



**THEATREWORKS SILICON VALLEY
RESCHEDULES IN-THEATRE PERFORMANCES,
51ST SEASON NOW SLATED TO BEGIN MARCH 2021**

**New 2020 virtual offering announced:
Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone* as a special event for subscribers**

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA (12 August 2020) — **TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's** Artistic Director **Tim Bond** and Executive Director **Phil Santora** announced today that the Tony Award-winning theatre will postpone the opening of its 51st mainstage season to March 2021, with eight plays presented through May 2022. Said Bond, "The safety and well-being of our community is of paramount importance, and if the need arises we will continue to adjust our schedule accordingly. While our audiences can't be together in person, TheatreWorks will continue to adapt, create, inspire, and celebrate the human spirit." To that end, the company has created a roster of virtual programs, which will include **Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone***, in which the virtuoso pianist brings the legendary American composer to life (to be offered 5pm PT September 13, 2020). This presentation will be offered by TheatreWorks to its subscribers as a gift, as well as available to the public as a single ticket purchase. During shelter-in-place TheatreWorks will continue to present a wide variety of remote programming on its virtual TheatreWorks from Home platform, including the launch of a new initiative focused on racial justice and getting out the vote. More details about this initiative will be released soon.

Upon the return to live performances, five mainstage productions will be mounted at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts and three will be staged at Palo Alto's Lucie Stern Theatre. The company's lauded New Works Festival will also be rescheduled in 2021. Subscriptions, single tickets, and more information about virtual offerings will be available in coming weeks at **theatreworks.org** or by calling 650-463-1960.

TheatreWorks' 51st Season will include a World Premiere developed in its New Works Festival, acclaimed performer Hershey Felder with another musical masterpiece, the Regional Premiere of a Jane Austen musical by Tony-nominated composer Paul Gordon, a high-stakes environmental drama, a timely Tony-winning musical about the immigrant experience, an onstage adaption of a beloved holiday film, a poignant American classic, and a personalized portrait of a century of American history. The upcoming season will mark Bond's first at the helm following Kelley's retirement in June 2020, ending one of the longest current tenures in American theatre. Bond, an award-winning, nationally-acclaimed

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stage director, will helm two plays and has invited Kelley to return to direct the season's two musicals.

The season launches in Spring 2021 with the return of TheatreWorks favorite Hershey Felder in the hit musical masterpiece ***Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin*** (March 17 – April 18, 2021), directed by **Joel Zwick**. Felder's prior productions at TheatreWorks (*Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*; *Hershey Felder, Beethoven*; *Our Great Tchaikovsky*; *Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story*) have shattered box office records for the Silicon Valley theatre company. During quarantine, the renowned pianist livestreamed remote performances of *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin* and *Hershey Felder: Beethoven* for TheatreWorks audiences, who watched the hit shows from home. In 2021, Felder returns to the TheatreWorks stage as brilliant Polish composer Fryderyk Chopin, illuminating an exclusive piano lesson with this musical master. In this stunning solo show, the "Poet of the Piano" tells his romantic story while sharing dazzling performances of his compositions. ***Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin*** has delighted audiences across the country in critically acclaimed sold-out runs, with *The Mercury News* lauding Felder's performance as "Enchanting... Genius seemed an apt description." The *Chicago Sun-Times* called the show "emotionally charged and glorious," while *The San Diego Union-Tribune* declared it "Inviting and absorbing. Full of vibrant life."

TheatreWorks continues the season with ***Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years*** (June 2-27, 2021). New Artistic Director **Tim Bond** will make his TheatreWorks mainstage debut directing this Tony-nominated play. Adapted by Obie Award winner Emily Mann from the best-selling memoir by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany written with Amy Hill Hearth, this heartwarming play features two centenarian sisters sharing the lessons they've learned over their exceptional century on earth. Bearing witness to formative events from the Jim Crow Era to the 1990s, these trailblazing sisters provide a vibrant and personal perspective to American history. Its acclaimed Broadway run received three Tony Award nominations including Best Play and was called "provocative and entertaining" by *The New York Times*.

