



# Vincent

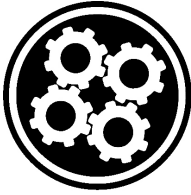
A full-length two-act one-man play about Van Gogh

**BLACK  
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Presents a play written by Leonard Nimoy  
July 13-17, 2017

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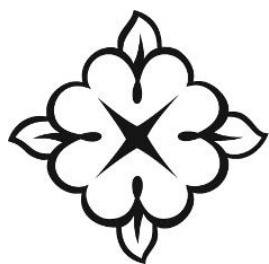


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Ray and Margaret Morley invite you to stay with us at the 1863 Robert Jordan house in the beautiful historic district of Ipswich, Massachusetts. Our home is a late 19th century Victorian house located a few blocks from Ipswich center.

We have 8 guest rooms with private baths, HD flat screen TV with Fios 200 channels, air conditioning, and internet availability throughout the property. A full breakfast from our extensive menu is included in your room rate. Stop by for a visit and see what makes us one of the best inns on the North Shore.

Breakfast is open to the public 7 days a week.

## NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to *Vincent*, by Leonard Nimoy, a full-length, two-act play, the first of our shows in Black Box Lab at Stage 284, presented at the Community House. This mesmerizing piece recounts the life and tribulations of the great painter Vincent Van Gogh through the eyes of his brother Theo.

Played with nuance and incredible aplomb, Ipswich Chronicle columnist Doug Brendel illuminates not only the life but also the soul of this great artist. Surrounded by the paintings of Vincent Van Gogh, you will spend a mesmerizing evening in the company of a great story and a great performance. Beautifully directed by his wife Kristina Brendel, the piece is enchanting.

Since Kristina and Doug moved to Ipswich in 2009, North Shore audiences have enjoyed Doug onstage as The Man in the Chair in Stage 284's *Drowsy Chaperone*, the King in *Stiltskin*, various Black Box Lab productions, and a number of shows with other area groups. He brings his numerous years of acting to bear in this monumental performance.

Set in an art gallery run by his brother Theo, we the audience are at once spectator and members of Van Gogh's intimate circle of friends come to grieve and celebrate the life of *Vincent*.

I very much hope you enjoy the show!

Myriam Cyr



Artistic Director, Black Box Lab at Stage284

## MISSION STATEMENT

**The Black Box Lab** at Stage284 fosters a vision for new works of theatrical art as well as little known classics from around the world to enrich, entertain, and educate our community.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Melissa Elmer, Bethany Johnson, Myriam Cyr, Parker Jamison, Joan Covino, Linda Greenstein, Dan Bruns, Kevin Dunn, Jay Martel, Katie Clarke, Lydia Brendel, Dana Rowe, Erik Swanson, Lilli Ivester, Ashley Valetta, Susan Lunt and Becky Axelrod



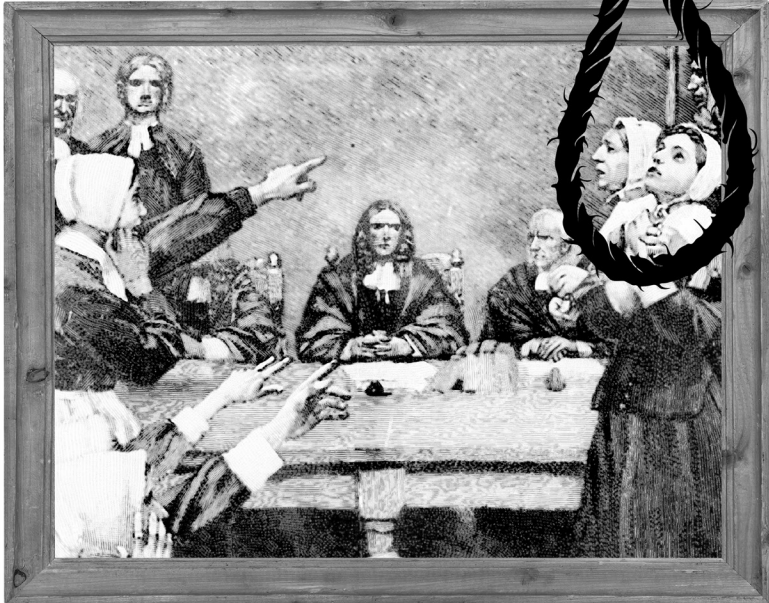
**BLACK  
BOX LAB**

**284**  
STAGE  
AT THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

PRESENTS A  
READING OF  
A NEW PLAY

# SALTONSTALL'S TRIAL

ONE MAN IN DEFENSE OF  
THE SALEM WITCHES



The play centers around Nathaniel Saltonstall, patriarch of the prominent New England family that began in Haverhill, Massachusetts during the time of the Salem Witch Trials. Nathaniel became the only Judge to stand in defense of those accused of witchcraft. A powerful, true, story of moral courage.

