SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS
FANCIFUL FAVORITE FULL OF HIGH-FLYING HIJINKS

Peter Pan Goes Wrong

By Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, and Henry Shields
Directed by Susi Damilano
Bay Area Premiere
September 26 – November 28, 2026 *(opening night: October 1)*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (17 August 2026) — **San Francisco Playhouse** will soar to the second star to the right—and straight on 'till chaos—as they stage the Bay Area Premiere of ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong.*** This rollicking comedy comes from the award-winning creatives behind *The Play That Goes Wrong,* seen at the Playhouse in an uproarious production in 2024. **Henry Lewis**, **Jonathan Sayer**, and **Henry Shields** imbue J.M. Barrie's classic story with their trademark madcap mischief. The Cornley Drama Society once again battles backstage blunders and technical mishaps as its members embark on a certain-to-be-ill-fated journey to Neverland. San Francisco Playhouse Producing Director and co-founder **Susi Damilano**, who has staged sidesplitting spoofs at the Playhouse including *Noises Off*, *Clue*, *The 39 Steps*, and *The Play That Goes Wrong*, directs. ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong*** will perform **September 26 – November 28, 2026** *(opening night: October 1)* at San Francisco Playhouse, 450 Post Street. For tickets ($52-$145) and more information, the public may visit **sfplayhouse.org** or call the box office at **415-677-9596**.

Debuting in London's West End before its Broadway run, ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong*** was called "Expertly executed Broadway mayhem" (*Variety*), "Irresistibly funny" (*Financial Times*), and "A feast of sumptuous silliness" (*Radio Times*). *The New York Times* proclaimed, "Hilarious. Knocked unconscious with laughter." *TheaterMania* commended the "Artfully choreographed chaos," and said the show "Will make you gasp and howl with laughter. Just when you think they cannot possibly top themselves, they do."

"Farce has always done more than make us laugh," said San Francisco Playhouse Artistic Director **Bill English**. "By pushing human folly to ridiculous extremes, it reveals something painfully true about us. ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong*** gleefully skewers one of our most enduring fantasies: the perpetual boy who refuses to grow up and the culture that secretly envies him. But also, beneath the collapsing scenery, bruised egos, and perpetual catastrophe hides a tribute to our astonishing human capacity to keep going. Faced with problems that are completely insurmountable, these hapless players carry on. Perhaps that is farce's greatest gift. It reminds us that blind perseverance is one of the most heroic human traits."

Director **Susi Damilano** helms a talented cast to bring the comedic capers to life. Damilano will reunite with several cast members from the Playhouse's *The Play That Goes Wrong* for this rollicking sequel, with **Greg Ayers**, **Joe Ayers**, **Renee Rogoff**, and **Patrick Russell** reprising their roles in ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong***.

Greg Ayers (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as Dennis, a terrified actor. Ayers performed in

the Playhouse's *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *The 39 Steps*, *Clue*, *Significant Other*, *Our Town*, *in a word*, and *Noises Off*. He won the Theatre Bay Area award for Outstanding Performance for *Two Mile Hollow* at Ferocious Lotus Theatre Company. He has also appeared onstage at New Conservatory Theatre Center and Aurora Theatre Company. As a playwright, his plays have been seen onstage at FringeNYC and Coyote REP.

Seen in *The Play That Goes* Wrong, *Noises Off,* and *Cabaret,* **Joe Ayers** (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as Max, a sincere yet ungifted actor. Ayers has also worked with California Shakespeare Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, American Stage Theatre Company, Center Repertory Company, Marin Theatre, Los Altos Stage Company, PlayGround, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, Contra Costa Musical Theatre, and Berkeley Playhouse.

Renee Rogoff (she/her) returns to the Playhouse as Annie, a novice actor. Featured in the Playhouse's productions of *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *The 39 Steps*, *Clue*, and *As You Like It,* she has also appeared onstage at Roundabout Theatre Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Cutting Ball Theater, Central Works Theater Company, and Those Women Productions. Rogoff received a San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (SFBATCC) Award for Best Featured Actress for her performance as Hannah in *When We Were Young and Unafraid* at Custom Made Theatre Company. She has performed with Upright Citizens Brigade and is a standup comedian that has opened for Jerry Seinfeld, Jim Gaffigan, George Wallace, and Ronny Chiang.

Patrick Russell (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as Robert, an enthusiastic actor. He was also seen in the Playhouse's *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Noises Off*, *Red Velvet*, *Trouble Cometh*, *77%*, *Seminar*, and *reasons to be pretty.* He has also performed with American Conservatory Theater, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, California Shakespeare Theater, Marin Shakespeare Company, Marin Theatre, Magic Theatre, Center Repertory Company, and Shotgun Players.

