



For immediate release — Thursday, November 12, 2020

Drama Mainstage season opens with virtual performance of *Identity*

The stage may have changed, but the talents remain the same! The Department of Drama is rising to the challenge of presenting its first Mainstage production of the 2020-2021 season online, for a live performance that is not to be missed.

Identity, a devised work, directed by Jay Whitehead, is an honest, truthful and passionate theatre experience presented November 17 – 21, at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

“The process has been emotional, and the students have been incredibly courageous,” says Whitehead. “The topics we present, surrounding identity and sexuality, are topics that I am passionate about and are very relevant to the students in the cast.”



The work, which includes dance, monologues and movement pieces, is visceral and vulnerable, where the cast, in their own spaces off-campus, present creative work surrounding topics that are personally meaningful and impactful.

“They are figuring out who they are,” says Whitehead. “They are removing their masks and revealing who they truly are as individuals.”

Presenting through an online platform is not without its challenges.

“The relationships between performers and audience is certainly lost,” Whitehead says. “We ask if this presentation is actually theatre since this feels so very isolating and we can’t receive the reactions and responses from a live audience as we do in person.”

Despite the challenges, the experience of creatively presenting work such as this has its advantages, such as extending a reach to an even wider audience and developing work for a new platform.

“We are excited to present this work and to embrace this new stage,” says Whitehead. Tickets for *Identity* are currently on sale online only at ulethbridge.ca/tickets. Tickets are \$10 per pass with VISA or Mastercard. Patrons are encouraged to watch the production on a desktop or laptop – viewing experiences for *Identity* are not recommended on tablets or smartphones.

Questions regarding ticket purchases or passes may be sent to boxoffice@uleth.ca Monday – Friday, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

To view online: <https://www.uleth.ca/unews/article/mainstage-season-opens-virtual-performance-identity>

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