**Sunday, November 5, 2017**

Written by: **Michael Cormier** • Directed by: **Myriam Cyr**

**Tickets: \$10** in Advance • **\$12** at the Door

**stage284.org**

The Community House • 284 Bay Road, South Hamilton, MA



4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., seven days a week

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**BLACK  
BOX LAB**



**PRESENTS A  
READING OF**

One woman prices her life.



A (mostly) biographical story of a gifted, mature, actress whose life spans decades of real history, from her youth during the Depression through the turn of the 21st century. Marriage, children, divorce, and rebirth of the dream of being an actress bring her to the act of reminiscing as she attempts to put prices on the pieces of her life as she plans for a Barn Sale. Based on the life of the mother of one of Black Box Lab's Founders and Producers, Patricia Peterson Jamison. Written by award-winning Director of Zeitgeist Stage, David Miller.

**Thursday, September 21 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Written by: **David Miller** • Directed by: **Myriam Cyr**

**Tickets: \$8 in Advance • \$10 at the Door**

**[stage284.org](http://stage284.org)**

The Community House • 284 Bay Road, South Hamilton, MA



### **Mission Statement:**

The Community House brings the community together through cultural, educational, and recreational programs and events.

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#### **The Community House Staff**

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Tricia Michalyszyn, *Director of Development*  
Bethany Johnson, *Executive Assistant*  
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Lauren Verge  
Will Glovsky  
Lily Ting  
Emma McLaughlin  
Caroline Donellan  
Mackenzie Robertson  
Michelle Morency  
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#### **History of The Community House**

In 1921, George and Emily Mandell of Hamilton built The Community House in memory of eight men of both towns who died in military service during World War I, including their son, Sam. They commissioned Guy Lowell, a respected architect of Boston and New York, to design the building, and gave The Community House in trust for the use of the residents of both towns.



**BLACK  
BOX LAB**

**STAGE  
284**  
AT THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

**PRESENTS A STAGED  
BOOK TALK**

“An American Family’s  
Journey through WWII”



A father's odyssey. A mother's secret. A son's story. *Wilber's War* chronicles the story of Wilber and Norma Bradt during an extraordinary time, World War II. It offers fresh insight---deeply personal---into the historic conflict as it was fought by the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theater and by a family on the home front. It is an epic tale of patriotic and familial duty, heroism, love, infidelity and the tragedy of suicide. Author Hale Bradt is a resident of Salem, MA. He is Professor of Physics, Emeritus, at MIT with a specialty of astrophysics.

**Thursday, August 3 @ 7:30 p.m.**

Written by: **Hale Bradt** • Directed by: **Myriam Cyr**  
Featuring: **J.T. Turner** as Wilber

**Tickets: \$5 • [stage284.org](http://stage284.org)**

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## WELL WISHERS

One talented artist depicting another - wish I could be there to see it. Congratulations, Doug & Kristina! ~Bob Pitts

Congratulations on making this role your own, and in the process cementing your claim to three all-important life attributes: a wishbone, a backbone, and a funny bone.  
~Francis Hauert

Since you were our “Man” in Drowsy, I’ve loved watching you on stage. Break a leg! ~Becky Axelrod

“Lotte” is so impressed with “Surly Man’s” transition to an awesome artist/actor! Congratulations! ~Patricia Jamison



Doug Brendel  
warmly invites you  
to join him in the  
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leaving home.

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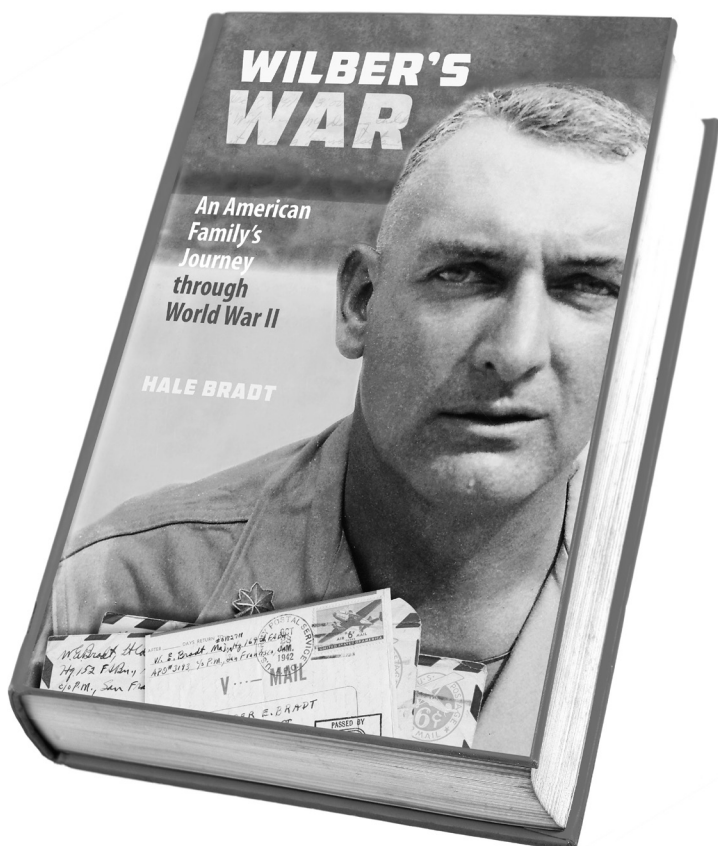
# Wilber's War:

An American Family's Journey through WWII

by: Hale Bradt

An epic tale of patriotic and familial duty, heroism,  
love, infidelity and the tragedy of suicide.

