

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STUDIO THEATRE OPENS 2022-2023 SEASON WITH *HEROES OF THE FOURTH TURNING*, AN ACCLAIMED  
LOOK AT ULTRACONSERVATIVE MILLENNIALS**

*A timely production with added resonance after the overturning of Roe v. Wade*

**WASHINGTON, DC**— Studio Theatre presents the DC debut of playwright **Will Arbery** with the season-opening production of ***Heroes of the Fourth Turning***. This portrait of the political right, which *The New York Times* called “Astonishing and riveting,” will run from **September 21 – October 23, 2022**.

Arbery’s breakout play, *Heroes of the Fourth Turning*, is a look into the thoughts and doubts of five members of the conservative Right in America, with the playwright drawing from his own family background as the child of Catholic intellectuals. The production places its characters and the Conservative movement in the near-present, opening at Studio just ahead of the midterm elections and in the wake of the Supreme Court’s decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, a subject critical to the heart of the play.

*Heroes of the Fourth Turning* takes place on the edge of the Wyoming wilderness as the last guests linger late into the night at a celebration for the new President of their conservative Catholic college. Reunited after seven years, the friends toss back whiskey and name-check Thomas Aquinas, Hannah Arendt, Steve Bannon, *Bojack Horseman* and *Portlandia*, tracking their distance from each other and the people they thought they’d be by now. Arbery’s portrait of conservatives trying to make sense of where they—and their country—stand is an incisive yet personal look at the intelligence and despair on the Catholic right.

Arbery was inspired to write *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* after the 2016 elections as a window into a segment of the American right that had gained a toehold of power and influence that pundits, pollsters, and most of liberal America hadn’t seen coming. Arbery’s world is grounded in his own childhood, growing up in a conservative Catholic household and setting the play in Wyoming, where his father is President of Wyoming Catholic College and his mother is a professor of political philosophy.

The production will be directed by **Sivan Battat**, a former Studio Theatre Apprentice who currently works and resides in New York. Battat is the Associate Artistic Director of Noor Theatre, a company in residence at New York Theatre Workshop. This is the first time that a former Apprentice has returned to Studio to direct.

“Will’s play is so challenging and so smart about how it works,” says Battat. “We’re invited into this world that he renders with such specificity—Wyoming’s night sky, these friends’ conversations about life and politics and the soul. The play sits squarely in realism, but the surreal hovers at every turn, in the same way that religion operates—we move through our lives with the tactile, material world around us, and religion invites us into the surreal, into the supernatural.”

“It is a real pleasure to welcome Sivan back to Studio Theatre,” says Artistic Director David Muse. “Sivan brings rigor and humanity to her work. I enjoyed collaborating with Sivan as an apprentice and I am excited to see what they do with Will’s play.”

**INFORMATION**

Where: Studio Theatre’s Mead Theatre, 1501 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

Performances: Tuesday-Saturday at 8pm, Saturday and Sunday at 2pm, and Sunday at 7pm. There will be no matinee performance on September 24 and no evening performance on September 25.

Tickets: \$50 – \$95

Runs September 21 – October 23, 2022

Press performance: Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 2pm

To purchase tickets and learn more about *Heroes of the Fourth Turning*, please visit:

<https://www.studiotheatre.org/plays/play-detail/2022-2023-heroes-of-the-fourth-turning>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Location: 1501 14th Street NW (northeast corner of 14th and P Streets)

Parking: Studio has a parking partnership with Washington Plaza Hotel at 10 Thomas Circle NW, three blocks south of Studio; patrons who park at the hotel's parking garage can purchase a \$13 voucher at the box office. Street parking is extremely limited; arrive early to increase your options.

Metro Stops: Red Line: Dupont Circle, Orange/Blue Lines: McPherson Square, and Green/Yellow Lines: U Street/Cardozo

Accessibility: Studio's theatres are all wheelchair accessible; seats are available by reservation. Assistive listening devices are available for all shows at the Box Office. Call the Box Office at 202.332.3300 for more information.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Tickets and Subscriptions: 202.332.3300

Administration: 202.232.7267

Website: [studiotheatre.org](http://studiotheatre.org)

E-mail: [info@studiotheatre.org](mailto:info@studiotheatre.org)

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**Studio Theatre** is a longstanding Washington cultural institution dedicated to the production of contemporary theatre. Over more than 40 years and 350 productions, the theatre has grown from a company that produced in a single rented theatre to one that owns a multi-venue complex stretching half a city block, but has stayed committed to its core distinguishing characteristics: deliberately intimate spaces; excellence in acting and design; and seasons that feature many of the most significant playwrights of our time. Studio is a values-focused organization that pursues artistry and inclusion, and brings characteristic thoughtfulness and daring to our efforts, onstage and off. The theatre serves nearly 75,000 people each year, including more than 1,000 youth and young adults through community engagement initiatives. Founded in 1978, the quality of Studio's work has been recognized by sustained community support, as well as 78 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in professional theatre.

<https://www.studiotheatre.org>