rayboucher.webs.com.

Sets and lighting for **I'M FINE** will be created by Mr Radice with costumes by Artie winning costume designer Joyce Stilson.

Schedule

April 20-May 13, 2017
Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM.

Ticket Prices

\$25/general admission; \$13/students.

Ticket Availability:

Online at alleyway.com or at the box office beginning 30 minutes before each performance. *Pay-What-You-Can* performance on Thursday April 27 is on a rush basis only. Group rates available. Alleyway Theatre Box Office: 716-852-2600 x0.

Rated

Suitable for adults and teens.