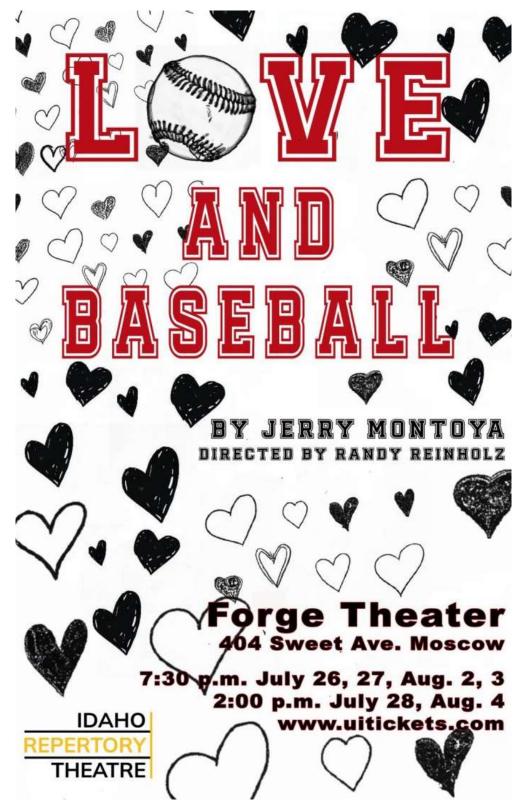


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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Love and Baseball" is a touching story, with lots of laughs and a rollercoaster of emotions. It's filled with "cliffhangers." Like both love and baseball, it shows us the seconds and inches that separate another day on the field from lasting glory.

The two characters, Michele and Will are so close to perfection together. During the action we watch possibility become power, building to moments of truth. What will they do? The results



fuel us with passion. We question our own life's love events and wonder what if I had made a different choice, where might we be? As you watch the performance, I hope you feel the ephemeral beauty that opens a window into the soul.

As in love, your heart will beat faster. We strive to bring you moments of wonder that allow us all to breathe together, to reveal how we might better navigate our own hopes for wonder and beauty.

The University of Idaho should be very proud of these two performers who are both alumni of the Department of Theatre Arts. They are soulful, kind and so funny. The creative team and the staff at the Department of Theatre Arts have been a dream to work with.

Please enjoy the beauty of "Love and Baseball."

#### - Randy Reinholz

Director of "Love and Baseball"

# **COMING NEXT...** 2 shows on August 3!



#### **BIOGRAPHIES** CONTINUED



Randy Reinholz (Director), an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is Founding Artistic Director Emeritus of Native Voices at the Autry, the nation's premier Equity theater company dedicated exclusively to developing and producing new plays by Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and First Nations, playwrights. Reinholz is an accomplished theatre producer, director, playwright, actor, and activist. His play Off The Rails, directed by Bill Rauch, had its world

premiere and a sold-out run at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He has several new scripts and media projects in development. He has produced more than 35 new scripts and directed over 75 plays in the United States, Australia, Mexico, Great Britain, and Canada. Under his tenure, Native Voices has presented 300 workshops and presentations of Native plays, with artists from more than 100 distinct tribal nations. Reinholz has directed productions at La Jolla Playhouse, Perseverance Theatre, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, New York and Washington D.C., Arena Stage, New York's Public Theater, and the Autry Museum, Los Angeles.

University and institutional directorial credits include 30th International Theatre Institute World Congress, UNESCO Metro Theatre, Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico; Brisbane Library, Brisbane, Australia; American Indian Community House, New York; Native Earth Performing Arts, Toronto, Canada; International Third World Conference, Chicago, IL; The Playwrights' Center Minneapolis, McKnight National Residency Program; Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage, AK; San Diego State University; Theatre Cornell; Illinois State University; Duke University; University of Massachusetts, Amherst; University of Miami, Ohio; Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia; Harlaxton College, Grantham, UK; First Nations House of Learning; University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada; Idyllwild Arts, Idyllwild California; The Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK; The Cherokee Casino, Cherokee, NC; and The Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, Reinholz is a tenured Professor at San Diego State University, where he also served as Director of the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, Reinholz served as a Council Member (Board of Directors), for The Dramatist Guild of America, 2019-2020.

He has also appeared as an actor on many stages across the country as well as on NBC, ABC, and CBS Television.





# LOVE AND BASEBALL BY JERRY MONTOYA

## **CAST**

Michele	EMMA BLONDA
Will	ANTHONY KIRBY

#### **ARTISTIC TEAM**

Director	RANDY REINHOLZ
Stage Manager	REBA DECKER
Sound & Lighting Designer	RAVEN BOUVIER
Costume Designer	CARSON ROBISON
Props Master & Choreographer	JEREMIAH PRICE
Technical Director & Scenic Designer	MICHAEL BRANDT

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Lane Richins Brett and Nikki Woodland Jean Bruce Scott

#### THEATRE ARTS FACULTY AND STAFF

Robert Caisley, Chair
Michael Brandt
Sarah Campbell
Abigail Coleman
Jesse Dreikosen

Kelly Quinnett
Ginger Sorensen
Alisa Volz
Emeritus:
Fred Chapman

Jess Hirsch Ed Chavez Craig A. Miller Ann Hoste

Dean Panttaja Stephanie Miller Monica Pine David Lee-Painter

Kate Powers Forrest Sears

## **BIOGRAPHIES**



Emma Blonda (Michele) is a recent graduate of the University of Idaho Theatre Arts
Department, receiving both her BFA in Theatre
Performance and BS Ed in Secondary
Education. Most recently, she was seen in
Shakespeare's Measure for Measure, where she played Isabel. Other credits include Fraulein
Kost in Cabaret, Rapunzel in Into the Woods, and Charlotte Corday in The Revolutionists. She is thrilled to make her professional debut with such a wonderful group of people. She

especially wants to thank her father Simon and brother Luke for their unending love and support, and to everyone over the years who has encouraged her to breathe, embrace the shakiness, have grace, and enjoy the ride.



Anthony Kirby (Will) graduated from the University of Idaho in Fall 2022 with a BFA in Theatre Performance. He starred on the Hartung stage as Cliff in Cabaret, Jack in Into the Woods, Angelo in Measure for Measure, and other productions during his time. Love & Baseball will be his final show in Idaho before he moves out east to pursue acting. He wants to thank Kelly, David, and everyone else who has supported him in his journey.



Reba Decker (Stage Manager) was born in Oklahoma and moved to the small town of Hope, Idaho. This is her second time Stage Managing, with her first being *Go Dog Go* in the past U of I theatre season. She is excited to have you all here and she thanks you for your support of the cast and crew!