



PRESENTS

JOSHUA HARMON'S

BAD JEWS

DIRECTED BY NICKI HESKIN



NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 15

OJP STUDIO THEATRE 2009 PORTERFIELD WAY, STE H UPLAND

"BAD JEWS" IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Cast

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

JONAH

MAX HERZFELD

DAPHNA

VANESSA LAUREN GAMBLE

LIAM

MILES COOPER

MELODY

ASHLEE DUTSON

World Premiere Produced in New York City by Roundabout Theatre Company (Todd Haimes, Artistic Director, Harold Wolpert, Managing Director, Julia C. Levy, Executive Director) as part of Roundabout Underground at the Harold and Miriam Steinberg Center for Theatre on October 30, 2012



2019 SEASON

SPRING

VENUS IN FUR
BY DAVID IVES
FEBRUARY 1-23

HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY
INCH
MARCH 22-APRIL 13

WAITING FOR
GODOT
BY SAMUEL BECKETT
APRIL 24-MAY 11

OPHELIA'S JUMP PRODUCTIONS SUMMER SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

PERICLES: PRINCE OF TYRE

TAMING OF THE SHREW

MACBETH (MOSTLY)

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
JULY 11-21

FALL

STUPID
FUCKING BIRD
BY AARON POSNER
SEPTEMBER 6-28

HIR
BY TAYLOR MAC
OCTOBER 25-
NOVEMBER 16

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director

Director

Stage Manager

Technical Director/Lighting Designer/Sound Engineer

Scenic Designer/Set Dresser/Scenic Painter

Set Construction

Graphic Design

Marketing & Social Media

Props

Beatrice Casagran

Nicki Heskin

Darya Harris

Ray Jones

Beatrice Casagran

Frank Dickson, Mark MacKenzie, Ray Jones,
Beatrice Casagran

Max Herzfeld & Beatrice Casagran

Randy Lopez, Amanda Herrera

Nicki Heskin, Ashlee Caress Dutson

World Premiere Produced in New York City by Roundabout Theatre Company (Todd Haimes, Artistic Director, Harold Wolpert, Managing Director, Julia C. Levy, Executive Director) as part of Roundabout Underground at the Harold and Miriam Steinberg Center for Theatre on October 30, 2012

SPECIAL THANKS

THANKS TO LEAH ZIMMERMAN, FRANK MINANO, ANGELINE CARR, & OSBALDO ALVARADO WHO PROVIDED ITEMS USED FOR PROPS OR SET DRESSING.



HAIR DESIGNS

A HUGE THANKS TO KEN MARTINEZ FOR PROVIDING HAIR COLORING SERVICES FOR MS. DUTSON

Music provided courtesy of MOSTLY KOSHER the acclaimed klezmer gypsy-rock band, radically reconstructs Judaic and American cultural music through ravenous klezmer beats and arresting Yiddish refrains.



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As Founding Artistic Director of Ophelia's Jump Productions I would like to extend a special welcome and thanks to you, our audience, to the last show of our fifth full season. We chose *Bad Jews* because of its humorous introspection and intelligent depiction of identity issues that transcend the show's specific context and speak to experiences and concerns of diverse cultural, ethnic, & religious groups. As most of our productions, *Bad Jews* is sure to provoke thought and spark conversations. It is theatre that sheds light on the important questions of our time and we are proud to have the opportunity to present this wonderful play with our very talented cast.

As we launch ourselves head first into the bracing air of a fresh new season, I welcome you as our co-adventurers. Ophelia's Jump continues to forge a path of serious, interesting and challenging theater excellently produced and performed for an audience base that appreciates being asked to immerse themselves in the drama.

Our 2019 Season is, in my opinion, our most exciting yet. The season opens with *Venus in Fur* that brilliantly walks a line between humor, titillation and an exploration of power in sexual relationships. Following that we are thrilled to present *Hedwig & the Angry Inch*-- the funny, glam rock musical about genderqueer rock singer Hedwig Robinson's musical act as she follows rock-star Tommy Gnosis' (much more successful) tour around the country. We then follow with the classic, *Waiting for Godot* which will include matinee performances and educational programs for younger audiences. Our Midsummer Shakespeare Festival, co-produced by Pomona College will feature a Vaudevillian version of *The Adventures of Pericles Prince of Tyre* and *Taming of the Shrew* (spoiler-- she may not be the one who gets tamed.) In fall we are thrilled to present Aaron Posner's smart contemporary adaptation of Checkov's *The Seagull*, aptly entitled *Stupid F*cking Bird*. The 2019 season closes with, *HIR*, a hilarious and ribald masterpiece by playwright and performance artist, Taylor Mac that looks at the "nuclear family" in the 21s century.

In addition to our regular season, in 2019 Ophelia's Jump will present staged readings of original works by four local female playwrights. The plays will be workshopped in collaboration with our audiences and one of them will be chosen for production in our 2020 season!

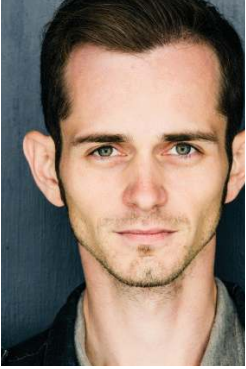
As you can see we have a huge season coming up. I hope you'll decide to be an integral part of making it all happen by becoming a member or subscriber. You'll save some money, get access to really interesting backstage events, and get lots of other perks and privileges such as discounts on extra tickets, discounts at community businesses, and the ability to help choose our next season.

Theatre cannot exist without an audience. Not only for monetary reasons, but because the very nature of theatre requires the interaction of the audience, performers, environment, and the work being performed. You are truly part of a one of a kind show tonight. Thank you for making theatre with us.



