

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 OBIE AWARD–WINNING PLAYWRIGHT WILL ENO’S NEW PLAY, *WAKY, WAKY*

Directed by Obie Award winner Anne Kauffman and starring two-time Emmy Award winner **Tony Hale**, *Wakey, Wakey* explores the pleasure, humor, and beautiful mystery of life

A.C.T.’S GEARY THEATER
JANUARY 23–FEBRUARY 16, 2020

SAN FRANCISCO (December 9, 2019)—**American Conservatory Theater** (A.C.T.) kicks off the new year with Obie Award winner **Will Eno**’s new play, *Wakey, Wakey*. The curtain rises. Everyone’s listening. What do you say? Eno (*The Realistic Joneses*) crafts an intimate comedy drama that takes audiences on a theatrical journey that’s surprising, yet familiar. Starring two-time Emmy Award winner **Tony Hale** (HBO’s *Veep* and Fox’s/Netflix’s *Arrested Development*) with **Kathryn Smith-McGlynn**, *Wakey, Wakey* is a remarkable combination of the everyday and the extraordinary that invites you to share the pleasure, humor, and beautiful mystery of life. Experience the play that has everyone talking—plus a never-before-seen companion play commissioned and developed by A.C.T. and written by Eno featuring Kathryn Smith-McGlynn alongside students from A.C.T.’s acclaimed MFA program, and refreshments to follow the show. *Wakey, Wakey* performs at A.C.T.’s Geary Theater (415 Geary St., San Francisco) **January 23–February 16, 2020**. Press night for *Wakey, Wakey* will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 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.*



Says **Tony Award winner and American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.) Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon**: “Uniting Pulitzer Prize finalist playwright Will Eno with multiple Obie Award–winning director Anne Kauffman is a pure

delight. Throwing two-time Emmy Award-winning actor Tony Hale into the mix makes it all surreal. This is a powerful event in the making. Like Thornton Wilder's classic play, *Our Town*, *Wakey, Wakey* asks of us all to wake up, commune, and participate with big laughter and maybe a few tears. I cannot wait."

Under the direction of **Anne Kauffman**, the creative team for *Wakey, Wakey* includes **Joe Goode** (Choreographer), **Kimie Nishikawa** (Scenic and Costume Designer), **Russell H. Champa** (Lighting Designer), and **Leah Gelpe** (Sound and Projection Designer).

In connection with *Wakey, Wakey*, 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, January 23, 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, January 24, 6 p.m.
A new preshow evening of specialty cocktails, pop-up food, DJ China G, and low-priced tickets to the performance
- **Prologue:**
Tuesday, January 28, 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, January 31, following the 8 p.m. performance
This exciting postshow discussion series addresses audience questions and explores the minds, motives, and behavior of the characters.
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Tuesday, February 4, 7 p.m. | Sunday, February 9, 2 p.m. | Wednesday, February 12, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **Pride Night (formerly OUT with A.C.T.):**
Wednesday, February 5, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and postshow party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community
- **Wine Night:**
Tuesday, February 11, 6:30 p.m.
Before the show, raise a glass at this wine-tasting event featuring the Bay Area's hottest local winery.
- **PlayTime:**
Saturday, February 15, 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 *Wakey, Wakey* is made possible by Executive Producers **Christopher and Leslie Johnson**.

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; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon P. Getty; Kirke and Nancy Sawyer Hasson; Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson; Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation; Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGrath; Burt and Deedee McMurtry; David and Carla Riemer; Patti and Rusty Rueff; Aaron Vermut and Adriana López Vermut; Jack and Susy Wadsworth; and Barry Williams and Lalita Tademy. 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 WAKEY, WAKEY

WHAT:

Over the course of a very special hour, a man considers his entire life. What does he remember? What will he share? What does it mean? Funny, quirky, and provocative, *Wakey, Wakey* is an intimate new comedy from Obie Award-winning playwright **Will Eno**—a surprising yet familiar look at what it means and how it feels to be human.

Experience the play that has everyone talking—plus a never-before-seen companion play commissioned and developed by A.C.T. and written by Eno featuring Kathryn Smith-McGlynn alongside students from A.C.T.'s acclaimed MFA program, and refreshments to follow the show. Starring two-time Emmy Award winner **Tony Hale** (*Veep*, *Arrested Development*, *Toy Story 4*), *Wakey, Wakey* is a remarkable combination of the extraordinary and the everyday that invites you to share the pleasure, humor, and beautiful mystery of life

WHO:

Written by **Will Eno**

Directed by **Anne Kauffman**

Starring **Tony Hale**

With **Kathryn Smith-McGlynn**

Cast of Curtain-Raiser:

Dinah Berkeley, LeRoy S. Graham III, Kathryn Smith-McGlynn, Emma Van Lare, and Jeff Wittekiend

CREATIVE TEAM:

Joe Goode (Choreographer), **Kimie Nishikawa** (Scenic and Costume Designer), **Russell H. Champa** (Lighting Designer), and **Leah Gelpe** (Sound and Projection Designer)

WHERE:

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

WHEN:

January 23–February 16, 2020

Press Night: Wednesday, January 29, 2020

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Fridays at 8 p.m.

Saturdays at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m.

InterACT Events

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