



By F. Kathleen Foley

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"Stupid Kid" at the Road on Magnolia

The essentials: Sharr White, the rising playwright behind this work, recently had his play "The Other Place," starring Laurie Metcalf and Daniel Stern, leap from off-Broadway to the Manhattan Theatre Club's Samuel J. Friedman Theatre. "Stupid Kid" director Cameron Watson is a veteran with deep roots in the L.A. scene. The fact that the Road has scored a world premiere by White is a coup for this well-regarded company.

Why this? As evidenced in the 2013 production of "Annapurna" at the Odyssey (and a later run off-Broadway), White can segue effortlessly from hilarity to wrenching poignancy. "Stupid Kid," described as a "gothic western" about a young man returning home after 14 years in prison for a crime he swears he didn't commit, may present similar comic-tragic opportunities.

Details: The Road on Magnolia, 10747 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood. 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays; ends Nov. 12. \$34. (818) 761-8838. www.RoadTheatre.org



Taylor Gilbert, from left, Joe Hart, Ben Theobald and Allison Blaize in "Stupid Kid." (Brian Cole)