

# Magic

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The play, written and performed by Schmidman, Megan Terry and Sora Kim, was inspired by a review of old Magic Theatre slides.

"There was a time in the fall of last year when our slide presentation needed to be updated," Schmidman said. "So we had to go back and look at slides of old work. An interesting reoccurring theme for the last 15 years appeared."

That theme, Schmidman said, was self-censorship. The group wanted to show that it is necessary to remain open to new ideas.

"We're interested in self-development; how to remain most open," Schmidman said. "The biggest deterrent is self-censorship; once you realize that, it allows you to become more creative and more open."

Schmidman said people need to learn when it is or isn't proper to censor themselves.

"There are times when it is right to censor yourself. You don't want to hurt people. That's as bad as someone that only says nice things because they think they are expected to."

The play, Schmidman said, takes an intimate look at theater members as people.

"We've all felt the same things; there's a great universality about

people. We hope that audience will respond with incredible recognition, with laughter and surprise and horror. Our aim is to be as honest as possible and avoid self-censorship. We're going to be absolutely honest, and funny as a result of that honesty."

Schmidman said the theater members allowed themselves to become very avant-garde with this piece, realizing that the audience will "get it."

"That's the major direction for us. We've realized that our audience is incredibly bright, and we don't want to tame things down. People think that Midwesterners aren't as sophisticated as those on the East and West coasts; our audiences have proved over and over again that this isn't true."

"Part of what we're about," Schmidman said, "is expanding the notion of what theater is. We're looking for contemporary, vital ways to share ideas with audiences through performances. That's the notion behind the theater. We want to take risks, not to copy an old model of a play."

"There are two rows of seating, and the audience will be involved with the production. If you don't want to be looked at or talked to or give as an audience member, Body Leaks probably won't be a pleasant experience for you."

Performances begin tonight and will continue through May 26. Shows start at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and at 6:30 p.m. on Sundays.

The Magic Theatre will seat 65 people per performance and advanced reservations are recommended.

Adult ticket prices are \$5. Student tickets are \$2 -- "probably one of the best prices in the nation," Schmidman said.

"We want to make theater accessible to anyone. If there is someone that doesn't have the \$2, they can call, explain, and leave an IOU. We're not going to turn anyone away from the theater."

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# Linclive

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Thursday, Preston Love will play jazz at Julio's, 132 S. 13th St.

**Rock:**  
Tonight, Chapter Two will play at Chesterfield's, Lower Level 245 N. 13th St.

Tonight, Bobby Curious will play at Oscars, 800 O St.

Tonight and Saturday, Johnny Ray Gomez will play at the Prospector, 640 W. Van Dorn St.

Tonight and Saturday, Vigil Annie will play at the Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Hwy.

Saturday, Fast Moving Train will play at Sweep Left.

**entertainment SHORTS**

**Lincoln High club to present comedy**

The Lincoln High drama club, "Mummers," will present George Herman's innovative comedy, "A Company of Wayward Saints," on May 10 and 11 in the Lincoln High School Auditorium, 22nd and J streets. The show will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for "A Company of Wayward Saints" are \$2 and will be sold at the door. For more information or group reservations, call the Lincoln High office.

Celebrate

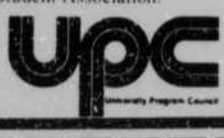
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