

Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival presents

**Michael Brown** in association with  
**Rough House Theater Co.:**  
*Invitation to a Beheading*

Chicago

Adapted from the novel by Vladimir Nabokov

January 27-29, 2023, The Chopin Theatre

In a bizarre and irrational world, a man is condemned to death for an absurd crime and confined to await his execution. But his prison may not be what it seems... Alternately disorienting, absurd, hysterical, and hopeful, this great novel by one of the 20th century's masters is brought to the stage by Michael Brown and Rough House, with their signature combination of playfulness and strangeness. Full of surprising twists and turns, the novel comes to life through a combination of puppetry, masks, and imaginative storytelling.

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**CREATIVE TEAM**

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Adapted for the stage and Directed by Michael Brown  
Co-created by Noah Appelbaum, Michael Brown, Claire Saxe, and Corey Smith  
Performed by Noah Appelbaum, Claire Saxe, and Michael Brown

**Puppet and Mask Design** *Mike Oleon*  
**Sound Design** *Corey Smith*  
**Set Design** *Jacqueline Penrod*  
**Costume Design** *Frances Maggio*  
**Lighting Design** *Rachel Levy*  
**Lighting Director** *Heather Gilbert*  
**Stage Management** *Amy Rappa*

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**ABOUT ROUGH HOUSE THEATER CO.**

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Rough House Theater Co. is on a mission to connect individuals and communities through puppet art that celebrates the weird things that make us unique and the weirder things that bring us together.

*Adapted from "Invitation to a Beheading" by Vladimir Nabokov. Copyright © Vladimir Nabokov, used by permission of the Wylie Agency LLC.*

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