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OZ Arts Nashville Announces Extended Run of *Sloppy Bonnie* in Advance of Highly Anticipated Premiere

The Roadkill Musical, Previously Slated to Run May 20-29, Will Now Run Until June 5 Due to High Demand

Nashville, Tenn. – May 14, 2021 – Contemporary arts center [OZ Arts Nashville](#) today announced the run for its upcoming performance, *Sloppy Bonnie*, presented in association with Vanderbilt University Theatre, has been extended through June 5, 2021 in response to overwhelming demand. The announcement arrives ahead of the show's premiere on May 20 at 8pm, where the OZ Arts parking lot will be transformed into an outdoor honky-tonk for this cosmic country musical. There will also be a special ASL-interpreted performance on Thursday, May 27 at 8pm.

Sloppy Bonnie follows the story of a rambunctious bride-to-be named Bonnie (aka “Sloppy Bonnie” when she’s drunk). With the best of intentions, Bonnie sets off on what she hopes will be an inspirational road trip to be with her fiancé, Jedidiah, who has ghosted her ever since he left for a revival retreat in the mountains. Along the way, though, her cookie-cutter femininity causes havoc, turning her into an accidental serial killer. The outrageous new musical simultaneously celebrates and satirizes Southern womanhood and features over a dozen songs, including memorable titles like “Jesus Riding Shotgun,” “You Might Call Me Basic,” and “McNugget of Your Love.”

These irresistible and deliciously cheeky songs combine with a delightfully unhinged story in this collaboration by playwright Krista Knight (Vanderbilt Writer in Residence), composer Barry Brinegar, and prominent Nashville director Leah Lowe. The new musical, which was developed over the past several years in collaboration with students at Vanderbilt University, features a talented cast of new and familiar names. In the titular role is Nashville newcomer and Birmingham, Alabama native Amanda Disney, who recently graduated from The American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York City. Joining Disney on stage are seasoned Nashville actors Curtis Reed and James Rudolph II, portraying more than a dozen characters throughout.

“We’re delighted by the overwhelming response we’ve received to the upcoming premiere of *Sloppy Bonnie*,” said Mark Murphy, OZ Arts Executive and Artistic Director. “It’s a pleasure to get to present

such a unique and fun theatrical piece that was developed locally and takes a tongue-in-cheek approach to examining Southern identity. Hosting the performances outdoors in our parking lot allows us to continue making the safety of attendees and performers our top priority, but it's clear that the future is bright for the return of live performances.”

Sloppy Bonnie offers a memorable evening under the stars that will have the audience begging for seconds and maybe even doing the chicken dance! The show will run from May 20 to June 5, 2021 with limited audience capacity.

Tickets for *Sloppy Bonnie* range from \$20-\$30 and are on sale now at ozartsnashville.org/sloppy-bonnie/. Health and safety protocols will be enforced, including mandatory masks when audiences are not seated, limited capacities and social distancing.

Those unable to attend in-person will have the opportunity to watch via a [live stream event](#) from June 11-27. Performances will be viewable on Fridays and Saturdays at 7pm CT and Sundays at 4pm CT.

This performance is made possible with generous support from donors and grants, including funding from Vanderbilt Strong and The Curb Center. To learn more about upcoming performances, please visit www.ozartsnashville.org.

About OZ Arts Nashville

Founded in 2013 by the Ozgener family, OZ Arts Nashville has quickly established itself as one of the Southeast's most influential and respected producers and presenters focused on the creation and presentation of significant performing and visual art works by diverse cultural visionaries who are making vital contributions to the evolution of contemporary culture. Through performances, exhibitions, and community events, OZ Arts focuses on producing and presenting the work of local and visiting artists who reflect our diverse society, utilize new artistic forms and technology in creative ways, and provide opportunities for meaningful engagement with audiences, students and cultural and civic leaders. OZ Arts' unique creative warehouse has developed a reputation as a major national and regional laboratory for experimentation and a home for contemporary dance and performance. More than 50,000 audience members have been introduced to adventurous artists from around the world since the organization opened, and hundreds of local and regional artists have used OZ's 10,000 square-foot warehouse theater to develop new works. For more information, please visit ozartsnashville.org.

About the Creative Team of *Sloppy Bonnie*

Leah Lowe (Director) is a native Tennessean who began her directing career in the Twin Cities and has made theatre in Los Angeles, Miami, Connecticut, Ohio, and Nashville, where she currently teaches at Vanderbilt University. She earned her PhD from Florida State University, her MFA in Directing from the University of Minnesota, and her BA from Oberlin College. Her artistic interests include acting, directing, and devised performance. Her scholarly work has been published in *Theatre Topics*, *Theatre Journal*, and *Theatre Symposium*.

Krista Knight (Playwright, Vanderbilt Writer in Residence) has had work produced or developed at NYTW, The Vineyard Theatre, New Georges, Bay Area Playwrights Foundation, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse, Playwrights Center of MN, Cradle Theatre, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, Ars Nova Ant Fest, Fingerlakes Musical Theatre Festival, Inkwell, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and Dutch Kills, among others. She has written 16 full-length plays, 5 full-length musicals, 17 plays and musicals for young audiences, and sold a screenplay. Commissions include a teen dance-a-thon to the death musical with Broadway composer Dave Malloy, the script for a ride at Tokyo Disneyland, The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, Case Western Reserve University School of Biomedical Engineering, and The Assembly. Her many prestigious awards include Page 73 Playwriting Fellow (2007), MacDowell Fellow

(2008), Shank Playwriting Fellow at the Vineyard Theatre (2011-2012), and Juilliard School Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program Fellow (2016-2018).