

Portland Center Stage at

THE **ARMORY**

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M E D I A R E L E A S E

Portland-based rock band Blitzen Trapper to make their theatrical debut with *Wild and Reckless* at The Armory

***Entertainment Weekly* premieres new song “Love Live On”**

An LP soundtrack will be available for sale exclusively at performances

Previews Begin March 16 | Opening Night is March 24 | Closes April 30



**“No indie band tells campfire tales better than these flannel-clad Oregonians.”
-Rolling Stone**

March 6, 2017 – PORTLAND, OR. Acclaimed Portland-based rock band Blitzen Trapper will make their foray into the world of theater with *Wild and Reckless*, a new concert event written and performed by the band that will have its world premiere at The Armory. The band has already recorded a limited-edition LP soundtrack for *Wild and Reckless* that will be available exclusively at performances. ***Entertainment Weekly* premiered the song “Love Live On,” which can be heard [HERE](#).** Co-directed by The Armory’s Associate Artistic Director Rose Riordan and Production

Manager Liam Kaas-Lentz, *Wild and Reckless* will run on the U.S. Bank Main Stage for 28 performances. Preview performances begin March 16; the opening night/press night is March 24; and regular performances run through April 30. The band will be joined on stage by New York-based actor Laura Carbonell (originally from Portland), making her debut at The Armory, and Portland-favorite Leif Norby.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *Wild and Reckless* are on sale now and prices start at \$25. Tickets may be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or in-person from the box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger can purchase \$30 tickets in premium seating areas. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. General performance times are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and Thursday matinees at noon (see below for a full list of dates and times). *Wild and Reckless* is recommended for ages 17 and up; the production contains theatrical haze, strobe-like lighting effects, mature content, explicit language and adult situations. More information at <https://www.pcs.org/wildandreckless>.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Blitzen Trapper mined their lyrical storytelling and Oregonian roots to create a story for the stage that fuses the energy of a rock concert with the imaginative possibility of the theater. *Wild and Reckless* traces the unforgettable tale of two kids on the run, in a futuristic vision of Portland's past. This sci-fi dystopian love story features a rock score that marries previously unreleased songs with favorites from the band's catalog, including "Black River Killer" and "Astronaut." Portland Center Stage at The Armory commissioned *Wild and Reckless* as the second world premiere in its new "Northwest Stories" series, dedicated to developing and producing stories about, or by artists from, the northwest region. *Wild and Reckless* will run on the U.S. Bank Main Stage in conjunction with another music-based world premiere, the country music infused [Lauren Weedman Doesn't Live Here Anymore](#).

ABOUT THE BAND

Over the course of 15 years and eight full-length albums, Blitzen Trapper has built a solid

reputation as a band unafraid to take chances. By incorporating a vast array of influences, they have released albums that touch on indie, folk/rock, roots, art rock, alt country, psychedelia and pop, while maintaining a sound that is distinctly Blitzen Trapper. *Paste Magazine* praised their most recent full-length studio album, *All Across This Land*, as a “triumph of Blitzen Trapper’s classic rock sensibilities,” noting it was “an album 15 years in the making, as the musicians are both in command of their talents individually and completely dialed in as a band” and crediting frontman Eric Earley as a “Tom Petty of the Northwest.” Earley has long been acclaimed for his narrative lyrics, with *Rolling Stone* proclaiming that “Earley’s eye for surreal storytelling sets him apart in the over-stuffed indie-folk rock scene” and *Paste Magazine* calling Earley “one of rock music’s most prolific and creative storytellers.” Photos of the band available for download on [FLICKR](#). More information at <http://www.blitzentrappernet/>.

LIMITED-EDITION LP SOUNDTRACK

The band has recorded a limited-edition LP soundtrack of 10 songs that will be featured in the world premiere stage production. 500 vinyl and 500 CD copies will be available for sale exclusively at The Armory during performances. The LP will include seven unreleased songs and three numbers from the band’s catalog: “Black River Killer” from the 2008 album *Furr*; “Below the Hurricane” from the 2010 album *Destroyer of the Void*; and “Astronaut” from the 2011 album *American Goldwing* (all three tracks courtesy of Sub Pop Records). The new tracks were recorded by Gregg Williams; mixed by James Brown at The Union, NY; and mastered by Adam Gonsalves at Telegraph Mastering. The vinyl was pressed at Cascade Record Pressing in Milwaukie, OR.

