

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PRESS CONTACT:** April Culver, Marketing & Press Manager ~ 415.694.6156 ~ [april@nctcsf.org](mailto:april@nctcsf.org)

[PRESS ROOM](#)

## **NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER PARTNERS WITH TIGERBEAR PRODUCTIONS TO PRESENT HARRISON DAVID RIVERS' *HOLD ME THE FORGOTTEN WAY*, A NATIONAL QUEER MICROMONOLOGUE COLLABORATION**

San Francisco, CA (June 1, 2021) – **New Conservatory Theatre Center** is pleased to reunite with critically-acclaimed playwright Harrison David Rivers for a special digital production of Rivers' achingly profound monologue cycle, *hold me the forgotten way*, produced in partnership with **TigerBear Productions** as part of a National Queer Micromonologue Collaboration.

Consisting of seven brief audio monologues, Rivers' cycle explores intimate confessions made in public spaces about love and sex. TigerBear and NCTC partnered with five remarkable queer theaters across the country including San Francisco's Theatre Rhinoceros, Chicago's About Face Theatre, San Diego's Diversionary Theatre, Atlanta's Out Front Theatre, and NYC's TOSOS/The Other Side of Silence, to use this virtual moment to connect queer communities and celebrate talented artists across boundaries despite existing in separate geographies.

These micromonologues can be heard free of charge at [tigerbearproductions.com](http://tigerbearproductions.com) beginning **Wednesday, June 16** and will be indexed on Spotify, Apple, and Google. A live listening party for the public with an interactive lobby will be held on **Wednesday June 16 at 8pm ET/5pm PT** with artists from the teams attending virtually. The monologues will be available online through **December 31, 2021**.

Playwright **Harrison David Rivers** is the winner of the 2018 Relentless Award for his play *the bandaged place* (New York Stage & Film). He has received McKnight and Many Voices Jerome Fellowships, a Van Lier Fellowship, an Emerging Artist of Color Fellowship and residencies with the Bogliasco Foundation, the Siena Art Institute, the Hermitage, and Duke University. Rivers was the 2016 Playwright-in-Residence at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. River's gripping play, *This Bitter Earth*, received its world premiere at NCTC in 2017, followed by its companion piece audio drama, *Interlude* in 2020.

Sound designer and engineer **Sara Witsch** (she/they) creates sound design and noise for a handful of other mediums including radio plays, podcasts, film, and other media. She is also co-artistic director at SoundPlay.Media, a collective exploring sound specific performance art and theater-focused media.

Producer and Director **M. Graham Smith** is an O'Neill/NNPN National Directing Fellow, an Oregon Shakespeare Festival FAIR Fellow and a proud Resident Artist at Crowded Fire Theatre in San Francisco.

Graphic designer **Kay Reynolds** of Madison, Wisconsin, created the project's visual design.

**TigerBear Productions** is a media and entertainment production company started by Executive Director Jerome Joseph Gentes. Gentes is a software designer and live experience creator, writer, and producer.

**New Conservatory Theatre Center** has been San Francisco's premier LGBTQ+ and Allied performing arts institution and **progressive arts education conservatory** since 1981. NCTC is renowned for its diverse range of **innovative, high-quality productions**, touring productions and **shows for young audiences**; its foundational anti-bullying work with youth and educators through **YouthAware**; and its commitment to developing **new plays** to continue expanding the canon of queer and allied dramatic work.

Supported in part by **The Bernard Osher Foundation, Horizons Foundation, Grants for the Arts** and the generosity of NCTC's individual donors.

###

## ***hold me the forgotten way***

### FACT SHEET

#### **WHO:**

By **Harrison David Rivers** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Produced/Directed by **M. Graham Smith** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Sound Design and Engineering by **Sara Witsch** (*pronouns: she/they*)

Graphic Design by **Kay Reynolds** (*pronouns: they/them*)

**WHAT:** Aching and Intimate Monologue Cycle, *hold me the forgotten way*

**WHEN:** June 13 - December 31, 2021

**COST:** Free

**LEARN MORE:** [www.tigerbearproductions.com/hold-me-the-forgotten-way](http://www.tigerbearproductions.com/hold-me-the-forgotten-way)