



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blindspot Collective to Premiere *Lit*: A Virtual Musical for Families

- Puppetry brings girl's courageous journey to life for intergenerational audiences
- Cast of six helped to shape the script and music through devised process
- Workshops available for schools and groups to provide learning beyond the show

San Diego, CA -- [Blindspot Collective](#), a local theater company that produces radically inclusive programming at the intersection of advocacy, education, and entertainment, is proud to present [the world premiere of *Lit*](#). Commissioned by California Center for the Arts in Escondido, *Lit* tells an original story about a young girl whose world has been plunged into eternal darkness.

Populated by pirates, sea monsters, and mysterious strangers who could be friend or foe, *Lit* reveals the ways in which courage, compassion, and creativity connect us all. Inspired by multicultural folklore, this new musical mixes sea shanties and shadow puppets to bring audiences along for the journey. *Lit* was designed for elementary students in grades 2-5, but will be enjoyable for the whole family.

"I hope everyone who watches *Lit* will realize the power they have to create light and find their inner courage to battle the monsters in their own lives," says director Desha Crownover. "And I hope they discover how fun and magical theatre can be with just a lightbulb and a bedsheet."

BEHIND THE SCENES

Created by Blindspot Collective co-founder Blake McCarty and based on a story by Desha Crownover, *Lit* was developed through Blindspot Collective's first-ever devised process for a new musical. In addition to adding their theatrical talents, the cast of six contributed directly to the story, adding their ideas early on in the script and music development process. The actors also comprise the production's band, playing the banjo, mandolin, guitar, electric guitar, autoharp, accordion, and ukelele.

“The connection I formed to the show because I had a hand in devising it from the very beginning was unlike any typical acting experience,” says cast member Dakota Ringer. “Especially during a time that lacked new creation, this was a true bright spot.”

In order to more closely share the onstage experience with virtual audiences, the entire team of artists implemented strict COVID safety protocols to rehearse and film the show in person at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido.

“The pandemic has been a heavy burden to our theatre community,” says cast member Sarah Jane Salonga. “Blindspot Collective was very transparent with our production process following COVID-19 protocols, and finally being on stage was something my soul needed. I hope this beautiful story will touch the hearts of many, and remind us that we can get through anything life throws at us if we work together.”

HOW TO WATCH

Tickets to watch *Lit* are available now for a minimum of \$15 through a “pay what you can” model. *Lit* will begin streaming April 16 and remain available until May 16. Audiences may purchase access in advance and watch at their convenience. Click [here](#) for tickets and more information.

For schools and organizations interested in sharing *Lit*, please contact education@blindspotcollective.org. Blindspot Collective is also offering groups a workshop as a companion to the show to help young audiences explore themes in *Lit* and build on their own creativity.

CREATORS, COLLABORATORS & CAST

- **Book and Lyrics by:** Blake McCarty, Blindspot Collective Co-Founder
- **Music by:** Ian Brandon
- **Directed by:** Desha Crownover
- **Developed and performed by:** Kailey Agpaoa, Morgan Hollingsworth, Joe Kao, Dakota Ringer, Sarah Jane Salonga, & Heather Tjalma Barton
- **Production Manager:** Ajay Pawaan
- **Production Design:** Jacob Sampson
- **Lighting Design:** Michael Barahura

ABOUT BLINDSPOT COLLECTIVE

[Blindspot Collective](#) produces exceptional programming that lies at the intersection of advocacy, education, and entertainment. We believe in radical inclusivity that serves and represents those in our blindspot -- those who may have never been on stage, never seen themselves represented in a production, or never even seen live theatre.

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