TheatreWorks Artistic Associate and Director of New Works **Giovanna Sardelli** will direct the World Premiere of Jessica Dickey's ***Nan and the Lower Body*** (July 14 – August 8, 2021), an audience favorite developed at TheatreWorks' 2019 New Works Festival. When Pap smear inventor Dr. George Papanicolaou takes on a brilliant new assistant, Nan Day, he senses that she is hiding a secret. As Dr. Pap discovers the truth, he learns that he may hold the key to solving her greatest mystery. This frank and funny play explores the mysteries of the heart and provides a personal perspective to the revolutionary technology that has saved the lives of millions but caused moral dilemmas along the way.

In the Fall, TheatreWorks will present Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner August Wilson's ***Gem of the Ocean*** (October 6 - 31, 2021). This seminal classic will be directed by Artistic Director **Tim Bond**, a close friend of the late playwright and a leading interpreter of his work. The ninth work written in

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Wilson's acclaimed American Century Cycle exploring the African American experience of the 20th Century, ***Gem of the Ocean*** is set in 1904 in the Pittsburgh Hill District against the tempestuous backdrop of police violence and rioting. This lyrical epic takes place in the home of 285-year-old Aunt Ester, the community's spiritual advisor and keeper of collective memory. Visited by a young Black man who wishes to atone for his sins and seek redemption, Aunt Ester takes him on a supernatural voyage aboard a slave ship called the Gem of the Ocean toward a mythical City of Bones, where he learns the truth of his ancestors' history. After a World Premiere at Chicago's Goodman Theater, ***Gem of the Ocean*** opened on Broadway in 2004, where it was nominated for five Tony Awards including Best Play. *The New York Times* praised ***Gem of the Ocean*** for its "passages of transporting beauty" and said "Theatergoers who have followed Mr. Wilson's career will find in his 'Gem' a touchstone for everything else he has written. It is a swelling overture of things to come, a battle hymn for an inchoate republic of African-Americans just beginning to discover the price of freedom." *Variety* lauded the play as a "slow-burning, powerfully spiritual drama." Regarding a recent production, *Chicago Tribune* claimed "It is impossible to watch 'Gem,' with its emphasis on the relationship of African-Americans to police officers, without thinking about the numerous clashes that have raised questions of equality, morality, law-and-order and which lives matter the most."

"August was a dear friend of mine and his inspiring and beautiful play speaks to this current moment," said **Tim Bond** of producing ***Gem of the Ocean***. "With TheatreWorks' very first production in 1970—the musical *Popcorn*—Robert Kelley and his band of theatre artists rallied a community together through story and through the power of theatre. The issues of those times were not unlike the pressing concerns of today. Once again, we find ourselves in a time of uncertainty, loss, and a hope for a better world and I believe August's spiritual journey will help us on the path to answers." (Note: *Gem of the Ocean* replaces the previously announced *The Lifespan of a Fact*.)

For the 2021 holiday season, TheatreWorks will present ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** (December 1 - 26, 2021). Adapted by Joe Landry from the screenplay by Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Frank Capra, and Jo Swerling, this heart-warming holiday production offers the beloved 1946 film as a 1940s era radio play, complete with live foley-style sound effects. Presented in the style of TheatreWorks favorites *The 39 Steps* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, five nimble actors take on dozens of roles, immersing audiences in the iconic story of George Bailey as he considers suicide on Christmas Eve, but discovers the impact of his life. ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** has been applauded by media including *The New York Times*, which said the holiday play "added another layer of nostalgia. It's easy for the audience to get caught up in the fun of creating reality from obvious artifice." *The Chicago Sun-Times* deemed it "One of the best holiday shows around. This is a fresh and inventive way of reconnecting with a classic story of love and redemption," and *The Chicago Tribune* called it "A well-loved tale told with style, charm and a heart so big it could burst the ribcage of the

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harshest Grinch.” This yuletide hit will be helmed by TheatreWorks Artistic Associate and Director of New Works **Giovanna Sardelli**.

