



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAST SEASON'S SOLD OUT *THE SANTALAND DIARIES* IS SET TO SLEIGH AGAIN AT THE HUMAN RACE THEATRE COMPANY

Tim Lile returns as the disgruntled elf Crumpet in this one-man comedy for grownups, December 8 – 17, 2016 at the Loft Theatre.

(Dayton, OH) —After selling out eight of ten performances in its original 2015 run, The Human Race Theatre Company is remounting *The Santaland Diaries*, one of today's most popular—and most outlandish—Christmastime stage plays. The quintessential elf-gone-bad is back with a vengeance to share a series of less-than-merry misadventures in **David Sedaris'** hysterical antidote for holiday havoc. Spend some time with the irreverent Crumpet—one of Santa's little helpers during the Macy's Christmas shopping rush—as he handles the hordes of insufferable shoppers and their kiddies with whacked out, wicked wit in the return of this smash hit comedy. Resident Artist **Tim Lile** proves once again that his elf is nobody's "buddy" in this one-man, one-act production on the Loft Theatre stage. The preview performance of *The Santaland Diaries* is Thursday, December 8. Opening night is Friday, December 9. The 10-performance production runs through December 17 and is recommended for adult audiences.

In addition to his turn in the striped tights from last December's production, audiences will recognize comedic actor **Tim Lile** from his numerous performances in The Human Race productions, including *A Tuna Christmas*, *Ears on a Beatle*, *Moonlight and Magnolias* and *Lend Me a Tenor*. In addition to his work onstage, Tim is an accomplished director, helming productions of *Lombardi*, *Rounding Third* and *Take Me Out* at the Loft Theatre, and a widely-respected auctioneer and owner of the online auction company BidNow, LLC.

Resident Artist and director **Scott Stoney** also returns to guide Sedaris' sardonic tale of a department store elf after a masterful turn in the director's chair for this fall's production of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

David Sedaris originally wrote the essay *The Santaland Diaries* as a true account of his time spent working as an elf in "SantaLand" at Macy's department store in New York. Sedaris gained national fame after reading the essay on National Public Radio in 1992, and published it in his collections *Barrel Fever* and *Holidays on Ice*. In 1996, Tony Award[®]-winning director Joe Mantello (*Wicked*, *9 to 5* and *Other Desert Cities*) adapted the story as a one-act, one-man stage play.

The design team from the 2015 production returns, including scenic designer **Scott J. Kimmins** (*Master Class, Family Shots, Under a Red Moon*), costume designer **Christie Peitzmeier** (*Mame, Play It by Heart, Becky's New Car*), as well as Resident Artists **John Rensel** (*Sweeney Todd, The Glass Menagerie, The Full Monty*) as the lighting designer and **Jay Brunner** (*Sweeney Todd, The Full Monty, Taking Shakespeare*) as the sound designer. **Lexi Muller** is the production stage manager.

Biographies on the cast and creative team can be found on The Human Race Theatre Company's website.

WYSO 93.1 FM is the media partner of *The Santaland Diaries* and hosts the opening night post-show cast party in the Loft Theatre lobby on December 9.

PERFORMANCE AND SPECIAL EVENT INFORMATION

Tickets for all seats to *The Santaland Diaries* December 8 – 17 are \$24. The production is not a part of The Human Race's 2016-2017 Loft Season, but current Loft subscribers can purchase tickets for \$18 by phone or in person.

The Wednesday, December 14 performance is "Young Professionals Night," sponsored by **UpDayton**. Miami Valley young professionals are invited to attend a pre-show backstage tour of the Loft Theatre beginning at 5:15 p.m. and reception at The Human Race's Philips Creativity Center, then to stay after the performance to meet actor Tim Lile. Tickets for the event are available online through ticketcenterstage.com by clicking on the December 14 performance and typing in the code "HOHOYP" or by calling Ticket Center Stage directly.

Performances are at the Metropolitan Art Center's Loft Theatre, located at 126 North Main Street in downtown Dayton, Ohio. Show times for *The Santaland Diaries* are 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday evenings. Performances on Saturdays are at 5:00 p.m. and at 9:00 p.m.

Tickets and performance information on *The Santaland Diaries* are available at www.humanracetheatre.org or by calling Ticket Center Stage at (937) 228-3630, and at the Schuster Center box office.

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Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, The Human Race Theatre Company was founded in 1986 and moved into the Metropolitan Arts Center in 1991, taking up residence at the 212-seat Loft Theatre. In addition to the Eichelberger Loft Season, The Human Race produces new works development and special event programming. Under the direction of President and Artistic Director Kevin Moore, the company also maintains education and outreach programs for children, teens and adults, as well as artist residencies in area schools, an In-School Tour, and a summer youth program. Human Race organizational support is provided by Culture Works, the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District, the Shubert Foundation, the Erma R. Catterton Trust Fund, the Jesse & Caryl Philips Foundation, the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation and the

Ohio Arts Council, which helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The 2016-2017 Sustainability Sponsors are the ELM Foundation, Anne F. Johnson, Steve and Lou Mason, and Morris Home Furnishings. The 2016-2017 Loft season sponsor is the Jack W. and Sally D. Eichelberger Foundation of the Dayton Foundation, with additional support from Premier Health.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

The Human Race Theatre Company presents

The Santaland Diaries

by David Sedaris

adapted by Joe Mantello

featuring Tim Lile as “Crumpet”

directed by Scott Stoney

December 8 – 17, 2016

Performed at the Loft Theatre

Metropolitan Arts Center

126 North Main Street (between First and Second streets)

Dayton, Ohio 45402

The quintessential elf-gone-bad is back to share a series of less-than-merry misadventures in David Sedaris’ hysterical antidote for holiday havoc. Spend some time with the irreverent Crumpet—one of Santa’s little helpers during the Macy’s Christmas shopping rush—as he handles the hordes of insufferable shoppers and their kiddies with whacked out, wicked wit in the return of last season’s sold out hit comedy.

This production is not recommended for young audiences.

For tickets:

Ticket Center Stage box office phone: (937) 228-3630 or (888) 228-3630

Box office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; and two hours prior to each performance

Online: www.humanracetheatre.org or www.ticketcenterstage.com

Ticket prices: \$24

Group sales: Contact Betty Gould at (937) 461-8295 or Betty.Gould@victoriatheatre.com

***The Santaland Diaries* performance dates:**

Thursday, December 8 7:00 p.m. Preview performance

Friday, December 9 7:00 p.m. Opening night with WYSO post-show party in the Loft Lobby

Saturday, December 10 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 10 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 14 7:00 p.m. UpDayton’s “Young Professionals Night”

Thursday, December 15 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 16 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 17 5:00 p.m. Audio Described/Sign Interpreted performance (reserve by December 2)

Saturday, December 17 9:00 p.m. Closing performance