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**BLIND SUMMIT THEATRE'S ONE-PUPPET SHOW, *THE TABLE*, COMES TO BING
CONCERT HALL STUDIO FOR FIVE PERFORMANCES, OCT 30-NOV 2**

Hit of 2011 Edinburgh Festival Fringe stars two-foot cardboard character named Moses

Stanford, CA, October 1, 2014—A cantankerous puppet with a cardboard head has an existential crisis on a tabletop in **Blind Summit's** hilarious production of *The Table*, which Stanford Live will present in the Bing Concert Hall Studio, October 30 through November 2.

Intended to be a theatrical interpretation of the final hours in the life of Moses — in real time — *The Table* is performed by a grizzled, crotchety old man. However, the grumpy puppet narrator goes astray and winds up playing out his own comedic storyline as the puppeteers improvise and interact with each other and the audience.

The show is done in the Japanese *Bunraku* style, with multiple puppeteers (**Mark Down, Sean Garratt, Laura Caldow** and **Nick Barnes**) visible to the audience, and is performed completely on the tabletop. According to its creators, the puppetry was “inspired by Beckett, the Bible and Ikea.” *The Table* premiered at the prestigious Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2011 where it won Fringe First and was praised for its “astonishingly accomplished puppetry” (*The Telegraph*). Since then it has gone on to tour the world — including the UK, Europe, China and the United States — winning critical acclaim and awards.

Known for their work in Danny Boyle's London Olympic Opening Ceremony, the theatrical innovators of Blind Summit have made it their mission to “subvert and reshape puppetry for contemporary audiences.” Their creations push the boundaries of puppetry in their own productions (*1984, Low Life, Pirate Puppetry*) and in international collaborations (Bregenz Festival, Complicite, Barbican, Royal Opera House, Metropolitan Opera). They have brought to life everything from a

singing dog in Simon McBurney's *A Dog's Heart* to a three-year-old boy in Anthony Minghella's *Madama Butterfly*.

Stanford Live has begun experimenting with more informal non-traditional performance formats and this production of *The Table* will be the first of two presentations this season in the Bing Studio — a flexible black-box space. In June, the Studio will host the interactive theater group Compagnia T.P.O. performing their new production *BLEU!*

Performances of **Blind Summit's *The Table*** are scheduled for **October 30 and 31 (7:30 p.m.) and November 1 (2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.) and 2 (2:30 p.m.)**. The Bing Concert Hall Studio, located downstairs from the main lobby area, is open seating and tickets are \$65 for adults and \$15 for all Stanford students.

Tickets can be purchased at the Bing Concert Hall Ticket Office, by phone at **650-724-2464 (BING)** or online at **<http://live.stanford.edu>**. The box office is located at 327 Lasuen Street. Regular hours are Tuesday-Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.

VENUE INFORMATION

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Dr. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times, and may be found in the Galvez Lot across Campus Drive from Bing Concert Hall. Maps and directions are available at <http://live.stanford.edu/Venues/parkingmapsdirections.php>.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live is Stanford University's performing arts presenter and producer, committed to sharing, celebrating and advancing the art of live music, dance, theater, and opera. Stanford Live unites celebrated and emerging artists with the Stanford campus and greater Bay Area communities in a broad range of experiences that engage the senses and emotions, stimulate minds, and enrich lives. The organization values artistic vitality, learning and an inclusive community. In addition to its home in Bing Concert Hall, Stanford Live also presents performances at other campus venues including Memorial Auditorium, Memorial Church and Frost Amphitheater.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

What: **Blind Summit Theatre**

Program: *The Table*

When: Thursday, October 30, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, October 31, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 1, 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 2, 2:30 p.m.

Where: Bing Concert Hall Studio, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University

Tickets: \$65 general admission

Description: The celebrated British puppetry theater group Blind Summit—known for their puppetry in the London Olympic Opening Ceremony—performs its 2011 production, *The Table*, which was a hit at the prestigious Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

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