TheatreWorks will ring in 2022 with the Regional Premiere of the musical ***Sense and Sensibility*** (January 19 – February 13, 2022). This sensational work features book, music, and lyrics by Paul Gordon, whose musicals include last season’s World Premiere *Pride and Prejudice*, which broke TheatreWorks box office records, was streamed by 160,000 viewers in 14 countries worldwide on its April 2020 virtual debut, and is now available to stream on Amazon’s Prime Video. Gordon also penned TheatreWorks favorites *Jane Austen’s EMMA* and *Daddy Long Legs*, and the Tony-nominated Broadway musical *Jane Eyre*. Based on the Jane Austen novel, ***Sense and Sensibility*** follows sisters Elinor and Marianne Dashwood through their change in fortune after their father’s untimely death and ensuing romantic trials, events that test and affirm the bonds of sisterhood. While Elinor is prudent in matters of life and love, not revealing her heart’s true desire, Marianne is wildly impulsive, falling head-over-heels for a dashing but unscrupulous suitor. The charming musical’s World Premiere at Chicago Shakespeare Theater was called “nothing less than sublime” by *Chicago Daily Herald* and “a beguiling show that bursts with wit and heart” by *Chicago Sun-Times*. TheatreWorks Founding Artistic Director **Robert Kelley** returns to helm ***Sense and Sensibility***.

In Spring 2022, TheatreWorks will present ***Queen*** (March 2 – 27, 2022). Written by San Jose-born emerging playwright Madhuri Shekar, whose *House of Joy* dazzled Bay Area audiences, this high-stakes environmental drama follows female PhD candidates Sanam from India and Ariel from the United States, who are on the brink of publishing groundbreaking research about the rapid global honeybee demise. When Sanam discovers that their numbers don’t quite add up, she grapples with a moral dilemma: publish the paper and face humiliation if the truth is discovered, or stand by her scientific principles, ceding ground to an ecological disaster and jeopardizing her career and friendship. An Edgerton Foundation New Play Award Winner, ***Queen*** received its World Premiere at Chicago’s Victory Gardens Theater, where it was nominated for a Joseph Jefferson Award for Best New Play. *Chicago Sun-Times* called it “A winning story about science, conscience, and the heart,” while *Stage and Cinema Chicago* lauded it as “taut and truthful...a credit to our hive.” It will be directed by **Jeffrey Lo**, who helmed TheatreWorks Silicon Valley’s hits *The Language Archive* and *The Santaland Diaries*. Lo, who is also TheatreWorks’s Casting Director, is an acclaimed local playwright as well as an in-demand director.

The season will close with the return of the timeless hit musical ***Ragtime*** (April 13 – May 8, 2022). Featuring a Tony Award-winning book by Pulitzer Prize finalist Terrence McNally (*Master Class*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *The Rink*) and a Tony Award-winning score by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens (*Once on This Island*, *Anastasia*, *Seussical The Musical*), this musical is based on E. L. Doctorow’s best-selling novel. This sweeping and stirring musical masterpiece paints a portrait of America at the dawn of the twentieth century, interweaving the lives of three families—White American, African-American,

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and Jewish immigrant from Latvia—finding their places and pursuing the American Dream in a rapidly changing world. *Ragtime's* original 1998 Broadway production was declared a “A colossal hit” by the *New York Post* and received four Tony Awards. TheatreWorks’ 2002 production of *Ragtime*, directed by Founding Artistic Director **Robert Kelley**, received rapturous accolades with *The Mercury News* calling it “A masterpiece.” Kelley will return to direct this highly anticipated new production, originally scheduled for April 2020 and cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In chronological order, the TheatreWorks Silicon Valley 2021/22 season is as follows:

A Master at Work

Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin

By Hershey Felder

Directed by Joel Zwick

March 17 – April 18, 2021 (opening night: March 20)

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

In a stunning, tour de force performance, virtuoso actor/pianist Hershey Felder creates Fryderyk Chopin, the “Poet of the Piano,” welcoming gifted students to his Paris salon on the 4th of March, 1848. The students? The audience. Maestro Chopin hosts an intimate evening of enthralling music, sharing secrets of his little-known romances, exuberant personality, and intense vision of the art of the piano. The spirit and insight of a genius are brought to life onstage in this moving and entertaining production.

