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News Release

Rough Magic Productions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TO: ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT WRITERS

ROUGH MAGIC PRESENTS *THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH*

Lincoln theatre company, Rough Magic, presents the original work, *The Epic of Gilgamesh, As Told by Mr. George Smith, Associate Curator of the British Museum (Deceased)*, to be performed at the Loft at the Mill August 9th-11th and 15th-19th.

Gilgamesh is the tale of the epic hero of the same name who is, mathematically and genetically improbable though it may be, two-thirds god. The play spans thousands of years as it follows the parallel journey between Gilgamesh and the Victorian, George Smith, who discovered and translated the tablets bearing his story. Weaving these tales together is a mix of the fabulous and the mundane: giant scorpions, mythical monsters, inconsolable and disgruntled gods, ancient Sumerians, and reserved Victorians played with pith, humor, and humanity by a twelve member ensemble.

The script was written by Rough Magic founder, recently relocated to Chicago, Greg Peters. Peters states the idea for the script was born after reading a summary of the epic of Gilgamesh. Then, once he came across the corresponding story of George Smith, "the play was inevitable after that, there was no getting around it." Peters continues, "The piece's style and structure are due in large part to Jack [Carpenter, director]. Our experience together, the fact that I was writing it for him to direct, and his feedback through the work-shopping process had an enormous and beneficial influence on the final result. Approaching writing as a director, I'm always trying to pre-stage things, which puts limits on what you write. But it's easy to forget that when you're given impossible things to stage, a good director always finds a compelling way to represent it".

Come see this talented ensemble stage the impossible. Cast members include Jeremy Kendall, Sean Schmeits, Will Heafer, Joel Story, Amy Jirsa, Julie Kinkennon, Ben Tibbles, Clay Stevens, Darrin Hemmer, Dave Owens, Eric Gaetz, and Rachael Miller, directed by Jack Carpenter. *Gilgamesh* runs at 7:30 August 9th-11th, with a 10:30 show on the 10th and again at 7:30, August 15th-18th, with a 2:00 show on the 19th. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students. Reservations and information are available by calling (402) 617-9814 or by emailing info@roughmagicproductions.org.

For more information, contact:

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