



OpenStage Theatre & Company
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OpenStage Theatre Tackles Parenthood and Gives Back to Community
“Cry It Out” to Kickstart 49th Season at the New OBC Wine Project

FORT COLLINS – OpenStage Theatre & Company presents “Cry It Out” by Molly Smith Metzler, Directed by Bryn Frisina. The first show in the 49th Season takes on the bonds of female friendship, the tough choices women face as mothers and how social and economic status affect both in America.

Dirty diapers, breast pumps and 2 a.m. feedings, are enough to give anyone sleepless nights... Not to mention the need for a strong cup of coffee. Molly Smith Metzler (Shameless, Orange is the New Black) holds both a microscope and a megaphone to the joys and perils that today's mothers face. This comedy-with-dark-edges takes a sharp and honest look at the power of female friendship, the dilemma of going back to work after being home with a newborn and the effect that economic and social class has on parenthood in America.

Cry It Out is a part of OpenStage's *etcetera Season*, meaning it will offer raw, real, honest theatre in an intimate space. With a small cast of four characters, the story explores the lives of three new mothers (and one father) doing their best to navigate the trials of unreliable childcare, sleep deprivation, and “having it all.”

A portion of profits from ticket sales will benefit Project Self-Sufficiency of Fort Collins-Loveland. Project Self-Sufficiency partners with single parents on their journey to achieve a rewarding education and develop a career that matters. Their goal is for the parents to tap into their **selfpower** - the power and confidence that comes deep within the human spirit - and see it, believe it, and achieve it. OBC Wine Project by Odell Brewing is hosting a pre-show with Project Self-Sufficiency throughout performances to provide more information about the organization.

Director Bryn Frisina said, “Being a parent is not easy regardless of your circumstances. Whether you have kids or not, watching our incredible cast portray the communal struggles and absurdities of new parenthood is sure to make you laugh! It will also make you think. Through the lens of class differences, *Cry It Out* examines the unique challenges that new mothers (and fathers) often face in this country. We can't wait to have an audience for this hilarious, relatable,

and timely play. On top of that, we hope the option to enjoy a glass of wine in a perfect venue for this show will only sweeten the deal!”

This production takes place at a new venue for OpenStage, outside at Odell’s new OBC Wine Project in Fort Collins. The winery and taproom is located at 824 E. Lincoln Ave. next door to Odell Brewing’s Fort Collins brewery.

This play contains adult language and mature topics - including substance abuse. All decisions on student attendance are left to the discretion of the parent(s).

“Cry It Out” will open OpenStage’s 49th season and is playing September 3 – September 18, 2021. All performances start at 8:30pm. Special performances include: September 2, free for students and educators; and September 9, Pay-What-You-Can.

Tickets for “Cry It Out” are \$22 for general admission. Guests are also encouraged to add an OBC pre-packaged charcuterie box to their ticket purchase for an additional cost. Tickets are available online at www.openstagecryitout.com or by calling the Lincoln Center Box Office at 970-221-6730. The box office is open 12pm-6pm Tuesday-Saturday.

OpenStage Theatre’s Season Sponsors are KRFC, John & Anne Blair, Odell Brewing Company, Avogadro’s Number, FoCo Food Trucks and Brys Scotland. Grant support is provided by Downtown Development Authority, City of Fort Collins Fort Fund, Colorado Creative Industries, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Performance Dates

Thursday @ 8:30pm: September 2 (Student/Educator), September 9 (Pay What You Can)

Friday @ 8:30pm: September 3 (Opening night), September 10, September 17

Saturday @ 8:30pm: September 4, September 11, September 18

Sunday @ 8:30pm: September 12

Cast

Jessie	Briana Sprecher-Kinneer
Lina	Ariel Greenspoon
Mitchell	Steven Fox
Adrienne	Tabitha Tyree

Creative and Production Team

Director	Bryn Frisina
Assistant Director / Stage Manager	Victoria Villalobos
Scenic Designer / Properties Designer	Michael Gorgan
Sound Designer	Victoria Villalobos
Sound Engineer	Grant Putney
Lighting Designer	David Grinnell
Production Manager	Sydney Parks Smith