An actor, pianist, writer, director, composer, conductor, and producer, **Hershey Felder** has created lauded shows about Claude Debussy, George Gershwin, Fryderyk Chopin, Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Liszt, Leonard Bernstein, Irving Berlin, and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Felder’s solo shows have been seen across America at the Geffen Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Hartford Stage, San Diego Repertory Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Old Globe Theatre, American Repertory Theater, and Cleveland Playhouse, and have received long runs at Chicago’s Royal George Theatre and engagements at New York’s Town Hall, 59E59, and the Streicker Center. Felder has become an enormous Bay Area favorite and has set all-time TheatreWorks box office records with his hit productions at the company, including the 2019 World Premiere of *Hershey Felder: A Paris Love Story* as well as *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*; *Hershey Felder, Beethoven*; and *Our Great Tchaikovsky*. *Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin* marks Felder’s fifth appearance with TheatreWorks.

An American Century of Hope

Having Our Say

The Delany Sisters’ First 100 Years

By Emily Mann

Adapted from the book by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany with Amy Hill Hearth

Directed by Tim Bond

June 2 – 27, 2021 (opening night: June 5)

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MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Meet sisters Sadie and Bessie, vibrant, strong, full of joy and wisdom – and each 100 years young. From the world of Jim Crow to the Harlem Renaissance and beyond, these delightful, inspiring trailblazers triumph over a sea of obstacles, navigating world wars, civil rights, and women’s liberation to achieve exceptional lives. A welcoming feast of love and laughter, their ‘say’ is an irresistible celebration of our potential. As Sadie says, “Life is short, it’s up to you to make it sweet!”

Emily Mann is an award-winning director, playwright, and screenwriter. Completing her final season as Artistic Director of McCarter Theatre Center in 2020, she led the Tony-winning New Jersey-based theater company for 30 years, overseeing more than 160 productions including more than 40 World Premieres. Mann’s Broadway credits include writing and directing *Having Our Say*, writing *Execution of Justice*, directing *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *Anna in the Tropics*, and directing Christopher Durang’s *Miss Witherspoon* Off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons. Her plays include *Having Our Say*; *Execution of Justice*; *Still Life*; *All Over*; *Greensboro (A Requiem)*; *Mrs. Packard*; *Annulla, An Autobiography*; *A Seagull in the Hamptons*; *Gloria: A Life*; and *The Pianist*. Mann won Obie Awards for *Still Life* and *All Over*, received Tony Award nominations for directing and writing *Having Our Say*, and was nominated for Drama Desk Awards for directing *Having Our Say* and writing *Execution of Justice*. The screenplay for the television adaptation of *Having Our Say* received Peabody and Christopher Awards. Other awards and honors include HBO New Plays USA Award, Helen Hayes Award, Bay Area Critics Circle Award, Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Award, and an honorary doctorate from Princeton University.

Uncharted Territory

Nan and the Lower Body

By Jessica Dickey

Directed by Giovanna Sardelli

World Premiere

July 14 – August 8, 2021 (opening night: July 17)

LUCIE STERN THEATRE, PALO ALTO

A pioneering doctor wants a full-time successor. A loving husband wants a full-time family. And Nan wants it all. She is the brilliant lab assistant of good-humored Dr. Papanicolaou, the life-saving inventor of the Pap smear. In this frank, funny, and engaging audience favorite from TheatreWorks’s 2019 New Works Festival, Nan has mysteries to unravel and life-changing choices to make. But who can unwind the mysteries of the heart?

Jessica Dickey’s (Playwright) most recent plays are *The Convent* (premiered Off-Broadway with Rattlestick and Rising Phoenix) and *The Rembrandt* (sold-out run at Steppenwolf starring John Mahoney). Other plays Off-Broadway in New York and around the country: *The Amish Project*, *Charles Ives Take Me Home*, and *Row After Row*.

