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2 hrs · Austin, TX ·

Gotta say a word about Breaking String Theater's GUSEV at SVT, which I saw Monday, and which left me in tears, I mean I cried all the way home. Beautiful performances (hi Stephen Price, hi Brock England, hi Reagan Tankersley (hahaha with the cards), hi all the others I don't know), and the design was KNOCKOUT--Robert Fisher's sound design especially really moved me, but Ia's set was amazing and so were Pam Fletcher Friday's costumes and Julia M. Smith's projections. Anyway, but just the gorgeous words and sweep of it, the way at the end I felt like I was sinking through the ocean myself. And when Brock said "It could be any of us" of a body sinking beneath the waves, it was such perfect Chekov, so heartbreaking and so ridiculously human and funny. Dude there's no COULD be, it's all of us. Chekov is some sort of 19th c Russian boddhisatva and this production is a lovely tribute to him.