



NEWS RELEASE

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**EXCLUSIVE: ATC PRESENTS ONE OF LONDON'S 1ST IN-PERSON CONCERTS
FEATURING AWARD-WINNER BENJAMIN SCHEUER**

Fully-Produced Concert Video Available to ATC Subscribers Oct. 15, Public on Oct. 20

In an Arizona Theatre Company exclusive, ATC will present a fully produced video of one of London's first in-person concerts, featuring award winning playwright, singer, songwriter and children's book author Benjamin Scheuer. The video will be available to ATC subscribers on Oct. 15 and the general public on Oct. 20 on Arizona Theatre Company's website (www.arizonatheatre.org), YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/arizonatheatreco) and Facebook page (@ArizonaTheatreCompany, www.facebook.com/ArizonaTheatreCompany).

There is no cost to view the video, but donations will be appreciated.

Scheuer's performance will include music from his Drama Desk Award-winning musical ***The Lion***, which was directed by ATC Artistic Director Sean Daniels, his popular children's books, *Hundred Feet Tall* and *Hibernate with Me*, and songs from his upcoming album.

"This is a remarkable opportunity to spend an intimate evening with one of the most exciting artists of our generation," Daniels said.

Scheuer (pronounced SHOY-er), wrote and performed ***The Lion***, a one-man autobiographical musical which premiered off-Broadway in 2014 and enjoyed critical acclaim during runs off-West End in London and across the U.S. Scheuer won the 2015 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Solo Performance, the 2014 Off West End Award for Best Musical, the 2013 ASCAP Foundation Cole Porter Award for songwriting and the 2013 Musical Theatre

Network Award for Best Lyrics. He was nominated for a 2017 Helen Hayes Award, a 2015 Lucile Lortel Award and two 2015 Outer Critics Circle Awards.

His two children's picture books, *Hundred Feet Tall* and *Hibernate with Me*, both illustrated by his wife, Jemima Williams, were released in 2019 and 2020, respectively, along with songs of the same name.

His song, "I Am Samantha," was released alongside a music video earlier this year through Atlantic Records. The song was inspired by a friend's journey to transition to a woman and the video was directed by T Cooper, who is transgender, and features a cast of 27, all of whom are transgender.

In 2011, Scheuer was diagnosed with, and successfully treated for, stage IV Hodgkins lymphoma. His year-long chemotherapy treatment was captured in 27 black-and-white images by photographer Riya Lerner that were made into a book, *Between Two Spaces*, along with diary excerpts and quotes.

"There is not much that Benjamin can't do," Daniels said. "His creative diversity is incredible."

ATC's *Digital Play Readings* this fall also include: **Covenant** by York Walker, Directed by Tamilla Woodard – ATC Premiere October 27-31; **The Realness** by Idris Goodwin, Directed by Megan Sandberg-Zakian – ATC Premiere November 2020; and **The Heath** by Lauren Gunderson and directed by Daniels – date to be announced.

Plans are to open Daniels' first fully chosen Main Stage lineup in January, with shows to be presented throughout the spring and summer, a time when ATC has traditionally been dark, and ending in November. All shows will offer a video option for any ticket holders who aren't able to be in the theatre when shows are performed.

For more information, visit www.arizonatheatre.org.

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Contact:

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About Arizona Theatre Company:

Under new leadership and now celebrating its 54th Season, Arizona Theatre Company is truly "The State Theatre," with the largest subscriber base of any performing arts organization in Arizona. More than 130,000 people each year attend performances at the historic Temple of Music and Art in Tucson and the elegant Herberger Theater Center in downtown Phoenix.

Each season of high-quality productions reflects the rich variety of world theatre – from classic to contemporary plays, from musicals to new works – and audiences enjoy the rich emotional experience and joy that can only be captured through live theatre. ATC is the preeminent professional theatre in the state of Arizona. Under the direction of Artistic Director Sean Daniels and Managing Director Geri Wright, ATC operates in two cities – unlike any other League of Resident Theaters (LORT) company in the country.

ATC shares the passion of the theatre through a wide array of outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives and community events. With more than 800 Education & Engagement activities through schools and summer programs, ATC focuses on teaching Arizona's youth about the creative power of dramatic literature and how it can enrich their own lives in multiple ways

ATC reaches far beyond the metropolitan areas of Tucson and Phoenix, enriching the theatre learning experience nationally for current and future audiences.