August Wilson’s

Gem of the Ocean

Directed by Tim Bond

October 6 – 31, 2021 (opening night: October 9)

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner August Wilson opens his celebrated American Century Cycle with this inspirational tale of transformation. Slavery is a living memory in 1904 when Citizen Barlow, a young man desperate for redemption and wracked with guilt, arrives at Aunt Ester's doorstep. A 285-year-old prophet and renowned "washer of souls," Aunt Ester sends him on a mystical journey of justice and freedom that is as urgent and as expansive as the soul of America. A close friend of Wilson and long-time interpreter of his work, Artistic Director Tim Bond brings spiritual music and vibrant theatricality to the TheatreWorks stage.

August Wilson authored *Gem of the Ocean*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (TheatreWorks 1989), *The Piano Lesson*, *Seven Guitars*, *Fences* (TheatreWorks 2000), *Two Trains Running* (TheatreWorks 1996), *Jitney*, *King Hedley II*, and *Radio Golf* (TheatreWorks 2008), all works exploring the heritage and experience of African-Americans, decade-by-decade, over the course of the twentieth century. His plays have been produced all over the world, as well as on Broadway and have garnered awards including Pulitzer Prizes for *Fences* (1987) and *The Piano Lesson* (1990), a Tony Award for *Fences*, Great Britain's Olivier Award for *Jitney*, and eight New York Drama Critics Circle Awards, among many others. The cast recording of *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* received a 1985 Grammy Award, and Mr. Wilson received a 1995 Emmy Award nomination for his screenplay adaptation of *The Piano Lesson*. He was an alumnus of New Dramatists, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a 1995 inductee into the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and on October 16, 2005, Broadway renamed the theater located at 245 West 52nd Street - The August Wilson Theatre. Mr. Wilson was posthumously inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame in 2007.

A Cherished Holiday Classic

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play

Adapted by Joe Landry

From the screenplay by Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Frank Capra, and Jo Swerling

Directed by Giovanna Sardelli

December 1 – 26, 2021 (opening night: December 4)

LUCIE STERN THEATRE, PALO ALTO

America's favorite holiday classic is staged at a snowbound 1940s radio station, with every memorable character, wacky sound effect, and the heartwarming conclusion of the iconic film recreated live before the audience's ears—and eyes. With humor and humanity, George Bailey's tale of love, loss, and redemption mixes an exuberant cast and a wealth of seasonal songs into a radio days hit come to life. In the style of TheatreWorks favorites *The 39 Steps* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, five nimble actors take on dozens of roles in this heaven-sent gift for the entire family.

Joe Landry's plays include *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play*, *The 39 Steps: A Live Radio Play*, *War of the Worlds: A Panic Broadcast*, *Meet Me in St. Louis: A Live Radio Play*, *Reefer Madness*, *Vintage Hitchcock: A Live Radio Play*, *The Wicked Stage*, *Fake News!*, *Eve & Co.*, *Beautiful*, *Hollywood Babylon*, and *Numb*. Landry attended Playwright's Horizons/NYU, founded Second Guess Theatre Company in Connecticut, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

A Musical Romance

Sense and Sensibility

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Paul Gordon

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Based on the novel by Jane Austen

Directed by Robert Kelley

Regional Premiere

January 19 – February 13, 2022 (opening night: January 22)

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Echoing his triumphant hits *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma*, Tony Award nominee Paul Gordon offers up a glorious musical version of *Sense and Sensibility*, Jane Austen's beloved romantic classic. With fortune lost to fate and passion lost to folly, two captivating sisters must sail the unpredictable seas of courtship and convention. Overflowing with intrigue and humor, this enchanting adaptation sparkles with unforgettable songs, stunning sets, and gorgeous costumes.

