

Montpelier, VT: **Lost Nation Theater's Winterfest 2013, showcasing Vermont's Best, presents Vermont funnyman Tom Murphy in LAUGH TIL YOU DIE Feb 21-24.**

Accident-prone and dangerously funny, Tom Murphy kicks the art of solo-performance into overdrive. With a sold-out run on Broadway and international appearances in over 30 countries, his relentless brand of soul-searching repartee and sublime slapstick captivates audiences and leaves them crying... "uncle".

But Tom Murphy has a secret.

The secret? He turned 60 last year!

That's when he started having "The Dream." And that dream (or recurring nightmare!) launched Murphy's new show, **Laugh Til You Die**, premiering at Lost Nation Theater's Winterfest 2013 February 21-24.

Delight in one man's riotous journey through life, love, falling down, and getting back up again.

That's *Laugh Til You Die*. "A sure-fire cure for the blahs." raves *THE NEW YORK TIMES* about Murphy. Lucky for us, this internationally renowned and Broadway clown calls Vermont home- which means we don't have to travel 300 or more miles to see him!

In "The Dream," Tom is 86 years old. He's out there, in front of an audience, ready to rumble with the marvelously manic moves that have been his stock and trade for nearly 40 years: the slip that lands him flat on his back, the tumble & flip that sets him back upright. But he's 86, and tho' he tries to flail, his body fails.

So Tom is on a quest. How can he continue to practice the slapstick physical comedy that he loves even when he's 90? Because he's not going to stop! The immediacy of this humor is too much fun for him to resist.

"This transition I am going through, this thing called aging, that is what I'm doing this show about," he said.

Laugh Til You Die features many different characters and sketches: an 86-year-old, an evangelical preacher, and a plate-spinner a la the old Ed Sullivan show, as well as a bit of video from Murphy's early shows.

Murphy's work is in the same vein as Buster Keaton, Lucille Ball, the Three Stooges, and Charlie Chaplin. He's funny, he's tender, he's silly. He's considered one of the top slapstick comedians alive today (along with the film's Jim Carey). From playing in barns, under big tops, and on Broadway, Tom Murphy keeps us laughing.

Laugh Til You Die.

The show is the final installment of Lost Nation Theater's month-long Winterfest – celebrating Vermont's best performing artists – at Montpelier City Hall Arts Center. It runs for 4 performances only Feb 21-24.

Tom is a sought-after teacher in Denmark, France, Germany, Austria, and in the U.S. He was a faculty member at the Boston University Theater Institute and spent three years teaching at Ringling Brother's Clown College.

As part of his Lost Nation *Winterfest* weekend, Murphy will be teaching his workshop "The Innate Comedian" on Saturday afternoon, Feb 23 from 2-4pm. Find out what is inherently funny about you! This workshop is great, whether you are just starting out, or a veteran professional. (Pre-registering is recommended.)

Laugh til you Die runs February 21-24, part of Lost Nation Theater's Winterfest, at Montpelier City Hall. Curtain is 7:30pm Thursday-Saturday, and 2pm Sunday. Tickets are \$20 (\$15 for stu's & sr's; \$10 Youth under 12). Tom's workshop is \$25. For tickets & information: call **802-229-0492**, or visit **lostnationtheater.org**

LNT (39 Main St, Montpelier) offers assisted listening and large print programs. Service dogs are always welcome. Please inform the box office of any special needs when purchasing tickets.

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