

Media Contact: J. Merrill Motz

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PAPER SOUL

Presents the Digital World Premiere of J. MERRILL MOTZ's

BRIG

A Ghost Story for Film



J. Merrill Motz as BO'SUN. Photo by TJ Turner Pictures

Written & Performed by J. Merrill Motz

Edited by Derek Lee Miller

Photo by TJ Turner

www.tjturnerpictures.com

Video-On-Demand Performance

Oct 1st-31st, 2021

Pay-What-You-Will Admission

Only at www.papersoul.org

Reviews for Paper Soul & J. Merrill Motz:

“Motz is one of the premiere solo performers we know.”

- Young-Howze Theatre Journal

“Motz's greatest talent is letting his audience follow along with his character's footsteps without judgment.”

- Cincinnati City Beat

“Motz performs so effortlessly yet by the end you'll know he's carefully crafted each and every moment to a T.”

- One Girl, Two Cities

J. MERRILL MOTZ brings his newest horror solo performance experiment to a purely digital format for the first time, presenting BRIG, a nautical ghost story for film, just in time for The Halloween Season! Featuring editing by Derek Lee Miller (The Winding Sheet Outfit, The Miller Conspiracy, Transatlantic Love Affair) and exclusive promotional photography from TJ Turner Pictures. (www.tjturnerpictures.com) Only available to stream Oct 1-31st, 2021.

Running Time: 35 minutes

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BRIG tells the story of “ol’ matey Bo’sun”, the last survivor of a mysterious catastrophe on a ghost ship adrift at sea. To save his life, he's locked himself in the ship's brig to wait out whatever’s happened on deck. What's become of the rest of the crew, or the danger he's hiding from, or what he’s waiting for, are not altogether clear. Perhaps dead men DO tell tales, matey.

BRIG was originally planned for The Twin Cities Horror Fest, but was re-tooled to be self-produced in the short window of time before Motz had to cut off all his (substantial) pandemic hair and (shaggy) beard growth to perform a livestreamed show for the Cincinnati Fringe Festival. So instead of a “several month” development period, this project was conceived, written, & filmed on a \$0 budget in Motz’s closet over the course of 10 days, using only a smartphone as a camera and whatever costumes and props he had on hand.

Content Warnings: Blood, some adult language, self-harm, descriptions of death and violence. Recommended for ages 15 & up. Viewer discretion advised.

About J. Merrill Motz:

Motz (rhymes with boats) has been creating his own spin on solo theatrical shows as Paper Soul since 2013, appearing in the Minnesota Fringe Festival with BOXCUTTER HARMONICA, REWIND-A-BUDDY, DING DONG! SING SONG!, THE JACKPOT HOUR WITH(OUT) JACK POWER, KNIFESLINGIN’!, and SOFT. He has toured his shows to New Orleans, Cincinnati, and New York and hopes to continue touring again someday when it is safe to go back outside. Most of his plays can be found at New Play Exchange. He received a Master's degree from Ohio University's Professional Playwriting Program and a BFA in Acting from Central Michigan University. His plays have appeared through Freshwater Theatre, Northland Words, UW Fon Du Lac, KCACTF, Swandive Theatre's Veggie Stock, and the Seabury Quinn, Jr. Playwrights' Festival. He was shortlisted in 2012 for The Old Vic New Voices TS Eliot US/UK Playwright Exchange. He has had his fiction and nonfiction featured on Consequence of Sound, Plots With Guns, LitReactor, and Revolver's Write Fight. He co-hosts Workplace Drama (a monthly storytelling show with Les Kurkendaal-Barrett), serves on the board of Theatre Pro Rata, sits on the Artist Committee for Minnesota Fringe, and appears quasi-regularly as part of Encyclopedia Show Minneapolis. Recently, he has had stories appear in the new Minnesota horror podcast Dead North from Oncoming Productions and Hot Chocolate Media.

Listings Information:

Who: J. MERRILL MOTZ

What: BRIG: A Ghost Story for Film, by Paper Soul

Where: Only at www.papersoul.org

When: Only from Oct 1-31st, 2021

How: Pay-What-You-Will Admission, Venmo: @justmotz OR PayPal: @justmotz