

A.C.T. AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

A NOTE TO JOURNALISTS: In the hopes of maintaining the integrity of the experience of *Gloria* for our patrons, playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins and director Eric Ting respectfully request that those writing about the show please refrain from including revealing aspects of the plot.

“A whip-smart satire! A sharp-toothed comic drama with a whole lot to say”
—*The New York Times*

“Shocking, hilarious and spectacularly honest” —*Chicago Tribune*

“Powerful and cunningly structured! After the shock, it’s the human touches that linger”
—*TimeOut*

“This is an exciting, disturbing, and truly major piece that breathes fresh air into a time-tested subject. And it will shake audiences to their cores” —*TheaterMania*

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER ANNOUNCES FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS’S *GLORIA*

Directed by Eric Ting, this scalpel-sharp dark comedy evolves into a provocative exploration of how we cope with trauma and the tales we tell each other to escape

A.C.T.’s Strand Theater
February 13–April 12, 2020

SAN FRANCISCO (December 19, 2019)—Tony Award winner and American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon announced today the full cast and creative team for Branden Jacobs-Jenkins’s “sharply observed satirical comedy” (*The Hollywood Reporter*), *Gloria*. A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2016, this scalpel-sharp dark comedy explores how we cope with trauma and the tales we tell each other to escape. In the dog-eat-dog office of a New York magazine, twentysomethings Ani, Dean, and Kendra compete for a book deal to kick-start their careers. But after tragedy strikes, which one of them will write the story? MacArthur “Genius” winner Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (*Appropriate, Everybody*) reunites with Cal Shakes Artistic Director Eric Ting, who directed the playwright’s *An Octoroon* (2017) at Berkeley Rep. Shocking, satirical, and viciously funny, *Gloria* is a thought-

provoking work from a powerhouse playwright. **PLEASE NOTE: This production contains strong language, loud noises, gunshots (on and off stage), violence, and mature themes.**

Gloria plays at A.C.T.'s Strand Theater (1127 Market St., San Francisco) **February 13–April 12, 2020**. Press nights for *Gloria* will be held on Wednesday, February 26 and Thursday, February 27, 2020. Single tickets (ranging from \$15–\$110) are available at the A.C.T. Box Office at **415-749-2228** or online at act-sf.org. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

“Playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins is a provocative genius,” said **Mackinnon**. “His brilliant ensemble play, *Gloria*, studies ambition without direction, community without compassion. It feels hugely relevant for the San Francisco Bay Area and our country. Attention must be paid.”

Under the direction of Eric Ting, *Gloria* features (in alphabetical order): **Lauren English, Jeremy Kahn, Melanie Arie Mah, Martha Bringham, Jared Corbin, and Matt Monaco**.

The creative team for *Gloria* includes **Lawrence E. Moten III** (Scenic Designer), **Christine Crook** (Costume Designer), **Wen-Ling Liao** (Lighting Designer), and **Madeleine Oldham** (Sound Designer).

In connection with *Gloria*, 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:**
Thursday, February 13, 6:30 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.
- **Drinks & Drama Friday:**
Friday, February 14, 5:30 p.m.
A new preshow evening of specialty cocktails, pop-up food, and low-priced tickets to the performance.
- **Prologue:**
Tuesday, February 25, 5 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.
- **Theater on the Couch:**
Friday, February 28, following the 7:30 p.m. performance
This exciting postshow discussion series addresses audience questions and explores the minds, motives, and behavior of the characters.
- **Wine Night:**
Tuesday, March 3, 6:30 p.m.
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine-tasting event featuring the Bay Area’s hottest local winery.

- **Pride Night (formerly OUT with A.C.T.):**
Wednesday, March 4, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and postshow party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community.
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m. | Sunday, March 15, 2 p.m. | Wednesday, March 18, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **PlayTime:**
Saturday, March 21, 12:45 p.m.
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with the artists who make it happen at this interactive theater workshop.

A.C.T.'s production of *Gloria* is made possible by Executive Producers **Nion McEvoy and Leslie Berriman**; Producers **Anne and Michelle Shonk**; and Associate Producers **Dr. David Gaba and Deanna Mann**; **Dr. Martin and Elizabeth Terplan**.

A.C.T. would also like to acknowledge its 2019–20 Season Presenters **Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson**; **Frannie Fleishhacker**; **Priscilla and Keith Geeslin**; **James C. Hormel and Michael P. Nguyen-Hormel**; **Kenneth and Gisele Miller**; **Toni Rembe and Arthur Rock**; **Robina Riccitiello**; **Mary and Steven Swig**; **Jeff and Laurie Ubben**; and **Kay Yun and Andre Neumann-Loreck**; and Company Sponsors **Mrs. Barbara Bakar**; **Lesley Ann Clement and Karl Lukaszewicz**; **Ray and Dagmar Dolby Family Fund**; **Kevin and Celeste Ford**; **Kirke and Nancy Sawyer Hasson**; **Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson**; **Fred M. Levin and Nancy** Livingston**, **The Shenson Foundation**; **Burt** and Deedee McMurtry**; **David and Carla Riemer**; **Patti and Rusty Rueff**; and **Aaron Vermut and Adriana López Vermut**; Additional support provided by **Hilton Union Square** and **Parc 55 San Francisco**, A.C.T.'s Official Hotel Partner.

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FACT SHEET FOR GLORIA

WHAT:

A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2016, this scalpel-sharp dark comedy explores how we cope with trauma and the tales we tell each other to escape. In the dog-eat-dog office of a New York magazine, twentysomethings Ani, Dean, and Kendra compete for a book deal to kick-start their careers. But after tragedy strikes, which one of them will write the story? MacArthur “Genius” winner **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins** (*Appropriate, Everybody*) reunites with Cal Shakes Artistic Director **Eric Ting**, who directed the playwright’s *An Octoroon* (2017) at Berkeley Rep. Shocking, satirical, and viciously funny, *Gloria* is a thought-provoking work from a powerhouse playwright.

WHO:

Written by **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**

Directed by **Eric Ting**

CAST (in alphabetical order):

Lauren English, Jeremy Kahn, Melanie Arie Mah, Martha Brigham, Jared Corbin, Matt Monaco.

CREATIVE TEAM:

Lawrence E. Moten III (Scenic Designer), Christine Crook (Costume Designer), Wen-Ling Liao (Lighting Designer), and Madeleine Oldham (Sound Designer)

WHERE:

A.C.T.’s Strand Theater (1127 Market St., San Francisco)

WHEN:

February 13—April 12, 2020

Press Nights: Wednesday, February 26 and Thursday, February 27, 2020

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesdays–Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m.

InterACT Events

Bike to the Theater Night: *Thursday, February 13, 6:30 p.m.*

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PlayTime: *Saturday, March 21, 12:45 p.m.*

TICKETS & INFORMATION:

415.749.2228 | act-sf.org

\$15–\$110

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice

MORE:

Gloria features disturbing adult content and strong violence, and may not be suitable for audiences under the age of 17.

PRESS:

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