Jomar Tagatac (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as Chris, the drama society's president. Most recently seen at the Playhouse in *My Fair Lady,* Tagatac's Playhouse performances also include *The Glass Menagerie, The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin, Hold These Truths* (presented in collaboration with Capital Stage Company), *Art,* Letter *Tiny Beautiful Things, King of the Yees,* and *You Mean to Do Me Harm*. Tagatac has also performed with Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Theater Mu, American Conservatory Theater, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Marin Theatre, Capital Stage Company, City Lights Theater Company, California Shakespeare Theater, and Magic Theatre.

Seen in the Playhouse's *The 39 Steps*, *Jerusalem*, and *Period of Adjustment*, **Maggie Mason** (she/her) returns to the Playhouse as Sandra, an ambitious ingenue. Mason has also performed with Berkeley Repertory Theatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Marin Theatre, Magic Theatre, Aurora Theatre Company, Center Repertory Company, San Francisco Mime Troupe, Trinity Repertory Company, San Jose Stage Company, Town Hall Theatre, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Portland Stage, Chautauqua Theater Company, Central Works Theater Company, Hunger and Thirst Theatre, and Pacific Repertory Theatre.

Recently associate directing and understudying Motormouth Maybelle in the Playhouse's

Hairspray, **Phaedra Tillery-Boughton** (she/her) returns as Francis, the play's narrator. Also seen in the Playhouse's *Fat Ham*, her stage credits include shows with Center Repertory Company, SFBATCO, Presidio Theatre, Hillbarn Theatre, Ray of Light Theatre, Woodminster Summer Musicals, New Conservatory Theatre Center, and Palo Alto Players. She serves as the Associate Producer and Casting Manager at SFBATCO. She is also the recipient of the 2024–2025 Black Futures Award from Zaccho Dance Theatre and is a 2025–2026 New Black Voices Resident Artist with Lorraine Hansberry Theatre.

Seen in *The Daughters* and *As You Like It,* **Ezra Reaves** (they/them) returns to the Playhouse as Jonathan, the leading man who stars as Peter Pan. They have performed with La Jolla Playhouse, American Conservatory Theater, Woolly Mammoth, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Shotgun Players, New Conservatory Theatre Center, Z Space, and Magic Theatre. In New York City, Reaves has performed at LaMama Experimental Theatre Club and PS122. As a comedian, they have opened for Janeane Garofalo, Bob Odenkirk, John Hodgman, Paul F. Tompkins and shared the stage with Michael Ian Black at SF Sketchfest. They were seen in the GLAAD-nominated television show "4400" on the CW. Reaves directed and co-produced *Compton's Cafeteria Riot* presented by San Francisco's Tenderloin Museum.

Sophie Schulman (she/her) makes her Playhouse debut as Lucy, a timid actor who suffers from stage fright. Schulman has previously acted with Olney Theatre Center, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, Toby's Dinner Theatre, and Mosaic Theater. She has also performed in workshops with Pittsburgh Public Theater, Theater J, and The Jewish Plays Project, among others.

Terrance Austin Smith (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as Trevor, the stage manager. He understudied for the Playhouse's productions of *Barbecue* and *Nollywood Dreams*. He has appeared onstage at San Jose Stage Company, Marin Shakespeare Company, Hillbarn Theatre, Town Hall Theatre, The Western Stage, African-American Shakespeare Company, 6th Street Playhouse, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, and more. He voices DJ Train Trax on Netflix's "Go Go Cory Carson."

Christian McCooey (he/him) returns to the Playhouse as stagehand Gill after understudying for the Playhouse's *Hairspray*. McCooey has previously performed with The Western Stage, Temple Theatre, PCPA Pacific Conservatory Theatre, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, and Contra Costa Musical Theatre.

PRODUCTION TEAM:
Peter Pan Goes Wrong features direction by **Susi Damilano**; scenic design by **Cody Tellis Rutledge**; lighting design by **Christian Mejia**; costume design by **Kathleen Qiu**; sound design by **Christopher Ellis** (Brooklyn Sound Lab); properties design by **Amy Benjamin**; intimacy direction by **Vicki Hoskins**; and fight and stunt direction by **Dani O'Dea**. **Kimberly Mohne Hill** is the dialect coach, **Bridgette Loriaux** is flight consultant, **Erin Rose Solorio** is choreographer, and **Alicia Lerner** is the stage manager.

CREATIVE TEAM:
Henry Lewis is an Olivier Award-winning writer, actor, and producer whose work has been produced in over 40 countries worldwide. Seen on Broadway and in the West End in *Peter Pan*

Goes Wrong which he co-wrote, he also wrote and acted in *Magic Goes Wrong* co-created with magicians Penn & Teller, BBC1's "The Goes Wrong Show," *Groan Ups*, *The Comedy About A Bank Robbery*, *The Play that Goes Wrong*, *Mischief Movie Night,* and BBC1's "A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong."

