

**Contact**

Michael Boatright

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[f64@michaelboatright.com](mailto:f64@michaelboatright.com)*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**JULY 24, 2020***Dark Theatre Houses Are Seen in a New Light by Photographer Michael Boatright**

ATLANTA, GA, July 24, 2020 - With the advent of the Coronavirus pandemic, theatres have been dark for the past few months. Local photographer Michael Boatright saw a need and wanted to bring light to the economic challenges that theatres are facing. With that, he began shooting a series of photos of stages however they were left when theatres closed. The series entitled *Dark Houses* currently features images from twelve of the eighteen theatres and music venues around the Atlanta area photographed to date.

“The goal is to bring awareness that this live art-form that includes performers, stagehands and craftspeople who basically cannot work. They and their companies/communities/houses need help. While theater has survived many plagues, social unrest and economic crises in its 2,500 years, it will need community help to survive all three at the same time.” says Boatright.

“Visualizing the need to those not directly impacted will make other efforts more effective and the more houses and stages we can get, the better the story. For those stages that still have one, the hope has been to use just the ghost light or whatever safety lights are left on and whatever set (or works) was in place when performers and crew had to bug out.”

As the number of theatres involved grows, Boatright hopes to use the photos to raise funds to help the struggling artists and arts organizations whose spaces he’s captured. “There is some urgency as self-employed Unemployment Insurance and PUA for many in the community runs out July 31 and there is currently a move afoot to make assistance to the industry in the next round of CARES funding.”

The gallery of *Dark Houses* images can be viewed at:

<https://www.michaelboatright.com/darkhousesatlanta>

Michael Boatright is a Certified Professional Photographer, based in Atlanta, Georgia, making portraits for commercial and private clients, and for the theater, dance and music communities. His Fine Art projects also include landscape photography on four continents and abstract impressions of real-life subjects. His studio is located in the TULA Arts Center in Buckhead, Atlanta. Contact him via his website, <https://www.michaelboatright.com> or by email at [f64@michaelboatright.com](mailto:f64@michaelboatright.com).