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RED BIKE BLOCK PARTY RETURNS TO DC FOR A WEEKEND CELEBRATION THIS SPRING

AFTER A SUCCESSFUL DC PREMIERE, RED BIKE—PART-BLOCK PARTY, PART-PERFORMANCE—ARRIVES AT THE PARKS ON MAY 21 FOR LIMITED REMOUNT

[Publicity Images](#)

(Washington, DC) Back by popular demand, **Pan Underground** will produce **RED BIKE Block Party** this spring—a single weekend outdoor celebration, featuring music, food, local vendors, and performances, all centered around an immersive reimagining of **Caridad Svich's RED BIKE**.

Following its fall 2021 regional premiere, Pan Underground will remount the celebration, adding to the event's most popular elements, while bringing together businesses and communities to celebrate and explore the most creative parts of the community. Lasting from 1p to 6p, the block party will include two performances of Svich's play *RED BIKE*. The celebration is designed to encourage audiences to engage with the play on their own terms, with performances emerging out of the event, itself. Audience members will be free to sit, stand or move safely through the space during the show.

RED BIKE is a play about being a child, growing up in small town America and figuring out where you stand in a divided country. "I wanted to create a work that would uplift communities and people that are often historically excluded from the centrality of narratives," shared playwright **Caridad Svich** of her inspirations for the play. In *RED BIKE*, "the focus is on a child of the working poor, and how they navigate their life and try to keep hope, as a political action and faith, alive."

"Staged on bicycle and reimagined as the centerpiece of a real celebration, this *RED BIKE* puts attendees in the middle of a conversation between Svich's writing and their own community," said **Executive Producer Pete Danelski**. "Inviting audiences to engage creative work, without conforming to a traditional theatre setting, is a way to democratize access to artistic experiences—that's even more vital while we all continue reexamining our social relationships and interactions."

RED BIKE will feature the work of **Ahmad Kamal**, and **Bianca Lipford**, with original audio direction by **Aria Velz** and installation direction by **Pete Danelski**. In addition, it will mark the debut of DC native **Brinden Banks** as The Child. Banks previously worked on *RED BIKE*'s 2021 premiere as the Bike Coordinator. Along with new vendors, returning favorites include Tastie Muffs and Kymmy Wellness and Candles, among others. Additional vendor and collaborator information can be found at www.panunderground.com as it is announced.

RED BIKE's original development was made possible by support from community partners including [Gearin' Up Bicycles](#), [Upper Georgia Avenue Main Street](#) and [The Parks at Walter Reed, A Few Cool Hardware Stores](#) and [Life Asset](#), with music curated for the event by [44:21](#). This broad coalition of support has ensured cross-sector community engagement and impact. Pan Underground's *RED*

BIKE gained local and national attention with articles in [Washington City Paper](#), [District Fray](#) and [American Theatre Magazine](#).

RED BIKE BLOCK PARTY SCHEDULE

- May 21, 2022: 1P.** Block Party Begins
- 2P.** *RED BIKE* Performance Begins
- 3P.** Block Party Continues (Vendors, Food, Performers)
- 5P.** *RED BIKE* Performance Begins
- 6P.** Block Party Wraps Up

TICKETS

Tickets for RED BIKE Block Party will go on sale Saturday April 23, 2022. Multiple ticketing levels available, including Pay-What-You-Can options. No one will be turned away for a lack of funds. Tickets will be available through panunderground.com and will remain on sale through May 21.

BIOS

Brinden Banks in his acting debut, aspires to bring the vision of *RED BIKE* to life through imagination and discipline to portray The Child. Brinden previously worked as Bike Coordinator on Pan Underground's *RED BIKE* (regional premiere).

Pete Danelski (He/him) is a director, producer, and creative facilitator, based in Washington, DC, making work all over. Pete creates theatre and performance through a variety of means and forms. Directing, associate and assisting credits include Folger Theatre, Theatre J, Gallery Players, Rorschach, The Performance Interface Lab, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival Round House Theatre and DeSales University. Original projects include The Lower Depths Project, woolgatherings, as well as Every Hour/Chekhov in 8—developed with support of the Drama League of New York City. Pete co-adapted the first American adaptation of the Čapek brother's *Adam the Creator*, which received a reading at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in 2019. Pete has developed work through a Kennedy Center Office Hours Residency. He is a 2019 Director-in-Residence with The Drama League of New York and a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab. Pete is also founder and Executive Producer of Pan Underground. His writing has been published internationally in *Shakespeare*, the journal of the British Shakespeare Association. M.Phil., Trinity College Dublin.

Ahmad Kamal is so happy to be a part of this project with such a wonderful cohort of artists. Ahmad is a stage, film and voice actor in the DC area. He has performed in numerous theaters around town and will be performing at the Folger Theatre this upcoming spring. Ahmad holds a BFA from the University of Virginia and an MA from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

Bianca Lipford is a Washington D.C native and a proud graduate of American University with a BA in Musical Theatre. Previous shows include: Everyman Theatre: *Flyin' West* (Minnie Dove Charles); Mosaic Theater Company: *Queens Girl in Africa* (U/S Jackie), *The Till Trilogy - That Summer in Sumner* (Mamie Till Bradley and others); Keegan Theatre: *Little Wars* (Addy), *As You Like It* (Phoebe); Capital Fringe: *She Sings Light* (Meira); Creative Cauldron: *Audrey The Musical* (Edith Head); Rorschach Theatre: *Magic In Rough Spaces-When The Stars Go Out* (Polly); Avant Bard: *By*

Sea (Priscilla); Flying V Theatre: Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog (Ensemble); Tenth Muse Productions: Sioux Falls (Mermaid/Dr. Beaugard/Sr. Teresa); Upcoming: Shakespeare In Love (Keegan Theatre)

Pan Underground is an independent production company specializing in work which challenges the way live theatre is made and experienced. the company offers a platform for projects and artists creating unique ways to collaborate and connect through theatre and performance.

For more information visit www.panunderground.com

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