

Stupid Kid Interviews



*The Road Theatre on Magnolia is proud to present a world premiere play by Sharr White entitled **Stupid Kid**. After 14 years in prison for a crime he swears he didn't commit, Chick returns home to find his flat-broke family under the thumb of his dangerous Unclemike. A rollicking Gothic Western tale of a family isolated by shame, **Stupid Kid** explores power, guilt and the limits of maternal love. The play will begin previews on Saturday, September 16 at 8pm and officially opens on Friday, September 22 at 8pm running through Sunday, November 12 at the Road Theatre on Magnolia.*

*Each week we will spotlight members of the cast and /or creative team. This week we take pride in placing actor **Rob Nagle** centerstage.*

What character do you play in Stupid Kid?

I play Unclemike in *Stupid Kid*.

How does that character contribute to the message of the play?

I think Unclemike represents the possibilities of redemption and rehabilitation, helping his sister's family get back on their feet after the lengthy incarceration of their son.

How are you preparing as an actor to portray your character?

I'm exploring the nooks & crannies of this story with my director and my fellow actors. There are lots of possibilities in the playing of the play, and so the rehearsal process lends itself to the excitement of discovery.

Tell us about working with your director and fellow cast members.

This is a terrific team! Wonderful actors and wonderful human beings all. And we have the steady, nurturing hand of Cameron Watson at the helm. I've worked with Cam as an artistic director several times at the Antaeus Theatre Company, but this actor-director relationship with him is thrilling for me. And with Sharr's (White) strong & evocative writing, I'm happy as can be. I'm also excited to be back working at the Road, after performing with them in the world premiere of Ann Noble's *Sidhe* back in 2010.

What do you hope audiences will take away from seeing the play?

I hope audiences will walk away both entertained & moved by this play — and be reminded that being part of any family is hard. Families can be our strength, and they can also be our weakness. And they take work. A whole lot of work.