

## **Aliens, Nazis, and Angels**

**a part of the 11th Annual Capital Fringe Festival July 7 - 31, 2016**

***Mental health advocate and storyteller spins personal trauma and tragedy into comedic gold.***

WASHINGTON—Leah Harris spent her childhood hunting imaginary Nazis with her schizophrenic mother, obsessing about ancient aliens, dieting with and rebelling against her hypercritical grandmother, attempting suicide, and collecting psychiatric diagnoses. Discovering John Waters' films in a teen psychiatric ward helped her learn to embrace her "inner weirdo" and pursue a life worth living. With humor and heart, her stories explore the complexities of trauma, mental health, loss, struggle, and survival among three generations of women in her troubled Jewish family.

Says Harris, "this show is the culmination of my fifteen years as a mental health advocate and storyteller. It has allowed me the creative freedom to dance on that fine line between comedy and tragedy, raising awareness about the effects of psychological trauma and the capacity to heal."

**What:** *Aliens, Nazis, and Angels*

**Featuring:** Leah Harris, writer and performer  
Regie Cabico, director

**Where:** **The Argonaut**  
**1433 H Street NE**  
**Washington, DC 20002**

**When:** Saturday, July 9, 6:30 – 7:30 PM  
Sunday, July 10, 2:15 – 3:15 PM  
Saturday, July 16, 5:00 – 6:00 PM  
Sunday, July 17, 7:30 – 8:30 PM  
Friday, July 22, 7:30 – 8:30 PM  
Saturday, July 23, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

**Tickets & Passes:** Visit [capitalfringe.org](http://capitalfringe.org) or call 866-811-4111.

**Photos:** For high resolution photos related to the show, please contact Sasha Sinclair: [studio3440dc@gmail.com](mailto:studio3440dc@gmail.com) or see [capitalfringe.org](http://capitalfringe.org) beginning in June.

**[Aliens, Nazis, and Angels]**

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**Official Hashtag** #AliensAngels

## **About the Artist**

### **Leah Harris, Writer/Performer**

Leah Harris is a mental health and suicide prevention advocate, poet, and storyteller who has performed her true stories live in DC with Story District, Better Said than Done, Sparkle, and La Ti Do. She is a featured poet in Alix Olson's anthology *Word Warriors: 35 Women Leaders in the Spoken Word Revolution*. Leah's story is featured in the upcoming feature-length documentary about suicide, [The S Word](#), and she is also an advisor to the project. Her essays have appeared in *The Huffington Post*, *Truthout*, and *The Philadelphia Enquirer*. She has been a guest on several radio shows including WHYY Radio Times, The Trauma Therapist Podcast, The Grass Gets Greener, Connect the Dots, and The Marilu Henner Show. [www.leahidaharris.com](http://www.leahidaharris.com)

### **Regie Cabico, Director**

Regie Cabico received the 2006 New York Innovative Theater Award for Best Performance Art Production as part of the New York Neo-Futurist's production of *Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind*. His solo shows have been presented at Dixon Place, Joe's Pub The Public Theater, Seattle Fringe Festival, Contact Theater (Manchester, England) and The Humana Theater Festival. He is a teaching artist at The Kennedy Center and performs his work throughout North America & The UK. Television credits include NPR's Snap Judgement, HBO's Def Poetry Jam. As a poet, Cabico is a pioneer of spoken word poetry and slam. His work appears in over 30 anthologies including the Lambda nominated, *Flicker & Spark*. Mr. Cabico directed and dramaturged Sasha Sinclair's *Self Portrait*, Margaux Delotte Bennett's *Black and Kinky Among Brown Waves*, j.scales' *Mostly the Voice* and Sahil Farooqi's *Brown Monkey Goes To McDonalds*. His latest solo show, *Godiva Dates and One Night Stands* received critical acclaim at the 2014 Capital Fringe Festival.

## **About Capital Fringe**

At Capital Fringe our focus is on expanding audience's appetites for independent theatre, music, art, dance and unclassifiable forms of live performance and visual art. Capital Fringe is a catalyst for cultural and community development, and a destination that brings artists and audiences together. Capital Fringe thrives on amplifying the vibrancy of DC's independent arts community and enriches the lives of those who reside, work and visit here.

As a non-profit business Capital Fringe is made possible by: Reva and David Logan Foundation, Nora Roberts Foundation, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, The City Fund, Dallas Morse Coors Foundation, Prince Charitable Trust, Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, Share Fund of the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, MARPAT Foundation, DC Public Library Foundation, PNC Bank, Fringe Board of Directors and Fringe individual donors and members.

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