MEET THE CAST

(In alphabetical Order)



Miles Cooper (Liam) recently performed the original production of *ELYSIAN FIELDS* at the New York Fringe Festival where he won the NYC Fringe Festival Overall Excellence Award with his portrayal of Allen Grey. He also recently portrayed Cletus T. Fullernoy in the Texas comedy, *LONE STAR* at San Francisco's Fire Escape Theater. Miles graduated with a BFA in acting from The College of Santa Fe where he was taught by the great Clare Davidson and Victor Talmadge. He currently studies under Allen Barton's advanced scene study class at the Beverly Hills Playhouse. This is Miles' first production with Ophelia's Jump Productions. He would like to thank the cast and crew for welcoming him into this great community of artists.

Ashlee Dutson (Melody) is a NYC transplant living in Hollywood LA. Dutson is thrilled to join Ophelia's Jump Theatre for the second time in their production of *BAD JEWS*. You may have seen her previously as Mrs. Givings in *IN THE NEXT ROOM*. Some recent and favorite credits include (Carrie) in the Off Broadway production of *LOL CRY QUIETLY*, (Fantine and Cosette) in two different productions of *LES MIS*, (Betty Schaefer) *SUNSET BLVD* and (Lady Macduff) in Shakespeare's *MACBETH* at The Shakespeare center of Los Angeles. She would like to thank Nicki for bringing her on board, her husband Dylan for his constant love and encouragement and their new baby girl Juniper for sharing her Mama with the Theatre. For more info about Ashlee Dutson check out ...www.ashleedutson.com



Vanessa Lauren Gamble (Daphna) joins the cast of *BAD JEWS* for her debut at Ophelia's Jump. Vanessa most recently performed in the Shakespeare Center of L.A. production of *MACBETH* (Lady Macbeth). A recent transplant from NYC, Vanessa was seen Off Broadway in *420 THE MUSICAL* (Becky/Bic; Theatre 80), *HAMLET* (Guildenstern; 13th Street Rep), *SOUL SEARCHING* (Rachel; DR2 Theatre), *CHERY HILL* (Mol Porter; June Havoc Theater), and *THE JUNGLE BOOK* (Kaa/Mother/Puppeteer; Playwrights Horizons). Thanks to Nicki, Darya, and the cast, especially Ashlee for being the best cheerleader/carpool buddy ever. To my mom, who traveled all the way from Oklahoma to see me play this role, words can't express. You're simply the best!

Max Herzfeld (Jonah) is a proud company member of Ophelia's Jump Productions. *BAD JEWS* is his sixth show with the company having also appeared in *AND TELL SAD STORIES OF THE DEATHS OF QUEENS*, *IN THE NEXT ROOM* (Leo Irving), *33 VARIATIONS* (Schindler), *MACBETH* (Prince Malcolm) and *MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR* (Host). Other theatre credits include: *THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK* (Peter Van Daan; Broadwayworld.com award winner), *AND THEN THERE WERE NONE* (Dr. Armstrong; Irene Ryan Nominee), and *CARTOON* (Winston Puppet; Irene Ryan Nominee). Max has also appeared in musicals produced by 3-D Theatricals, The Welk Resort, Tibbies Center Stage, and The Candlelight Pavilion.





Nicki Heskin (Director) is an Artistic Company Member who first joined OJP as Ivy in the inaugural production of *AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY* and was a member of the 2013 Founding Board. In 2018, in addition to directing *BAD JEWS*, Nicki served as Co-Director of *AND TELL SAD STORIES OF THE DEATHS OF QUEENS...* and Assistant Director/PSM of *IN THE NEXT ROOM*; earlier with OJP she performed in *MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR* and was the PSM for *33 VARIATIONS*. Elsewhere in 2018, Nicki was Assistant Director for 3-D Theatricals' *PARADE* and *42ND STREET*. Nicki worked with Lewis Family Playhouse for six years, primarily as Production Stage Manager/Production Coordinator of numerous shows including *INTO THE WOODS* and *CATS*, and as Producer of *IN THE HEIGHTS* and *MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET*. Other favorite projects include directing environmental productions of *GIDION'S KNOT* and *CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION* with Women's Theatre Workshop and stage managing the *FRONTIER FEATS OF WONDER* Stunt Show at Knott's Berry Farm.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"I'm a Bad Jew."

Every Jew has said this now and again... as may have every so-called "Bad parent," "Bad Catholic," or "Bad daughter." In choosing, accepting, or even rejecting, an identity, we have moments when we fall short of expectations others place upon us or that we have for ourselves. So does this make us Bad, or just human?

A week into rehearsals for this production, my daughter and I flew to Georgia for a family Bar Mitzvah. I walked past an armed guard into Temple, exactly one week after the horrifying mass murder of Jews at Tree of Life Synagogue. I sang *L'dor Vador*, which tells us that it is our duty to share the joy and pain and of being Jewish from generation to generation, and I held my daughter tightly and I quietly cried. And I felt the importance of the story I had been tasked to tell.

Given this, it might surprise you to know that I'm not a "Good Jew." I rarely go to services, I never had a Bat Mitzvah, I skip a lot of holiday observances for work or school commitments. Nonetheless, being a Jew has always been a part of my identity – and when I choose to connect to my Judaism, I feel connected to my grandparents (including my own Poppy), to my children, and to generations of my family I've never even known who spoke the same words in the same moments of observance. My Judaism quietly waits to embrace and unite us whenever I choose it.

Bad Jews celebrates the identities in our lives that offer us this gift, and asks us to consider those before us who shared them and what responsibilities we have to maintain them for those who come after. Thank you for sharing this journey with us.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SEASON MEMBERS!

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**Jones & Mayer sends good luck and best wishes to the
cast and crew of Ophelia's Jump Productions this season.
Break a leg!**