



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **PRIME PRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCES SECOND SEASON WITH TWO NEW PLAYS**

*PRIME Productions launches new season  
with two shows at high-profile local theaters.*

**Minneapolis, MN (June 6, 2018) – PRIME Productions**, a professional theater started in 2016, announces the launch of their second season with two new plays. The first production is the Midwest Premiere of ***Two Degrees*** at the Guthrie Dowling Studio, Oct 5 – 21, 2018, followed by ***Marjorie Prime*** on the Andy Boss Stage at Park Square Theatre, April 19 – May 21, 2019.

Co-founder Shelli Place said: “We are thrilled that in our second season we have been given the opportunity to bring two new plays to the Twin Cities, providing several powerful roles for mature female actors in plays that address our collective futures.”

***Two Degrees***, by Tira Palmquist, begins when a scientist comes to Washington DC – arguably a hostile place for scientists these days – only to discover the stakes are higher than ever. For Emma Phelps, a paleoclimatologist coming to challenge some troubling shifts in policy, she finds herself at the intersection of the personal and the political, of sex and power, of what’s done for the public good and what’s done to make a buck. Phelps has to answer difficult questions before she can win this fight, and must discover how to unthaw from her own personal anguish before she can save the planet, and herself.

***Two Degrees*** will be directed by PRIME Productions co-founder Shelli Place. As a part of the Guthrie Dowling programming series, all general admission tickets are priced at \$9 and every performance includes an audience engagement component. Tickets will go on sale July 2, 2018, through the Guthrie Theater box office.

The second play of the season will be ***Marjorie Prime*** by Jordan Harrison. It’s the age of artificial intelligence in the not-too-distant future, and 85-year-old Marjorie — a jumble of disparate, fading memories — has a handsome new companion who’s programmed to feed the story of her life back to her. What would we remember, what would we forget, and

what would we forgive if given the chance? In this richly spare, wondrous new play, we explore the mysteries of human identity and the limits — if any — of what technology can replace.

**Marjorie Prime** is a Theater In Residence production with Park Square Theatre and will be directed by PRIME Productions co-founder Elena Giannetti. Single tickets will go on sale through the Park Square box office on June 12, 2018. (Park Square Season Subscribers may purchase tickets now to Marjorie Prime as part of a season package through the Park Square box office.)

“We’re honored by the support we’ve gotten from Richard Cook & Michael-jon Pease at Park Square and Jeff Meanza at the Guthrie. Having such prestigious theatres in our corner means a lot,” says co-founder Alison Edwards.

PRIME Productions will also continue *PRIME Voices: A series of Staged Readings* throughout their second season. The series is a vital component to PRIME’s mission to tell relevant stories about mature women. Plays and dates to be announced late summer 2018.

#### **About PRIME Productions:**

PRIME Productions was founded in 2016 and is one of the newest professional Equity theaters to be established in the Minneapolis/St Paul region. With a focus on celebrating women in their second act, their mission is to explore, illuminate and support women over fifty and their stories through the creative voice of performance. The company co-founders are Alison Edwards, Elena Giannetti and Shelli Place.

PRIME Productions launched their first production in May 2017 with a successful three-week run of *Little Wars* by Stephen Carl McCasland at Mixed Blood Theatre. As a follow up to their successful debut, they launched *PRIME Voices: A Series of Staged Readings* in September of 2017. *PRIME Voices* offered public staged readings of three different female-written plays with professional actors presented at local venues (Jungle Theater, History Theatre and Park Square Theatre). Provided free to patrons, the series allowed PRIME Productions to continue to bring more women’s voices to the stage while providing more acting opportunities for female actors of the Twin Cities.

PRIME Productions grew out of the realization that there was a scarcity of opportunities within theater for women in their prime: older female characters are often stereotyped, marginalized or altogether eliminated from the narrative. “The Twin Cities is rich in experienced female talent,” says co-founder Shelli Place, “but there’s a gap in the plays and roles to fully utilize that resource.” PRIME Productions fills this gap by producing plays that employ more female theater artists and addresses issues relevant to an aging population. We put age on the stage! Our productions encourage and include the participation of all genders, races, sexual orientations, abilities and ages – snapshots of real lives in our times, with mature women center stage addressing issues relevant to a vibrant aging population.

#### **EVENT: TWO DEGREES**

Written by: Tira Palmquist

Directed by: Shelli Place

Dates: October 5 – 21, 2018 || Opening Night: Saturday October 6, 2018

Thursday – Sunday performances

Venue: Guthrie Theater - Dowling Studio, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
818 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Tickets: General Admission - \$9  
Single sale tickets available July 2, 2018.  
Reservations through the Guthrie Theater Box Office:  
612-377-2224  
[www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org)

**EVENT: MARJORIE PRIME**

Written by: Jordan Harrison

Directed by: Elena Giannetti

Dates: April 19 – May 19, 2019 || Opening Night: Friday April 26, 2019  
Thursday – Sunday performances

Venue: Park Square Theatre - Andy Boss Thrust Stage  
20 W 7<sup>th</sup> Place, St Paul, MN 55102

Tickets: Reserved Seating - \$25  
Single tickets will go on sale June 12, 2018.  
Park Square Season Package tickets available now.  
Reservations through the Park Square Theatre Box Office:  
651-291-7005  
[www.parksquaretheatre.org](http://www.parksquaretheatre.org)

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