

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 officially opened Friday, September 22 and is 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 actress/founder/co-Artistic Director **Taylor Gilbert** in the spotlight.*

What character do you play in Stupid Kid?

I am playing the character of Gigi, Stupid Kid's mother.

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

Gigi is a complicated character, yet very simple to understand at a base level. Her entire world has been rocked by one horrible incident and her trust in people "All People" has been irrevocably altered. She takes a journey through doubt and despair and eventually gains a clarity she had not had the courage or strength to even entertain until almost too late. Love is very difficult to maintain, but life without it is unbearable.

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

This is truly a character I have never worked on before. Her depth of isolation from society is so overwhelming that I personally had to remove myself from most social interaction, during the rehearsal process to try to understand her pain-filled loneliness.

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

The cast is truly special, very open, collaborative and uber talented. I had only worked with one member of this cast previously, yet it felt like we had all worked together for years. Working with Cameron has been terrific. As a director he generously allows you to explore and find your way. The kind of director that makes you feel safe even in the most difficult exploration of one's character. As for Sharr White, well it's really exciting to work with such an incredible talent. So very pleased that he agreed to have The Road produce this important piece. I am truly personally grateful.

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

Obviously I hope the audience is thoroughly engaged and entertained. Most of all, I hope they find themselves captivated by this very unusual piece of work and that it will inspire further conversation.