Jonathan Sayer's theatre credits include writing and performing *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* on Broadway and in the West End as well as writing and acting in *Mind Mangler: Member of the Tragic Circle*, *Magic Goes Wrong* co-created with magicians Penn & Teller, *Groan Ups*, *The Comedy About a Bank Robbery*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Mischief Movie Night,* and *Lights! Camera! Improvise!*.

Henry Shields is an Olivier Award-winning writer and has been a member of Mischief Theatre since 2009. Theatre credits include *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Peter Pan Goes Wrong*, *The Comedy About a Bank Robbery*, *Groan Ups*, *Magic Goes Wrong*, *Mischief Movie Night*. Television work includes BBC1's "Peter Pan Goes Wrong," BBC1's "A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong," BBC1's "The Goes Wrong Show," BBC1's "Holby City," and ITV1's "The Royal Variety Performance."

Helming the Playhouse's *Into the Woods* last season and its production of *The Play That Goes Wrong*, **Susi Damilano** (Director) directed the West Coast Premieres of *Honey Brown Eyes*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Coronado*, *The Mystery Plays*, and *Roulette*; and the World Premieres of *On Clover Road* by Steven Dietz, *From Red to Black* by Rhett Rossi, and *Seven Days* by Daniel Heath in the Sandbox Series. Other directing credits include Playhouse productions of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Waitress, The 39 Steps, Clue*, *Groundhog Day the Musical*, *Cabaret*, *Mary Poppins*, *Noises Off*, *She Loves Me*, *Stage Kiss*, *Company*, *Stupid Fucking Bird*, *Into the Woods*, *A Behanding in Spokane*, *Den of Thieves*, and *Wirehead.* She is a six-time recipient of the SFBATCC Excellence in Theatre Award for Principal Actress in a Play for the Playhouse productions of *The Glass Menagerie*, *Bug*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Reckless*. Damilano has also performed leading roles in the Playhouse's *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really; Yoga Play*; *The Effect*; *The Roommate*; *Red Velvet*; *Tree*; *Bauer*; *Abigail's Party*; *Harper Regan*; *Coraline*; *Slasher*; *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*; *Landscape of the Body*; *First Person Shooter*; *Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train*; *The Crucible*; *Kimberly Akimbo*; *Our Town*; and *The Smell of the Kill*.

SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE:
Founded by Bill English and Susi Damilano in 2003, **San Francisco Playhouse** has been described by *The New York Times* as "a company that stages some of the most consistently high-quality work around" and deemed "ever adventurous" by *The Mercury News*. Located in the heart of the Union Square Theatre District, San Francisco Playhouse is the city's premier Off-Broadway company, an intimate alternative to the larger more traditional Union Square theatre fare. The Playhouse provides audiences the opportunity to experience professional theater with top-notch actors and world-class design in a setting where they are close to the action. The Playhouse also fosters the development of new work, including commissions and new play readings. *KQED*/*NPR* described the company as "one of the few theaters in the Bay Area that has a mission that actually shows up on stage. Artistic Director Bill English's commitment to empathy as a guiding philosophical and aesthetic force is admirable and by living that mission,

fascinating things happen onstage." The Playhouse is committed to providing a creative home and inspiring environment where actors, directors, writers, designers, and theatre lovers converge to create and experience dramatic works that celebrate the human spirit.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: **San Francisco Playhouse** will soar to the second star to the right—and straight on 'till chaos—as they stage the Bay Area Premiere of ***Peter Pan Goes Wrong.*** This rollicking comedy comes from the award-winning creatives behind *The Play That Goes Wrong,* seen at the Playhouse in an uproarious production in 2024. **Henry Lewis**, **Jonathan Sayer**, and **Henry Shields** imbue J.M. Barrie's classic story with their trademark madcap mischief. The Cornley Drama Society once again battles backstage chaos and technical mishaps as its members embark on a certain-to-be-ill-fated journey to Neverland. San Francisco Playhouse Producing Director and co-founder **Susi Damilano**, who has staged sidesplitting spoofs at the Playhouse including *Noises Off*, *Clue*, *The 39 Steps*, and *The Play That Goes Wrong*, will direct.

WHEN: Previews: Saturday, September 26 – Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Opening: Thursday, October 1, 2026
Closes: Saturday, November 28, 2026

SHOWS: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 7pm
Wednesdays: 2pm & 7pm
Fridays: 8pm
Saturdays: 2pm & 8pm
Sundays: 2pm

WHERE: San Francisco Playhouse (450 Post Street, San Francisco)

TICKETS: Single tickets ($52-$145). Pricing inclusive of fees and subject to change. For tickets and more information, the public may visit https://sfplayhouse.org/2026-2027-season/peter-pan-goes-wrong/ or call the box office at 415-677-9596.

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PRESS: Contact Lauren Goldfarb, Carla Befera & Co. lauren@cb-pr.com

PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available:
http://cbpr.co/press/peterpangoeswrong