

## "SEMI FAME: The Truck Route to Broadway"

### **SYNOPSIS:**

"SEMI FAME: The Truck Route to Broadway" is an original musical comedy written by Andy Gallagher (music & lyrics) and Mike Kolar (book). Set in 1984 along the open highway and its diners, it centers on Pete, a long-haul trucker with a voice of gold who dreams of the Broadway stage. At the urging of no-nonsense diner owner Margie (and her hapless drunk cook Carl), Pete reluctantly follows his dreams. Along the way he meets Dan, a hitchhiking former child star of Hollywood looking for a simpler life, among other characters of the road. As they drive to New York, Pete teaches Dan the finer points of the trucker lifestyle. When they reach New York, Dan takes over trucking while Pete embarks on an entirely new adventure in The Big Apple where he grapples with new friends, new drugs, and his own fleeting success.

### **DEBUT RUN:**

The musical debuted in The Green Room at The Garden Theater in Columbus, OH Nov 5-8th, 2015 for four consecutive performances. The run was oversold (289 \$15 tickets sold of 260 available seats - many stood in the back). The atmosphere was jovial and engaged middle-aged theater fans, twentysomething hipsters (many dressed as truckers), and actual truckers themselves. The production made money. All four performances received standing ovations.

### **CAST & CREW:**

The production involved a cast of eight and a pit of two musicians (guitar, piano). During the performance, one tech person ran the lights and sound. Choreography, costume design, and the director were hired. Andy Gallagher ran the production.

### **PRESS:**

In addition to two articles released in weekly and monthly Columbus publications, the show was included in the year-end list of Top 10 theater performances of the year by Columbus Alive magazine.

### **IN SHORT:**

We spent two and a half years meticulously preparing SEMI FAME, and the response from our staged readings let us know we had something great on our hands. Then the opening blew our expectations out of the water: sold-out, standing-ovations, made money. The piece gets consistent laughs and stays engaging, sure - but moreover, it has moments of incredible heart and pain and longing that creates, in the room in which it's performed, the distinct sense of unity available only in theater.

### **CONTACT:**

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