Paul Gordon (Book, Music & Lyrics) received a Tony Award nomination in 2000 for composing the music and lyrics for the acclaimed Broadway musical *Jane Eyre*, seen at TheatreWorks in 2003. Gordon penned the music, lyrics, and book for last season's World Premiere Musical *Pride and Prejudice* (TheatreWorks 2019) and the sensational TheatreWorks hit, *Jane Austen's EMMA* (TheatreWorks 2007 & 2015), and the music and lyrics to the TheatreWorks holiday favorite *Daddy Long Legs* (2010 & 2016). His other credits include writing music and lyrics for *Greetings From Venice Beach* and *The Magnificent Ambersons*. Gordon has written for and collaborated with numerous recording artists, including Bette Midler, Quincy Jones, Alanis Morissette, Smokey Robinson, and Dionne Warwick, has several hit songs to his credit, and is the recipient of nine ASCAP awards for songwriting.

For the Sake of the Hive

Queen

By Madhuri Shekar

Directed by Jeffrey Lo

March 2 – 27, 2022 (opening night: March 5)

LUCIE STERN THEATRE, PALO ALTO

What if all the bees abandoned their Queen? In this high-stakes environmental drama, best friends Sanam and Ariel, PhD candidates from India and the U.S., research the collapse of bee colonies worldwide, dreaming they might collapse the glass ceiling of academia. When a flaw emerges in their research, their friendship, careers, and even an arranged marriage are at risk. With ecological disaster on the horizon, should they withdraw their findings or compromise them to protect the planet?

Madhuri Shekar's plays include *House of Joy*; *Bucket of Blessings*; *Antigone, presented by the girls of St. Catherine's*; *Queen*; *In Love and Warcraft*; *A Nice Indian Boy*; and *Dhaba on Devon Avenue*. She has been commissioned by the Kennedy Center, South Coast Repertory, and Victory Gardens Theater, and her work has also been produced at The Old Globe, Center Theatre Group, Alliance Theater, the Hedgebrook Playwrights Festival (in conjunction with Seattle Repertory Theatre), Oregon Shakespeare Festival, California Shakespeare Theater, and EnActe Arts. Her honors include the Suzi Bass Award for Outstanding Original Work – Theatre for Young Audiences for *Bucket of Blessings* and she won the Keneda Graduate Playwriting contest held by the Alliance Theatre for *In Love and Warcraft*. She is a 2018 alumna of the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program at Juilliard. Shekar is a member of New Dramatists, an alumna of the Ma-Yi writers lab, the Ars Nova Play Group, and the Center Theatre Group Writers Workshop. Her audio play *Evil Eye* debuted on the Audible best-seller list in May 2019 and was named one of the "Best Audiobooks of 2019" by Audible. Shekar is also a co-creator of the Shakespearean web series, "Titus and Dronicus," and a staff writer for the upcoming HBO show "The Nevers," created by Joss Whedon.

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A Musical Celebration of the American Dream

Ragtime

Book by Terrence McNally

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Based on the novel by E. L. Doctorow

Directed by Robert Kelley

April 13 – May 8, 2022 (opening night: April 16)

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

This timeless musical masterpiece celebrates the soaring sounds and hopeful spirit of America at the dawn of the last century. To the syncopated rhythms of a hopeful new age, this unforgettable theatrical tapestry interweaves the delights of vaudeville, baseball, and nickelodeon with the hurly-burly of labor rallies and racial unrest, tracing the lives of an enterprising Jewish immigrant, a courageous Harlem pianist, and a conflicted upper-class wife in a jubilant, melting pot tribute to the American Dream.

