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by Winnie McCroy
EDGE Editor
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New York Drama Desk nominee Jonathan Rockefeller debuts the world premiere of his brand new tribute show, "That Golden Girls Show! - A Puppet Parody." His love of the iconic show spurred him to create this puppet homage.

"I grew up with 'The Golden Girls,' and really enjoyed their wit and humor," Rockefeller told EDGE. "What makes it so special is that it delivers humor and issues with a big pile of love and laughter."

Set in that sassy Miami house in 1985, "That Golden Girls Show!" is a brand new show that parodies classic Golden Girls moments -- with puppets! Get set for an evening of cheesecake, laughter, jazzercise, shoulder pads, sex, and the elegant art of the quick-witted put down.



(Source:Russ Rowland)

"This is almost like the megamix of the entire seven seasons spliced together," said Rockefeller. "You'll see all the familiar situations, costumes, and scenarios, all within a new context. We are parodying the whole thing, rather than presenting specific episodes. You'll see Henny Penny, Little Sven; a deep look at the entirety of footprints of what 'The Golden Girls' has left in the hearts and minds of viewers."

You'll see Sophia's get-rich-quick schemes, Rose's tales from St. Olaf, Blanche's insatiable hunt for men and the Fountain of Youth, and Dorothy's daily struggle to make sense of her life, manage her roommates all the while fending off a certain,

pesky ex-husband, once and for all. Devoted fans will fondly remember our four girls from Miami, and for the first-timers, this will be a joyful introduction to the brilliance of that television series.



(Source:Russ Rowland)

"That it is a parody allows us to be a little more heightened, silly, and humorous, and being able to use puppets means we're not dressing up someone as Betty White or Bea Arthur," said Rockefeller. "This way, everyone projects their memories into these puppets, rather than someone who may be doing a poor portrayal of an amazing actress."

Rockefeller said that for him, watching "The Golden Girls" brought up fond memories of making cheesecake with his grandmother -- a recipe he still uses to this day! He loves how the four characters would sit around the kitchen table making jokes at each other's expense, with everything eventually

resolved, leaving a wonderful message in its wake.

Rockefeller brings the positive messages he learned in his youth to other youngsters in projects like his production of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show," based on the much beloved children's book by Eric Carle.

This production earned a Drama Desk and an Off Broadway Alliance nomination and still plays to sold-out houses in NYC. The original production of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show" debuted to a sell-out season at the Sydney Festival January 2015, and will continue to tour Australia and New Zealand through 2017.



(Source: Russ Rowland)

Prior to his work with Eric Carle, Rockefeller co-wrote and produced the puppet-parody "Thank You for Being a Friend," which has been licensed for further productions worldwide.

In addition to his Golden Girls-themed shows, Rockefeller said that he is currently working on another children's show, the UK production of "Elmer the Patchwork Elephant," as well as a couple of other shows for grown-ups.

"I love that we can entertain so many children, but at the same time, it's good to have a bit of naughty humor for the parents," said Rockefeller with a laugh.

For now, count yourself among the lucky and head to Union Square to catch Rockefeller's hilarious puppet parody, before all the cheesecake is gone!

"That Golden Girls Show! - A Puppet Parody" runs through December 11 at DR2 Theatre, 103 East 15th Street in New York City. Tickets \$69-99. For information or tickets, call 800-982-2787 or visit Ticketmaster.com

"That Golden Girls Show!" Recreates Opening of Ic...



Winnie McCroy is the Women on the EDGE Editor, HIV/Health Editor, and Assistant Entertainment Editor for EDGE Media Network, handling all women's news, HIV health stories and theater reviews throughout the U.S. She has contributed to other publications, including The Village Voice, Gay City News, Chelsea Now and The Advocate, and lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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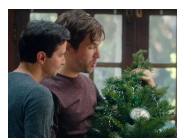
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