

50
YEARS

A.C.T.
AMERICAN
CONSERVATORY
THEATER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press photos and kits: act-sf.org/press

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER TO PRESENT SIMON STEPHENS'S HIT PLAY, *HEISENBERG*

A.C.T.'s Geary Theater
March 14–April 8, 2018

SAN FRANCISCO (January 31, 2018)—This spring, American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) will present Simon Stephens's play *Heisenberg* (March 14–April 8, 2018), a hit both on Broadway and in London's West End. In a bustling London train station, free-spirited American Georgie spots mid-70s British butcher Alex, kisses him on the neck, and sets his world reeling. When she turns up in his shop a few days later, he is suspicious. Is she honestly attracted to him or is there a longer con game in the cards? As Alex is drawn into Georgie's anarchic world, his conventional life becomes chaotic, uncertain, and undeniably richer. In this "vibrant and emotionally charged" (*The New York Times*) new play, Tony Award–winning playwright Simon Stephens (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*) crafts an unexpected comedy that rethinks the polar magnetism of opposites attracting. With its perfect collision of strangers and strangeness, *Heisenberg* is an electric hit from one of theater's most original voices. Press night for *Heisenberg* will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. **Single tickets** (ranging from \$15–\$110) are available at the A.C.T. Box Office at **415.749.2228** or online at www.act-sf.org. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

Under the direction of **Hal Brooks** (The Public Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Humana Festival of New American Plays), *Heisenberg* features Bay Area theater veteran **James Carpenter** (Alex Priest) and **Sarah Grace Wilson** (Georgie Burns). The creative team for *Heisenberg* includes **Alexander V. Nichols** (Lighting and Scenic Designer), **Meg Neville** (Costume Designer), and **Brendan Aanes** (Sound Designer).

Says A.C.T. Artistic Director **Carey Perloff**: "Simon Stephens has an uncanny ability to create ambiguity and surprise onstage. When I first saw *Heisenberg*, I was captivated by the mystery at the heart of the play. Is Georgie Burns, the heroine of the play, a manipulative fortune-seeker or does she genuinely fall in love with

Alex, the Irish butcher she randomly encounters at a train station? *Heisenberg* is like a prism that constantly offers alternatives to the paths people take in their lives, and keeps audiences guessing at every moment as to where the ‘truth’ lives. We're delighted to welcome our M.F.A. alum Hal Brooks back to A.C.T. to direct this richly imagined play, and look forward with anticipation to seeing Bay Area treasure James Carpenter tackle Stephens’s play at The Geary.”

In connection with *Heisenberg*, A.C.T. will offer numerous **InterACT events**—many of which are presented free of charge—that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while having an entire night out at the theater. Visit act-sf.org/interact to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Bike to the Theater Night:**
Wednesday, March 14, 7 p.m.
Providing a greener alternative to theater transportation, A.C.T. and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition offer free valet bike parking, as well as a special discount on tickets, for these select performances.
- **Prologue:**
Tuesday, March 20, 5:30 p.m.
Before the curtain goes up, get a sneak peek at the artistic process at this fascinating preshow discussion with the director and artistic staff.
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Sunday, March 25, 2 p.m. | Tuesday March 27, 7 p.m. | Wednesday, April 4, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **OUT with A.C.T.:**
Wednesday, March 28, following the 8 p.m. performance
The best LGBT night in town! Mingle with the cast and enjoy free drinks and treats at this popular after-party.
- **Theater on the Couch:**
Friday, March 30, following the 8 p.m. performance
This exciting postshow discussion series addresses audience questions and explores the minds, motives, and behavior of the characters.
- **Wente Vineyards Wine Series:**
Tuesday, April 3, 7 p.m.
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine-tasting event featuring the Bay Area’s hottest local winery.

A.C.T.'s production of *Heisenberg* is made possible by producers **Clay Foundation – West; Concepción and Irwin Federman; Elsa and Neil Pering;** and **Merrill Randol Sherwin;** and associate producers **Gayle and Steve Brugler; Carol Dollinger; Barb and Gary Erickson; Betty Hoener; Luba Kipnis and David Russel;** and **Dr. Martin and Elizabeth Terplan.**

A.C.T. would also like to acknowledge its 2017–18 season presenters **Frannie Fleishhacker; Priscilla and Keith Geeslin; Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation; Burt and Deedee McMurtry; Arthur Rock and Toni Rembe; Mary and Steven L. Swig; Jeffrey W. and Laurie Ubben;** season partner **PG&E,** lead education partner **Wells Fargo,** Season Airline Sponsor **United Airlines;** and Official Hotel Sponsor **Hotel G.**

Up next, A.C.T. will next present ***Father Comes Home from the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3)*** (April 25–May 20, 2018), Pulitzer Prize winner Suzan-Lori Parks’s explosively powerful and lyrical new play set against the backdrop of the Civil War. Closing out the 2017–18 season, A.C.T. will present the world-premiere musical ***A Walk on the Moon*** (June 5–July 1, 2018), based on the 1999 movie of the same name.

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FACT SHEET FOR HEISENBERG

WHAT:

In a bustling London train station, free-spirited American Georgie spots mid-70s British butcher Alex, kisses him on the neck, and sets his world reeling. When she turns up in his shop a few days later, he is suspicious. Is she honestly attracted to him or is there a longer con game in the cards? As Alex is drawn into Georgie's anarchic world, his conventional life becomes chaotic, uncertain, and undeniably richer. In this "vibrant and emotionally charged" (*The New York Times*) new play, Tony Award-winning playwright Simon Stephens (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*) crafts an unexpected comedy that rethinks the polar magnetism of opposites attracting. With its perfect collision of strangers and strangeness, *Heisenberg* is an electric hit from one of theater's most original voices.

WHO:

Written by **Simon Stephens**

Directed by **Hal Brooks**

CAST:

James Carpenter (Alex Priest) and **Sarah Grace Wilson** (Georgie Burns)

CREATIVE TEAM:

Alexander V. Nichols (Lighting and Scenic Designer), **Meg Neville** (Costume Designer), and **Brendan Aanes** (Sound Designer).

WHERE:

A.C.T.'s Geary Theater (415 Geary St., San Francisco)

WHEN:

March 14–April 8, 2018

Press Night: Wednesday, March 21, 2018

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesdays–Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m.

InterACT Events

Bike to the Theater Night: March 14 (7 p.m.)

Prologue: March 20 (5:30 p.m.)

Audience Exchanges: March 25 (2 p.m.), March 27 (7 p.m.), April 4 (2 p.m.)

OUT with A.C.T.: March 28 (8 p.m.)

Theater on the Couch: March 30 (8 p.m.)

Wine Series: April 3 (7 p.m.)

TICKETS:

\$15–\$110

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice

PHOTOS:

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TIX & INFO:

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