

**Award-winning theatre company
Son of Semele Ensemble
presents
4.48 Psychosis by Sarah Kane**

PLAYWRIGHT PENS BRILLIANT SUICIDE NOTE
An epic and vivid portrait of mental illness

October 12 - November 3, 2019

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LOS ANGELES (August 16, 2019) — Son of Semele Ensemble announces its upcoming production of *4.48 Psychosis* by Sarah Kane, to be produced on the twentieth anniversary of the playwright's suicide. Presented at Son of Semele Theater from October 12 - November 3, 2019, this production will feature the harrowing journey of a small ensemble cast through one woman's troubled mind.

Kane is known for her poetic and intense plays which challenge traditional forms. *4.48 Psychosis* was written in the autumn and winter of 1998-99 as Kane herself battled one of her recurrent bouts of depression. It is the last play she wrote before her suicide in 1999.

4.48 Psychosis appears on the page as a poem, with no prescribed characters, actions or settings. Deeply layered, this stream-of-consciousness view into a psychotic mind is both mysterious and crystalline, and explores with raw authenticity the complexities of mental illness. Son of Semele Ensemble's production of this beautiful and haunting play is a powerful celebration of Kane's contribution to contemporary, boundary-pushing theater, and an exploration of an often-misunderstood subject.

WHAT: *4.48 Psychosis* by Sarah Kane, produced by Son of Semele Ensemble, directed by Artistic Director Matthew McCray

WHERE: Son of Semele Theater, 3301 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles 90004. There is limited street parking in the surrounding neighborhood.

Patrons presenting a taxi, Lyft or Uber receipt receive a complimentary beverage.

WHEN: October 12 – November 3, 2019; performances Fridays & Saturdays @ 8pm, Sundays @ 5pm and Tuesdays @ 7pm

TICKETS: \$25 general admission, \$20 for patrons 25 years old and under. Limited pay-what-you-can tickets are available for performances through October 20 (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.

PRESS: Limited reserved parking is available, if requested in advance.

Sarah Kane was a British playwright who studied drama at Bristol University and University of Birmingham. With ferocious poetry and loving abandon, her plays starkly confront death, sex, violence and mental illness. Although she struggled with intense manic depression for many years, she continued to work, serving as writer-in-residence for both Paines Plough and the Royal Court Theatre.

Son of Semele Ensemble's production will be directed by Founding Artistic Director Matthew McCray and will feature performances by Melina Bielefelt, Ron Bottitta, Taylor Hawthorne, Dylan Jones, Jinny Ryann and Betsy Zajko. The production team includes David Offner (set), Matt Richter (lighting), Daniel Gower (sound) and Corwin Evans (video).

NOTE TO REVIEWERS: 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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