

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



SALT LAKE ACTING COMPANY PRESENTS UTAH PREMIERE OF *THE CAKE*, BY WRITER/PRODUCER OF NBC'S *THIS IS US*

Bekah Brunstetter's acclaimed comedy opens at SLAC following runs at San Diego's La Jolla Playhouse, Los Angeles' Geffen Playhouse, and Houston's Alley Theatre

[SALT LAKE CITY, UT, JANUARY 14, 2018] - Salt Lake Acting Company (SLAC), Utah's leading destination for brave, contemporary theatre, presents the Utah premiere of *The Cake* by Bekah Brunstetter. The timely socio-political dramedy opens at SLAC after successful runs throughout the country, and concurrent with a run Off-Broadway at Manhattan Theatre Club.

The premise of *The Cake* regards Della, a woman who is the best baker in her politically red North Carolina town, who is faced with a decision that pits her faith against family. Will she bake a wedding cake for two women – one of whom is as close as a daughter? A refreshing examination of both sides of a passionate debate, *The Cake* has already charmed theatregoers around the country and will soon do the same for SLAC audiences.

In a [July 2018 interview](#), playwright Bekah Brunstetter explained her inspiration for writing *The Cake*. “I see both sides of this issue and couldn't have written the play if I couldn't see both sides. My parents share the same beliefs as this baker, so I can't turn my back on it. And I can't turn off my empathy, so I'm stuck trying to figure out what to do.”

The production also continues SLAC's commitment to bringing cutting-edge new plays, many of which have explored queer issues and how they relate to religion, to Utah audiences. The Utah Pride Center and Flourish Bakery serve as production partners.

“When I first read *The Cake*, I was charmed by its quirky writing and the incredible love I felt for these characters,” said SLAC's Executive Artistic Director Cynthia Fleming. “*This is Us* turned the network family drama format on its head. Bekah's writing in *The Cake* does the same for contemporary stage drama. It's a play with incredible heart, and a successful new work in that it holds a mirror up to an extremely timely issue in a well-balanced manner.” She continues, “When looking for plays for our 48th season, my goal was to find uplifting works that wouldn't leave our audiences feeling isolated in their own viewpoints, and most importantly, to encourage empathy for the world around us.”

THE CAKE runs February 6 through March 10. Tickets can be obtained via tickets.saltlakeactingcompany.org, in person at the SLAC box office, or by calling 801.363.7522.

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WHO

Salt Lake Acting Company

WHAT

THE CAKE

By Bekah Brunstetter

"The Cake" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

TICKETING INFORMATION

February 6 – March 10, 2019

Wednesdays – Saturdays @ 7:30 p.m., Sundays @ 1:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Additional performances: February 16 @ 2pm, February 19 @ 7:30pm, February 26 @ 7:30pm, March 2 @ 2pm.

VENUE INFORMATION

Salt Lake Acting Company – Upstairs Theatre
168 West 500 North, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84103

Box Office: 801-363-7522

Open 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Mon – Fri

www.saltlakeactingcompany.org

PRESS CONTACT

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801.363.7522

ABOUT SALT LAKE ACTING COMPANY

Salt Lake Acting Company (SLAC)'s mission is to engage and enrich community through brave contemporary theatre. Founded in 1970, SLAC is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 professional theatre dedicated to producing, commissioning, and developing new works and to supporting a community of professional artists. SLAC has been nationally recognized by the Shubert Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Edgerton Foundation, among others. SLAC operates under a SPT Actors Equity Association contract and is a Constituent Member of Theatre Communications Group (a national organization for non-profit professional regional theatres), and the National New Play Network (a national alliance of non-profit professional theatres that champions the development, production, and continued life of new plays). For more information, visit saltlakeactingcompany.org.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[THE CAKE Press Kit](#)

Production photos available late January/early February

CAST & CREATIVE

Cast

Della: Betsy West

Tim: Joe Crnich

Jen: Carianne H. Jones

Macy: Latoya Cameron

Director: Justin Ivie

Set Design: Shannon Robert

Costume Design: Spencer Potter

Light Design: Jaron Kent Hermansen

Sound Design: Jessica Greenberg

Assistant Sound Design: Grace Heinz

Assistant Costume Design: Abbie Hagen

Assistant Light Design: Damien Poelman

Intimacy Director: Sarah Shippobotham

Stage Manager: Jennie Sant

PRODUCTION PARTNERS



ABOUT UTAH PRIDE CENTER

Utah Pride unites, empowers and celebrates Utah's diverse LGBTQ+ community by providing a safe and welcoming space for education, partnerships, services and events which advance our collective health, wellness and success. For more information, visit utahpridecenter.org.



ABOUT FLOURISH BAKERY

Flourish Bakery is a supportive community that fosters hope and health, in addition to personal and spiritual growth, while teaching the art and skills of professional baking. Flourish Bakery employs individuals in recovery from substance use disorders as well as those working to reintegrate their lives after incarceration. This employment opportunity, in the Flourish community, assists individuals in the healing process and works to reduce recidivism and relapse through life and job skills training. Flourish provides a community of support, mentorship and friendship, and is a space of life transformation. For more information, visit flourishslc.org.