

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Kill Date: October 7<sup>th</sup> 2022**

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## ***Good Medicine***

Written and Performed by Richard Grunn

### **Listing Information**

United Solo Festival, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm

Theatre Row

410 W 42<sup>nd</sup> Street

New York, New York

**Good Medicine**, written and performed by Richard Grunn. Directed by Leslie Kincaid Burby. Music by Joe Burby and Henry Burby.

“A satirical history of America's great anti-satanic, quasi-scientific, and pseudo-spiritual salesmen.”

### **About**

Good Medicine is a show about the proliferation of the “Medicine Show” in its various permutations from the 19th century through today. Why do we look for the fast fix? The miracle cure? What is the lure of these products and (in many cases) the men who sell them — products or pathways — promising the keys to a better life? The play follows four characters: Reverend Beauford T. Jones, Dr. Chester C. Braman, Kurt Candleman, Spiritual Advisor and Master Guru, and Thomas Rickey CEO of Advance X. Each exists in and is representative of a different period in history from which they attempt to sell us their philosophy and associated products for health. The satire exposes the similarities between the characters, showing how today we fall for the same snake-oil salesman as our ancestors, with their charm and allure, pitching absurd balms and practices which claim to heal and cure.

*Good Medicine* is made possible in part with funds from Creative Engagement supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by LMCC.

## **Cast**

**Richard Grunn** is an actor, artist, puppeteer, and teaching artist, who has performed and toured original shows at many festivals in the U.S., Ireland and the U. K. including the West Cork Literary Festival, Schull Arts Festival, Arundel Festival, and Edinburgh Fringe. In 2019 he received a Creative Engagement Grant from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) to perform his trash-constructed puppet circus Urbano's Circus and the Monster of Garbage at the University Settlement in New York City. Some of his original solo shows include: Urbano's Circus, Father Joiner's Purgative Poetry Project, a poetry reading of several winsome, yet unlikely poets, and his most recent show, Good Medicine, a satirical history of America's great anti-satanic, scientific, and spiritual salesmen. He received a 2015 BRIO award for experimental film from the Bronx Council on the Arts, and in 2003 was awarded the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Fellowship in Theatre. He is a teaching artist for Sundog Theatre where he designed a drama-based literacy program, 3-D Literacy, which serves elementary and middle school students in the NYC schools. He has taught radio theater to visually impaired students at the Lighthouse Guild, and seniors for the past four years. He has been a LMCC SU-CASA recipient from 2015-2022.

## **Leslie Kincaid Burby:**

Received NYIT Outstanding Director and NY Times Critic's Pick for The Workshop Theater's Drama Desk nominated production "The Navigator" (Eddie Antar). She is the winner of a NYC Fringe Award winner for outstanding direction for "Zamboni" (Sean-Patrick O'Brien), production extended in Encore Series. Recently: "The Chekhov Dreams" (Becket Theatre), "Broadway Bound" (Gretna Theater), "The Tempest" (Pied Piper Theatre). Leslie is an associate artist director and dramaturg at The Workshop Theater. Proud Member Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC).

**Joe Burby** is an actor, musician, and voice over guy who lives in Northern Manhattan with his family. He takes great pleasure in this opportunity to collaborate with Rich, Leslie and Henry on Good Medicine! Joe's voice can be heard in museums via Acoustiguide from Ellis Island and the Met to Angels Mining Camp in Calaveras County. Joe has had two original musicals for children

produced and along with wife Leslie wrote and produced a film: an original telling of “Robin Hood” shot entirely in Manhattan parks. The film got 5 out of 5 stars from the “Kid’s First Film Festival” in 2021. For more about Joe please visit [www.joeburby.com](http://www.joeburby.com).

**Henry Burby** is a multidisciplinary performance artist and public historian operating in New York City. His Theatrical roles include Tony Lumpkin (She Stoops to Conquer, UP Theater Co.), Valère (Tartuffe, UP), Lee (lead, The Tallest Building in the World, UP), Seyton/Assassin (MacBeth, Delphi Theater Company), Sam (lead, Endurance, Workshop Theater Co.), Trolling (Lead, The Four Horsemen of the Internet, Secret Theater Co.), and David Rockefeller (The Gardens, Morningside Players). He is thrilled to be participating in Good Medicine, show which combines his interests in music, acting, and obscure history.

### **Where**

Theatre Row  
410 W 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New York, New York

### **When**

**October 7<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**

### **Tickets**

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