



BoHo Theatre
P.O. Box 409267,
Chicago, IL 60640
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www.BoHoTheatre.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BOHO THEATRE'S HIT "UN-HOLIDAY" HOLIDAY ROCK MUSICAL *STRIKING 12* IS BACK FOR ANOTHER SEASON

CHICAGO— BoHo Theatre's hit holiday musical *Striking 12* returns to the Heartland Studio in Rogers Park for another year of toe-tapping cheer. From the funk-rock trio GrooveLily and Rachel Sheinkin, the Tony-awarding winning writer of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Striking 12* is an inventive concert/musical that is the perfect way to spend a cold winter night in Chicago this holiday season. Intimately staged by director Lara Filip at **the Heartland Studio at 7016 N Glenwood Avenue** from December 1st through January 1st, the production features performers Matt Deitchman, Jed Feder, Mallory Nees, and Amy Steele.

Striking 12 is "a cross between a rock concert and a holiday show for people who don't like holiday shows." Featuring four talented actor/musicians, *Striking 12* is the story of a grumpy, recently-single guy who stays at home on New Year's Eve, until a chance encounter with a door-to-door light bulb salesgirl inspires him to read Hans Christian Anderson's "The Little Match Girl." This story and his chance encounter with the modern match girl changes his life and view of the holidays. Frank Sheck of *The New York Post* described *Striking 12* as "a holiday show that has more heart and fun than most of the manufactured entertainments competing for your consumer dollars." Charles Isherwood of *The New York Times* praised the show as "touching and poignant while at the same time lighthearted and funny."

This musical experience is an uplifting combination of art, performance, and celebration that embodies the four BoHo pillars of Truth, Beauty, Freedom, and Love in equal parts. Thanks to overwhelming response from our audiences at last year's production of *Striking 12*, BoHo is bringing the show back as an annual non-mainstage holiday production. Last year *Chicago Tribune* theater critic Chris Jones called BoHo's *Striking 12* "a match for those who hate holiday musicals... this is a score with tunes that float around the room and lyrics that are able to get inside your head."

LISTING INFORMATION

Striking 12

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Brendan Milburn, Rachel Sheinkin, and Valerie Vigoda

Directed by Lara Filip

Produced by Peter Blair

Scenic and Lighting Design by Sally Weiss

Performers:

Matt Deitchman (keyboard), Jed Feder (percussion), Mallory Nees (guitar, bass, squeezebox), Amy Steele (violin)

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December 1, 2010 – January 1, 2011

Thursdays - Saturdays at 8:00pm; Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

Note: there are no performances on December 24th or 25th

Heartland Studio

7016 N Glenwood Ave, Chicago

For tickets, call Ovation Tix at 866-811-4111 or visit www.bohotheatre.com

Tickets on sale now!

Ticket price: \$15

SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT

Ring in the new year with BoHo Theatre! On New Year's Eve, BoHo will present a special holiday performance of *Striking 12* featuring a post-show party. Join the performers and crew of *Striking 12* onstage along with BoHo company members for a complimentary champagne toast to kick off 2012 in style.

This special performance is at 8:00pm on December 31st. Tickets are \$30.

BIOS

Brendan Milburn (Co-Author - Book, Music and Lyrics) graduated from Pomona College and NYU's MFA program in Musical Theatre Writing. He does a lot of arranging for GrooveLily, and he's an accomplished record producer as well. Brendan's music and/or lyrics have been/will be featured in a growing number of off/on-Broadway shows, and he's always on the lookout for new projects/productions which will add more slashes ("/") to his bio/credits. Along with his wife and longtime collaborator Valerie Vigoda, Brendan is a 2009 winner of the ASCAP Foundation Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, as well as a two-time winner of the Jonathan Larson Award for Excellence in Writing for the Theatre.

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Valerie Vigoda (Co-Author - Book, Music and Lyrics) is the founding member of the band GrooveLily. Originally from McLean, VA, Valerie is a classically-trained musician, honors graduate of Princeton University, and former Army lieutenant. She has toured the world with Cyndi Lauper (opening for Tina Turner and Cher), Joe Jackson and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Along with her husband and longtime collaborator Brendan Milburn, Valerie is a 2009 winner of the ASCAP Foundation Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, as well as a two-time winner of the Jonathan Larson Award for Excellence in Writing for the Theatre.

Rachel Sheinkin (Co-Author - Book and Lyrics) won the 2005 Tony Award for Best Book for a Musical for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Other plays include *Blood Drive* (O'Neill National Music Theatre Conference) and *Serenda* (Baryshnikov Arts Center). She has been a Manhattan Theatre Club playwriting fellow and is currently an adjunct faculty member at NYU's Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program.

Lara Filip (Director) previously adapted and directed BoHo Theatre's production of Sophocles' *Electra*. Other directing credits include projects for Theatre-Hikes, Ouroboros Theatre Company (where she was the founding Artistic Director), Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, Theatre Building Chicago, The Morton Arboretum and many independent new musical workshops. Lara is also a playwright, actor and singer/songwriter. She has performed onstage at The Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane, The Royal George, Ravinia Music Festival, Porchlight Music Theatre (where she is also an Artistic Associate), and in several National tours. Her band Birdie Wing is currently recording its debut album.

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BoHo Theatre structures each of its seasons around the four pillars of Bohemian philosophy: Truth, Beauty, Freedom, and Love. BoHo's 2011/2012 mainstage season features *Pippin* by Stephen Schwartz and Roger O. Hirson, *Tartuffe* by Moliere in a translation by Ranjit Bolt, *The Rainmaker* by N. Richard Nash, and *Floyd Collins* by Adam Guettel and Tina Landau.

BoHo Theatre seeks to challenge convention through literary originality and eclectic expression while fostering an ever-evolving artistic environment in which people are inspired to learn, think, dream, and feel; to teach others and ourselves how to expand, create, and present art through theatre while reveling not only in the process, but also in the journey.