Called “one of the greatest contemporary playwrights the theater world has yet produced” by *The New York Observer*, **Terrence McNally**’s prolific career in the theatre includes the plays *Master Class* (TheatreWorks 2000); *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune*; *Love! Valour! Compassion*; *It’s Only A Play*; *Mothers and Sons*; *The Ritz*; and *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*, and the books for musicals *Ragtime* (TheatreWorks 2002), *Kiss of A Spider Woman* (TheatreWorks 1997), *The Visit*, *The Full Monty*, *The Rink* (TheatreWorks 1987), and *Anastasia*. His films include adaptations of his plays *Love! Valour! Compassion*, *The Ritz*, and *Frankie and Johnny*, as well as his Emmy Award-winning *Andre’s Mother*, *The Last Mile*, and *Common Ground* (written with Paula Vogel and Harvey Fierstein). McNally is a four-time Tony Award winner for his plays and recipient of the Dramatists Guild Lifetime Achievement Award. An acclaimed songwriting team, **Lynn Ahrens** and **Stephen Flaherty** have created award-winning musicals including *Ragtime* (TheatreWorks 2002), *Once On This Island* (TheatreWorks 1993 and 2014), *Seussical*, *Anastasia*, *My Favorite Year*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Rocky*, and *A Man of No Importance*. Ahrens and Flaherty won Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards for *Ragtime*, an Olivier Award for *Once On This Island*, and an Outer Critics Circle Award for *A Man of No Importance*. The pair has also received nominations for two Academy Awards and two Golden Globes for their score for the Twentieth Century Fox feature film *Anastasia*, and Grammy nominations for *Ragtime* and *Seussical*.

Led by Artistic Director **Tim Bond** and Executive Director **Phil Santora**, the Palo Alto-based theatre company serves more than 100,000 patrons per year and has captured a national reputation for artistic innovation and integrity, often presenting Bay Area theatregoers with their first look at acclaimed musicals, comedies, and dramas, directed by award-winning local and guest directors, and performed by professional actors cast locally and from across the country. In June 2019, **TheatreWorks Silicon Valley** received the Regional Theatre Tony Award, the highest honor bestowed on an American theatre not on Broadway. In June 2020, Founding Artistic Director **Robert Kelley** retired after 50 years at the helm of the theatre he founded, ending what is believed to be the longest tenure of an Artistic Director at a League of Resident Theatres (LORT) theatre. The 51st season will mark the first season for Artistic

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Director **Tim Bond**. With a storied career in theatre spanning more than three decades, Bond has directed award-winning productions nationally and internationally, and earned a national reputation for inclusion and diversity advocacy. He is one of the world's leading interpreters of the works of August Wilson, has enjoyed academic tenure at leading universities, and brings experience as an Artistic Director, Associate Artistic Director, and Producing Artistic Director at leading theatres including Syracuse Stage and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Since its founding in 1970, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley has become one of the nation's leaders in cultivating and producing new musicals and plays, developing and premiering 70 works by new and veteran artists and 173 Regional Premieres. The company's New Works Festival and Writers' Retreat programs attract authors and composers of national stature (Rajiv Joseph, Stephen Schwartz, Beth Henley, Paul Gordon, Marsha Norman, Henry Krieger, Duncan Sheik, Jules Feiffer, Joe DiPietro, and Andrew Lippa, among many others), providing an artistic home in which America's theatre artists can create new works. In addition, the company has developed scores of works which have gone on to both regional and Off-Broadway productions. It was at TheatreWorks that the 2010 Best Musical Tony Award-winner *Memphis* was first workshopped and received its World Premiere. Stephen Schwartz's *The Prince of Egypt* based on the DreamWorks movie of the same name also made its World Premiere at TheatreWorks and debuted in London's West End earlier this year.

For more information the public can call **650-463-1960** or visit **theatreworks.org**. Subscriptions and single tickets will be available in the coming months.

PERFORMANCES: Tues 7:30pm, Wed 2:00pm & 7:30pm,
Thurs/Fri 8:00pm, Sat 2:00pm & 8:00pm, Sun 2:00pm & 7:00pm

WHERE: **TheatreWorks at Lucie Stern Theatre**
1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto

TheatreWorks at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts
500 Castro St., Mountain View

TICKETS: For information the public can call **650-463-1960** or visit **theatreworks.org**. Subscriptions and single tickets will become available in the coming months.

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PHOTOS: For high res photos, please visit: <http://www.cbpr.co/press/twseason21-22>