

For Immediate Release
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**Immersive Theater Hit Finishes its
Critically-Acclaimed 11-Month Run
*THE GRAND PARADISE***

Concludes on December 31 after 360 Performances of the Work

Critic's Pick. "The latest and lushest of the many immersive theater spectacles... manages to summon romantic promise and regretful retrospection in a single, ocean-air breath." -- Ben Brantley, The New York Times

Critics' Pick. "A captivatingly sensual interactive adventure." -- Time Out

"This is one you absolutely cannot miss." -- Huffington Post

Third Rail Projects will be closing its critically acclaimed ***THE GRAND PARADISE*** on December 31, 2016. Performances of this fully immersive, multi-sensory experience in which visitors travel to a tropical paradise opened on January 30th, 2016 and became one of Off-Broadway's biggest hits of the season. At closing, it will have run 360 performances.

Set in those hazy and culturally liminal years of the late 1970s becoming the 1980s, the experience begins as you are handed a vintage plane ticket. You and other guests find yourselves transported to ***THE GRAND PARADISE***, a tropical resort that purports to be the home of the original, genuine Fountain of Youth. Greeted with a tropical drink and a garland of flowers, visitors encounter the resort's resident population, characters who embody the era's shifting and blurring values — a rogue's gallery of eccentrics, hustlers, eternal youths, gods, monsters, disco queens, and con men. Visitors to ***THE GRAND PARADISE*** are invited to explore the grounds and the beaches, watch a floorshow, quench their deepest longings, follow performers into one-on-one encounters, and trade their faded ideals for shiny new illusions. Ultimately, ***THE GRAND PARADISE*** offers a pas de deux of desire and death, a midlife crisis, a coming of age, and search for the revitalizing waters of the Fountain of Youth at the resort of the eternally brokenhearted.

Based on a concept by Tom Pearson, ***THE GRAND PARADISE*** is directed, designed, written and choreographed by Zach Morris, Tom Pearson, and Jennine Willett in collaboration with The Company: Erik Abbott-Main, Elizabeth Carena, Alberto Denis, Ashley Handel, Roxanne Kidd, Jeff Lyon, Rebekah Morin, Lauren Muraski, Marissa Nielsen-Pincus, Tara O'Con, Wil Petre, Joshua Reaver, Katrina Reid, Edward Rice, Ashley Robicheaux, Sebastiani Romagnolo, Jessy Smith, Tori Sparks, Niko Tsocanos, and Carlton Cyrus Ward. The production features production design by Zach Morris, Tom Pearson, and Jennine Willett, original music & sound design by Sean Hagerty, costumes by Karen Young, environment design Elisabeth Svenningsen, project

management by Andrea Dohar Corbett, production management by Brittany Crowell, stage management by Kristina Vnook, and technical direction by Jordan Schulze. and produced in association with Bill Caleo and Zach Stern.

The full company of performers includes: Rachel Abrahams, Matthew Albert, Lia Bonfilio, Erika Boudreau-Barbee, Elizabeth Carena , Guilia Carotenuto, Andy Chapman, Elisa Davis, Jake Ely, Alberto Denis, Benjamin Freedman, Amy Gernux, Gierre J. Godly, Joseph Harris, Julia Jurgilewicz, Roxanne Kidd, Madison Krekel, Justin Lynch, Rebekah Morin, Krista Morgenson, Zach Morris, Lauren Muraski, Taylor Myers, Alex M. Schell, Marissa Nielsen-Pincus, Tara O'Con, Tom Pearson, Joshua Reaver, Katrina Reid, Edward Rice, Julie Seal, Bre Short, Jessie Smith, Bryan Strimple, Jeff Sykes, Jake Szczpek, Niko Tsocanos, Carlton Cyrus Ward, and Jennine Willett.

Hailed as one of the foremost companies creating site-specific, immersive and experiential performance in the US, **Third Rail Projects**, led by Artistic Directors Zach Morris, Tom Pearson, and Jennine Willett, is dedicated to re-envisioning ways in which audiences can engage with contemporary performance. They have made work in New York, nationally, and abroad for over 15 years, and their long-running, award-winning work, *Then She Fell*, was named as one of the "Top Ten Shows of the 2012" *The New York Times* and acclaimed as one of the best theater experiences of 2013 by *Vogue*. Third Rail Projects has been the recipient of several prestigious awards, including New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Awards for *Then She Fell* (2013) and *Vanishing Point* (2008). For more info, visit thirdrailprojects.com.

THE GRAND PARADISE runs through December 31, 2016. Performances are Thursday - Sunday at 7:00pm with additional 10:30pm performances on Friday and Saturday. The Grand Paradise is located at 383 Troutman Street at Wyckoff Avenue in Bushwick, Brooklyn -- just off the L train at Jefferson Street. Tickets are \$110 - \$135, available at www.thegrandparadise.com. Private events are also available; visit the website for more information. Performances begin promptly. Late admittance is at the sole discretion of the staff. The show features nudity and adult themes, so admittance is strictly limited to audience members 18 years of age and over; all audience members must bring valid government-issued photo IDs. The performance lasts roughly 2 hours. Because of the immersive nature of this piece, audiences may be standing for significant periods of time over the course of the performance. Environments contain a number of textures (such as a beach with sand), so comfortable shoes are suggested. This performance is not recommended for audience members who are not comfortable standing, walking or being alone. For more information call 718-374-5196.

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