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Hi-res images available upon request.

Veteran actor Tim McDonough presents ‘a bunch of different ways i’d like to die’

ATLANTA—Suzi Bass Award-winning actor Tim McDonough presents his solo performance, “[a bunch of different ways i’d like to die](#),” a dead serious comedy about mortality in which McDonough meditates on his life and ever approaching death. Performances are **Feb. 28 through Mar. 3, 2019** and take place at Atlanta’s Synchronicity Theatre.

“Yes, the end of life is inevitable and inescapable, but this show is something I can do about my mortality,” explains McDonough. “It’s a space in which I can wonder and grieve and laugh about the hard-to-grasp fact that one day I will no longer exist.”

It is fitting that McDonough, who recently retired from Emory University’s Theater Studies department, has chosen to rehearse his death on the stage. Beyond his work as an educator, McDonough’s career performing, directing, and writing for the theater spans decades.

“I’ve lived much the best part of my life onstage, in imaginary circumstances, dealing with fictional characters and events,” says McDonough. “I’ve realized that I’d much prefer to die in my imagination than in reality, and that’s one rationale for this performance.

“As an actor, I depend on scripts. Developing this monologue has been a way of giving myself a script—many scripts—for dying. I can have some control over death if I prepare to die well.”

Although the show focuses on death, “a bunch of different ways i’d like to die” is, at its heart, a life-affirming comedy. “I’ve found the work to be inspiring and energizing—a lively process that’s helped me make more sense of the rest of my life,” says McDonough. “It’s made me more mindful, and hungry to live honestly and passionately and urgently.”

The show in no way signals the death of McDonough’s theatrical career. On the contrary, it is the first in a series of monologues the veteran playwright plans to share with the world. “This spring I’ll be reading a second monologue about mortality, and there are several others in the works,” explains McDonough, “as well as performances about performing and a script for a solo “King Lear.”

Performances of “a bunch of different ways i’d like to die” take place Feb. 28 through Mar. 2 at 8 p.m. and Mar. 3 at 2 p.m. at Synchronicity Theatre. [Tickets are on sale now](#) and are \$15; \$10 for students and artists. For more information on this and other projects, visit TimMcDonough.net.

Artist Bio

Tim McDonough began his acting career in Boston's small theaters, where he collaborated on the development of many new works. In 1980 he co-founded Theater Works, for which he performed, directed and wrote. In 1982 the Boston Theater Critics Circle named him Best Actor,

and in 1983 he received a New England Theater Conference Citation for Career Contributions. Regional theater appearances include the American Repertory Theatre, Trinity Square Repertory, the Sacramento Theater Company and Shakespeare festivals in California and Idaho. In Atlanta he has acted at the Alliance, Theater in the Square, Horizon Theater, and Theater Gael. He was an Associate Artist at Georgia Shakespeare. In 1998 Creative Loafing named him Critics Choice for Best Actor. He received the 2009 Suzi Bass Award for Outstanding Featured Actor; in 2010 he was nominated for Best Lead Actor. He has taught acting at Emory University since 1990, where he received several teaching awards, and has served as Chair of Theater and Dance and as Artistic Director of Theater Emory, where he acted, directed, and created adaptations and original plays. He is the author of "Acting Narrative Speeches: The Actor as Storyteller." He has been happily married for over 25 years to another actor, director, and teacher, Janice Akers, with whom he has collaborated on many productions.