

**For Immediate Release**

**Stage Left Theatre Company** • 111 N. Wabash Ave, Suite 2005, Chicago, IL 60602  
773.883.8830 • [stagelefttheatre.com](http://stagelefttheatre.com)  
**Press Contact: David Heimann, 773-255-2773, [press@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:press@stagelefttheatre.com)**



Stage Left Theatre presents the virtual live performance of the play

# Open

*written by Crystal Skillman*

November 5 – 21, 2021

Chicago, November 1, 2021 – Stage Left Theatre announces their upcoming online production of ***Open***, *written by Crystal Skillman*, and directed by **Bobbi Masters** in her Stage Left debut as both Artistic Director and Director. Performances of ***Open*** will be live, not pre-recorded\*, capturing the excitement and interactivity of an onstage show in an online performance. Press opening is Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pmCT via Broadway On Demand. The show runs through November 21, 2021

## THE PLAY

**OPEN** is a magic act that reveals itself to be a resurrection. A woman called the Magician presents a myriad of tricks for our entertainment, yet her performance seems to be attempting the impossible—to save the life of her partner, Jenny. But is our faith in her illusions enough to rewrite the past? The clock is ticking, the show must go on, and, as impossible as it may seem, this Magician’s act may be our last hope against a world filled with intolerance and hate.

Director Bobbi Masters says, “I couldn’t be more pleased to bring this play to life for Stage Left Theatre. I have assembled a great team of artists and we’re all very excited to honor the play’s powerful theatrical presence through a new medium.”

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Page 1

## TICKETS, DATES & INFORMATION

**Open** runs over three weeks with nine performances (times are all Central Time):

Friday November 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pmCT

Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pmCT

Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pmCT

Friday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pmCT

Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pmCT

Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pmCT

Friday November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pmCT

Saturday November 20<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pmCT

Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pmCT

Tickets are Pay-What-You-Can (suggested value \$15) and are available online through the Stage Left website [www.stagelefttheatre.com](http://www.stagelefttheatre.com) For questions or assistance, email [tix@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:tix@stagelefttheatre.com) or call 773-255-2773.

Media comps, photos, videos and interviews are available by contacting David Heimann, 773-255-2773 or [press@stagelefttheatre.com](mailto:press@stagelefttheatre.com). Hi-res photos, this release and archived releases and photos are available at <https://www.stagelefttheatre.com/press-room> .

Cast: *The Magician* - Dylesa Richards  
Understudy - Sammie Jo Johnson

Creatives:

Directed by Bobbi Masters

Assistant Direction by Kyle Aschbrenner

Assistant Direction by Jazmine Mazique

Magic Design by T Daniel Productions

Sound Design by Willow James

Costume Design by Nicole Clockel

Lighting Design by Eric Cope

Streaming Design by David Heimann

Casting by Caleb Jenkins and Christopher Wayland

## THE PEOPLE

**Crystal Skillman** (*Playwright*) is an award winning writer who creates darkly funny, high-concept work with heart and edge. As a playwright she is a four time NYT Critics' Pick, as well as an award-winner as a

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Page 2

bookwriter for the musical MARY AND MAX (with composer Bobby Cronin ), and her comic book credits include work for Marvel and “Adventure Time”. A passionate believer in art and activism, Crystal is the author of the play RAIN AND ZOE SAVE THE WORLD, a coming of age story of two teenage climate activists, which has been optioned for a premiere next year and political thriller PULP VÉRITÉ (The Kilroys) presented earlier this year at the Playwrights’ Center in the Ruth Easton New Play Series

**Bobbi Masters** (*Artistic Director/ Director*), has directed plays at theaters around the nation such as No Strings Theatre Company in Las Cruces, NM (THE BALD SOPRANO) and Kitchen Dog Theatre in Dallas, TX (HAPPY DAYS), where she also served as an artistic associate. Her New York Off-Off Broadway credits include work with EBE Ensemble, Iron Jaw Productions, Theatre Rats, and Theatre for the New City. She also previously served as Resident Director at Coffee Black Productions in New York City, where she worked extensively on new plays and served in various capacities as an Artistic Associate at Milk Can Theatre in New York City. She also teaches at City Colleges of Chicago.

**Delysa Richards** is an actress and director and member of The Agency Collective. She has performed in various stage plays and has a number of recognition and accolades for her work. She wrote and directed a one-woman scene entitled Street Wise for The Agency Basement Series and has performed in Hellcab with the Agency Theatre. Delysa has guest starred for the OFF The Cuff Improv Radio Play podcast and REA Radio.

#### **ABOUT STAGE LEFT**

Founded in 1982, Stage Left Theatre is committed to developing and producing plays that raise the level of debate and challenge perspectives on political and social issues. Through a full mainstage season and our new play development program Downstage Left, Stage Left strives to ask provocative social and political questions by producing a mix of new works, regional premieres and timeless classics.

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