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**Auto enthusiasts, theater aficionados, and
climate change activists will be transformed by
AUTONOMY
Running May 9-12 for Six Performances Only**

AUTONOMY

By Ken LaZebnik

Directed by Jack Reuler

May 9-12

RiverCentre, St. Paul

Recognizing auto design as a great American art form, the disappearance of car cruising as spectator sport, and the growth of autonomous vehicles, Mixed Blood presents *AUTONOMY* in which auto enthusiasts, theater aficionados, and climate change activists will be transformed. Intimate groups depart every ten minutes for two hours, winding through the snaking path of this environmental thriller, hearing the scenes through ear buds, and getting a tour through Detroit and Silicon Valley as they whiz through this car-based play which foreshadows the most seismic change in transportation history, that may just solve the global climate crisis.

Part Disney ride, part auto show, and part drive-in theater, this nine-scene theatre extravaganza—commingling climate change, autonomous vehicles, and immigration—ushers its audience from scene to scene while immersed amongst 54 vintage and unique cars, 19 actors perform amidst 196 wheels, 320 cylinders, thousands of horsepower, amid 70,000 square feet to tell an intimate tale that revolutionizes transportation which could save our planet. Live performance, film, video, light show, music, and a collection of cars that you can't see anywhere else conspire to create a one-of-a-kind spectacle.

Set in 2022 at the outset of the AV transportation revolution, Gabby, a technonerd teen Dreamer, loses her Over The Road truck driving father and avenges his demise. With ICE, Amazon, Google, and Karl in pursuit, Gabby tests whether lives can be saved by precise technology, human intervention or both.

Says Director Jack Reuler: "AUTONOMY is the most ambitious show of Mixed Blood's 43 years, in content, form, and production. Autonomous vehicles are coming and will revolutionize transportation in ways more radical than the invention of the car itself. AUTONOMY celebrates America's love of car culture, environmental activism, theatrical storytelling, rock concerts, and amusement park rides while following the intimate tale of a fatherless child."

From an Isetta to a Lamborghini to a BMW Z1 to a Bricklin, viewers will gape at butterfly doors, gull wing doors, sliding car doors, suicide doors, and the entire front of the car opening. Low riders, Teslas and other electrics, and amazing flame paint jobs join celebrity cars such as the Batmobile, the *Back To The Future* DeLorean, Scooby Doo's van, Austin Powers' Jaguar XKE, and rarely seen Amphicars and Zimmers. Generations of Corvettes and automotive albatrosses like the Edsel, Corvair, Pacer, and Gremlin flank an evolution from the Holden Ute to the Chevy Cameo and El Camino to the Ford

Ranchero and Subaru Baja. There just might be a comic cameo by the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, Planter's Nutmobile, and Red Bull Mini Cooper!

Ken LaZebnik is a playwright, author, and screenwriter, heading a LA-based MFA program in screenwriting. He has written for *Touched by An Angel*, *Star Trek*, and *A Prairie Home Companion*. *AUTONOMY* marks the seventh play by Ken LaZebnik produced by Mixed Blood, preceded by *African Jazz*, *Calvinisms*, *League of Nations*, *Vestibular Sense*, *Theory of Mind*, and *On The Spectrum*.

The cast includes Mixed Blood veterans Ansa Akyea, Harry Waters Jr., Malachi Caballero, Raul Ramos, Taj Ruler, Randy Reyes, and Michael Laskin.

Tickets can be obtained in three ways: 1) Through Radical Hospitality, admission is FREE on a first come/first served basis starting two hours before every showtime, 2) Advanced reservations are available for \$38 at <https://www.ticketmaster.com/autonomy-tickets/artist/2607760>, or 3) through a Mixed Blood Membership. Visit mixedblood.com, call 612- 338-6131, or email boxoffice@mixedblood.com for more information. All Performances will take place at Saint Paul RiverCentre, 175 West Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, Minn. EXHIBIT HALL A.

Mixed Blood aspires to be the destination for people with disabilities. Patrons with disabilities are eligible for complimentary advanced reservations and complimentary transportation to and from the RiverCentre. Please contact Mixed Blood regarding specific requests for accessibility at boxoffice@mixedblood.com

Getting to the RiverCentre

Detailed direction on getting to the RiverCentre can be found at rivercentre.org/exhibit/directions.

About Mixed Blood Theatre:

Mixed Blood Theatre has invited the global village into its audience and onto its stage for its unique brand of provocative, inclusive, and predictably unpredictable theater since 1976. Using theater to illustrate and animate, Mixed Blood models pluralism in pursuit of interconnections, shared humanity, and engaged citizenry.

Performance Schedule:

Small audience groups begin *AUTONOMY* every 10 minutes for a 90-minute theatrical thrill ride. Thursday-Sunday, May 9-12 (6:30, 6:40, 6:50, 7:00, 7:10, 7:20, 7:40-ASL performance, 7:50, 8:00, 8:10, 8:20, and 8:30)

Saturday-Sunday, May 11-12 (1:30, 1:40, 1:50, 2:00, 2:10, 2:20, 2:40, 2:50, 3:00, 3:10, 3:20, and 3:30)