



## **As If Theatre Company Kicks Off Its Second Season and Dishes Up Deliciously Funny and Poignant Comedy with *THE CAKE***

**January 6, 2020 – Kenmore, WA – As If Theatre Company (AITC)** presents a comedy about baking, beliefs, and when to stop following the recipe. The Washington premiere of *The Cake* by Bekah Brunstetter (creator and writer of NBC's *This is Us*) tells the story of Della in her legendary North Carolina bakery, where life is sweet as she prepares to be a contestant on her favorite television baking competition. But then, her best-friend's daughter comes home from New York City to ask her to make a cake for her upcoming wedding. When Della learns that Jen's about to marry a woman, she is forced to re-examine her deeply held beliefs, as questions of morals, judgment and family swirl around them all.

Directed by Cindy Giese French, the cast of four includes Amy Gentry, Stephanie Spohrer, Roz Cornejo, and Jack Lush, with a creative team of Sarah Kessler (set design), Molly Hall (costume design), Gwyn Skone (lighting design), and William French (sound design).

"I connected to this play the first time I read it," says French. "The characters are painfully real and incredibly funny. The playwright has crafted a beautiful, funny story that cracks open the door, just a bit, to allow the possibilities of what could be shine through. In today's climate, the understanding of other people's beliefs and perspectives feels more important than ever."

### **March 19 to April 5, 2020**

Opening Night – Thursday, March 19.

Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm. Sundays at 5:00pm

At the **Kenmore Community Club**

**7304 NE 175th St, Kenmore, WA 98028**

**For Tickets and Information, visit [www.asiftheatre.com](http://www.asiftheatre.com).**

**Tickets: \$25 general / \$20 senior/ student/ military**

To request press tickets for the first weekend, or to schedule an interview, contact Amy Gentry at [amy@asiftheatre.com](mailto:amy@asiftheatre.com).

AITC is creating a cookbook of favorite cake recipes from the community. If anyone wishes to contribute a recipe to be included, they should email them to [amy@asiftheatre.com](mailto:amy@asiftheatre.com), by February 29, 2020. The books will be available at all performances of *The Cake*.

**About director Cindy Giese French:** Cindy, alongside her partners, Amy Gentry and Molly Hall, created As If Theatre Company in Kenmore in 2019. In her first year as Artistic Director she has overseen the production of 2 mainstage shows, a sold-out festival of short plays, and numerous workshops. French is currently directing *Asylum in Georgia* for Red Rover Theatre Company at West of Lenin and just prior to that directed *Kimberly Akimbo* for As If Theatre Company. Her passion for theatre began at an early age but blossomed in Hjalmer Anderson's drama class at Inglemoor High School. Cindy has performed throughout theatres in Seattle and the Northend such as Edmonds Driftwood Players, The Phoenix Theater, Woodinville Repertory, Annex Theater and most recently she played Lane in As If Theatre's *The Clean House*. Some of her favorite roles include Ruella in *Communicating Doors*, Sonia from *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, Clown 2 in *The 39 Steps*, and Berthe in *Boeing Boeing* – winner of 2015 BroadwayWorld Seattle – Best Featured Actress in a Play (Local). Cindy has also written, directed and/or produced many plays, songs and musicals. *Just Go!*, the first musical she wrote and produced, was listed in the "Best of '97" section by The Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Her goal is to affect people through art, to pull at their heartstrings, hit their funny bones, and open their minds to other ways of thinking for the greater good.

**About As If Theatre Company:** Passionate and dedicated, As If Theatre Company's ultimate goal is to bring engaging, challenging, and entertaining theater to the community just north of Seattle. Performing at the historic Kenmore Community Club, the company was started by local theater artists, Cindy Giese French, Amy Gentry, and Molly Hall, who wanted to create an artistic home in the Northend. As If is grateful for the fiscal sponsorship of Arts of Kenmore.

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