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contact: Dan Via, publicity@sonofsemele.org

Son of Semele Ensemble presents *Incognito* by Nick Payne, March 16 - April 7, 2019

What makes us us?

(LOS ANGELES - February 21, 2019) Son of Semele Ensemble announces its upcoming production of *Incognito* by Nick Payne, to be performed at the Son of Semele Theater from March 16 to April 7, 2019. Partly inspired by true events, Payne's inventive, time-traveling play explores the ever-mysterious link between the physical organ we call the brain and the intangible identities we call "ourselves."

Incognito weaves together three personal narratives to get at the heart of the mind: The first riffs on the strange-but-true tale of the American pathologist who abducted Einstein's brain, hoping to unlock the secret of his genius. The second, also based on fact, tracks the celebrated case of a man unable to form new memories following a failed operation. Finally, there is the story of a freshly divorced neuropsychologist struggling to find hope in the face of cold hard facts. A cast of four actors plays a total of 21 characters; in its review of the Manhattan Theater Club's production, *The New York Times* wrote, "It feels right that so few should incarnate so many, since one of Mr. Payne's implicit points here is that we're all siblings under the skull. That philosophy means you're likely to identify with every one of these characters, all groping for certain knowledge and all destined to be thwarted."

WHAT: *Incognito* by Nick Payne, produced by Son of Semele Ensemble

WHERE: Son of Semele Theatre, 3301 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles 90004. There is limited street parking in the neighborhood. Patrons presenting a taxi, Lyft or Uber receipt receive a complimentary beverage.

WHEN: March 16 - April 7, 2019; performances Fridays & Saturdays @ 8pm, Sundays @ 5pm and Tuesdays @ 7pm

TICKETS: \$25 general admission, \$20 for patrons 25 and under. Limited pay-what-you-can tickets are available for performances through March 24 (suggested \$10 minimum donation). Tickets may be purchased online at sonofsemele.org; the Son of Semele Box office opens 30 minutes prior to each performance.

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Nick Payne is a playwright and screenwriter who won the prestigious George Devine Award in 2009 with his play *If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet*. His play *Constellations* opened at the London's Royal Court Upstairs in 2012 before transferring to the West End; it later received a critically praised Broadway production. Payne's debut television series, *Wanderlust*, appears on Netflix.

Son of Semele Ensemble's production of *Incognito* is directed by company member Don Boughton and features Debba Rofheart, Sarah Rosenberg, Dan Via and Alex Wells, all also company members. The production team includes Brandon Baruch (lighting), James Ferrero (sound), Mark Kanieff (set) and Alicia Matz (costumes). Edward Khris Fernandez is the stage manager, assisted by Priscilla Kwong.

NOTE: Son of Semele now makes available three on-site parking spaces which may be reserved in advance on a first-come-first-served basis by e-mailing publicity@sonofsemele.org

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ABOUT SON OF SEMELE ENSEMBLE: Son of Semele Ensemble is a Los Angeles-based ensemble theatre company comprised of actors, directors, designers, dramaturgs and producers. In its 18-year history, Son of Semele Ensemble productions have been honored with two LA Stage Alliance Ovation Awards (nine nominations), five LA Weekly Theatre Awards (eleven nominations), four Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards, two SAGE Awards, and an NAACP Theatre Award (four nominations), as well as seven Stage Raw Award nominations.

SON OF SEMELE ENSEMBLE MISSION: We believe the impact of a theatrical experience should resonate beyond the theater door. As an ensemble of artists, we integrate complex design and performance, producing theatre that embraces the friction between emotion and intellect. Through a process of discovery, collaboration and creative risk-taking, we illuminate and amplify universal questions. To that end, we make an earnest commitment to the artistic sustainability of the greater community.

SON OF SEMELE

3301 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90004

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