WILD AND RECKLESS LP TRACK LISTINGS

Wild and Reckless
No Man’s Land
When I’m Dying
Dance With Me
Astronaut
Forever
Love Live On
Black River Killer
Below the Hurricane
Wind Don’t Always Blow

THE CAST

Eric Earley, Blitzen Trapper's primary songwriter, will play The Narrator in *Wild and Reckless* as well as supplying vocals and guitar; **Brian Adrian Koch** will play The Scientist and supply vocals and percussion; **Marty Marquis** will play The Professor and supply vocals and keyboard; **Erik Menteer** will play The Kid and supply vocals and guitar; and **Michael Van Pelt** will supply bass and percussion. The band will be joined on stage by New York-based actor **Laura Carbonell** (originally from Portland) who will play The Girl (Carbonell's recent credits include the rock musical *One Night with Janis Joplin* at Arena Stage and Cleveland Play House) and Portland-favorite **Leif Norby** will play The Dealer (his recent credits include John Jacob Astor and other roles in *Astoria* at The Armory, and Cervantes in *Man of La Mancha* at Lakewood Theatre Company).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Wild and Reckless will be co-directed by The Armory's Associate Artistic Director **Rose Riordan** (who most recently directed *The Oregon Trail* at The Armory) and Production Manager **Liam Kaas-Lentz** (who most recently directed *How to End Poverty in 90 Minutes* for Sojourn Theatre). Bringing the sci-fi dystopian world to life are Scenic Designer **Sibyl Wickersheimer** (recent scenic design credits include *Richard II* for Oregon Shakespeare Festival); Costume Designer **Alison Heryer** (most recently designed costumes for *His Eye is on the Sparrow* at The Armory); Lighting Designer **Daniel Meeker** (most recently designed lighting for *I Love to Eat* at The Armory); Sound Designer **Casi Pacilio** (The Armory's resident sound designer; most recently designed sound for *His Eye is on the Sparrow* at The Armory); Projection Designer **Jared Mezzocchi** (recently made his Off-Broadway debut with projection designs for *Vietgone* at Manhattan Theater Club); with Stage Manager **Janine Vanderhoff** and Production Assistant **Kristina Mast**.

TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

When: **March 16* – April 30, 2017**

***Opening Night/Press Night:** Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Preview Performances: March 16, 18, 21 and 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: On the U.S. Bank Main Stage at [The Armory](#)
 128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, OR., 97209

To Purchase: Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$75. Rush tickets are \$20. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger may purchase premium seating areas for \$30. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. Discounts for groups of 10+. *Prices vary by date, time, seating area, and are subject to change.*

Online: www.pcs.org

By Phone: 503.445.3700, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

In Person: The box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue
12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on performance days
12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on non-performance days

Groups: Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

More Info: <https://www.pcs.org/wildandreckless>

Showtimes: General performance times are Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and Thursday matinees at noon.

Preview Performances:

Thursday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.

Opening Night/Press Night:

Friday, March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Regular Performances:

Sunday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 30, 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 2, 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 8, 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 9, 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 15, 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 16, 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 20, 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 23, 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 27, 12:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

Please Note: Recommended for ages 17 and up; contains theatrical haze, strobe lighting, mature content, explicit language and adult situations.

Accessibility: Learn about our accessibility options at <http://www.pcs.org/access/>.

NORTHWEST STORIES SERIES

New for the 2016-2017 season, Portland Center Stage at The Armory's *Northwest Stories* series is a celebration of the essence of the region. From fresh looks at history to dynamic explorations of contemporary culture, *Northwest Stories* blends adventurous storytelling with local impact, all created with the immediacy and vibrancy that only live performance can bring. This season's *Northwest Stories* offerings include two world premieres, *Astoria: Part One* and *Wild and Reckless*, as well as *The Oregon Trail* and *Hold These Truths*. Also in progress are four new commissions by some of the most inventive artists working today: James Beaton, Mary Kathryn Nagle, Dan O'Brien and Lauren Yee. These artists are developing new plays that will examine our culture and ignite

dialogue about the events – and the places – that define our region.

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY

[Portland Center Stage at The Armory](#) is the largest theater company in Portland and among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994 and has been under the leadership of Artistic Director Chris Coleman since May, 2000. Around 160,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classical, contemporary and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. 11 productions are offered each season, in addition to roughly 400 community events created — in partnership with 170+ local organizations and individuals — to serve the diverse populations in the city. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 21 world premieres and presents an annual new works festival, JAW: A Playwrights Festival. Home to two theaters, The Armory was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

2016-2017 SPONSORS

The [2016-2017 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from the Season Sponsors: Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation and Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support for *Wild and Reckless* is provided by AHA, Sarah J. Crooks, Tasca and Paul Gulick, Drs. Ann Smith Sehdev and Paul Sehdev, and Stoel Rives, LLP. Mark Spencer Hotel is the official hotel partner. Portland Center Stage at The Armory was selected as a participant of the Wallace Foundation's [Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative](#), a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations.

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