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collections” [Midwest Book Review]



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PRESENTS

# The Addams Family



## Performances

October 14 @ 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.

October 15 @ 2:00 p.m.

October 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

October 21 @ 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.

October 22 @ 2:00 & 6:30 p.m.

October 26 @ 7:30 p.m.

October 28 @ 3:00 & 7:30 p.m.

October 29 @ 2:00 & 6:30 p.m.

Stage Direction by **Bobby Kerrigan**

Music Direction by **Joe Stroup**

Choreography by **Kelly Murphy**

Tickets: \$18 in Advance • \$25 at the Door

[stage284.org](http://stage284.org)

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- 2014 OpenTable Hot 100 "Top 100 Hot Spots in America"
- 2012 Party Earth "Top 40 Bars in the World"
- 2012 Improper Bostonian Best of Boston "Best Singles Scene"
- 2011 Improper Bostonian Best of Boston "Best Hot Spot"
- 2011 Boston Magazine People's Choice "Best New Restaurant"
- 2011 Boston Nightlife Awards "Best New Restaurant, Lounge"

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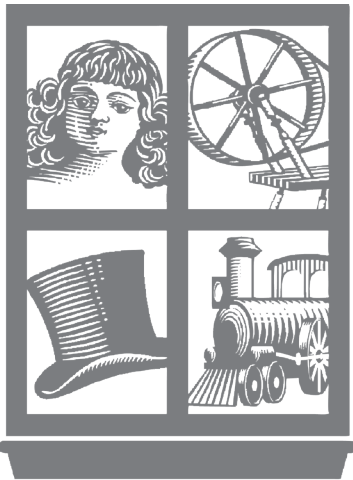
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VOS  
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## DOUG BRENDEL



Doug Brendel began his theatrical career as Bigot the Bad Elf in a Christmas musical at Franklin Elementary School in Griffith, Indiana. (He can still sing you the opening song if you'd like.) He did 9 shows in 3 years of high school, and as an adult in the Phoenix area decided to get involved in community theatre. His first audition was for a first-time director named Kristina, who cast him and later married him. The Brendels' theatre romance persists to this day, with Kristina still telling Doug what to do and when to do it.

Doug has delighted North Shore audiences in numerous stage productions in recent years. He has appeared as King Arthur in *Camelot*, El Gallo in *The Fantasticks*, Charles in *Blithe Spirit*, and The Man in the Chair in Stage 284's production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, among others. He was honored to create the role of the King in Stage 284's world premiere production of the musical *Stiltskin*. Doug has also been seen in a number of Black Box productions, including *Battle Not Begun*, *The Divine*, and *Civil War Letters*.

With Kristina, Doug leads New Thing, a humanitarian-aid charity in Belarus (former USSR), providing tons of donated food and goods to orphans, foster families, the homeless, the sick, and others in need. You can follow Doug's adventures by visiting [NewThing.net](http://NewThing.net) and clicking to request the latest photos.

## KRISTINA BRENDEL



I thought I knew who he was. He was the guy who painted that sunflowers painting that my parents had a poster of. He cut off his ear. He was a little crazy. Then along came Don McLean's song with a new interpretation... a sweet tortured soul, doomed because "the world was never meant for one as beautiful as you."

And then there were the letters to his brother Theo, and Leonard Nimoy's Vincent. The letters that Vincent wrote to Theo (which Theo kept, and have been carefully cataloged) are the clearest insight into Vincent's heart and mind. When Nimoy read them, he was compelled to tell Vincent's story, in an intimate, personal way. He didn't want the audience to simply observe the artist, but to feel what he felt, to see the world through his eyes. I remember quite clearly the day I stumbled across Nimoy's performance on television. I was swept into Vincent's own words, his passion, his frustration and his pain. Vincent's words can be eloquent, yes; passionate, most assuredly, but they are also often petulant, stubborn, unrealistic and harsh. He was a man who did not fit in. And in the end, as Theo asserts, isn't that the point?

It is my hope that through the production more and more people will come to...

"...Understand what you tried to say to me  
How you suffered for your sanity  
How you tried to set them free  
They would not listen, they did not know how  
Perhaps they'll listen now"

Thank you Mr. McLean,  
--Kristina

## **ACT I:**

The time is July, 1890, the week after Vincent's death.  
The period of time covered in this act ranges from  
the late 1870's to Sept. 24, 1889

## **ACT II:**

The time is continuous until July 29, 1890.

## **THE PLACE:**

A lecture hall in Paris, France.

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## **VINCENT written by Leonard Nimoy**

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DIRECTED BY  
**Kristina Brendel**

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**Linda Greenstein**

PRODUCER  
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