

GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE ADDS ANNA ZIEGLER'S ACTUALLY TO 2016/2017 SEASON IN CO-WORLD PREMIERE WITH WILLIAMSTOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL

LOS ANGELES, CA (August xx, 2016) – Geffen Playhouse has announced the addition of award-winning playwright Anna Ziegler's *Actually* to its 2016/2017 season, a co-world premiere with the Williamstown Theatre Festival. The production is slated to run May 2, 2017 through June 11, 2017 in the Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at the Geffen Playhouse. Opening night is May 10, 2017.

"Every single thing leads to everything else..." Amber and Tom, finding their way as freshmen at Princeton, spend a night together that alters the course of their lives. They agree on the drinking, they agree on the attraction, but consent is foggy, and if unspoken, can it be called consent? A writer the *New York Times* calls "newly (and justly) hot," Anna Ziegler investigates gender and race politics, our crippling desire to fit in, and the three sides to every story.

Anna Ziegler's play *Photograph 51* most recently won London's 2016 WhatsOnStage Best New Play Award and was also selected as a "Best of the Year" play by The Washington Post and The Telegraph. Her play *Boy* was nominated for the John Gassner Award by the Outer Critics Circle. Ziegler's work has been produced on the West End (*Photograph 51* starring Nicole Kidman) and at The Old Globe, Seattle Repertory Theatre, The Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Magic Theatre, City Theatre, and many more. She has developed works at the Sundance Theatre Lab, The Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference, Soho Rep and the Williamstown Theatre Festival, among others.

Actually was first presented as part of the 2016 "Fridays @ 3" Reading Series at Williamstown Theatre Festival, under Artistic Director Mandy Greenfield.

Previously announced productions for the upcoming Geffen Playhouse season include:

- The West Coast Premiere of **BARBECUE** written by Robert O'Hara, September 6 October 16, 2016, Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.
- **THE MODEL APARTMENT**, written by Donald Margulies, October 11 November 20, 2016, Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.
- The World Premiere of **ICEBERGS**, written by Alena Smith and directed by Randall Arney, November 8 December 18, 2016, Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.

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- The Los Angeles Premiere of **THE LION**, written and performed by Benjamin Scheuer and directed by Sean Daniels, January 4 February 19, 2017 in the Audrey Skirball Kenis Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.
- LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT, written by Eugene O'Neill, January 31, 2017 March 19, 2017, Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse
- The West Coast premiere of **THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE**, written by Matthew Lopez and directed by Mike Donahue, April 4 May 14, 2017 in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.
- The Los Angeles Premiere of **CONSTELLATIONS**, written by Nick Payne, June 6 July 16, 2017 in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse.

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

Gil Cates and Audrey Skirball Kenis Theaters at the Geffen Playhouse 10886 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024 310.208.2028 www.geffenplayhouse.com

ABOUT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the not-for-profit organization continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates, and is currently helmed by Artistic Director Randall Arney, Executive Director Gil Cates, Jr., and Co-Chairs of the Board Martha Henderson and Pamela Robinson. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains extensive education and community engagement programs, designed to involve underserved young people and the community at large in the arts. www.geffenplayhouse.com

ABOUT WILLIAMSTOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL

Under artistic director Mandy Greenfield, Williamstown Theatre Festival, recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, creates renowned productions of both world premiere plays as well as revivals of some of the great works of the Western theatrical canon. Since 1955, Williamstown Theatre Festival has brought together gifted emerging theater artists with our country's finest theater professionals to produce a vibrant summer season in the Berkshires, while simultaneously running one of the country's top training and professional development programs. In 2015, the Festival launched a New Play Commissioning Program as well as a community-immersive theatre initiative, which unites professional theater artists with Berkshire residents to create new work. Playwrights under commission include Fernanda Coppel, Melissa James Gibson (co-commission with Second Stage), Halley Feiffer, Matthew Lopez, Jiehae Park, Benjamin Scheuer and Lucy Thurber. Additionally, each



summer the Festival produces an array of unique cultural events including family-friendly theater, Late-Night Cabarets, music concerts and comedy. The artists and productions shaped at the Festival each summer fill theaters in New York, around the country and abroad. Recent critically acclaimed productions launched by Williamstown Theatre Festival include: Sam Shepard's *Fool for Love* directed by Daniel Aukin, starring Nina Arianda and Sam Rockwell; Bernard Pomerance's *The Elephant Man* directed by Scott Ellis, starring Bradley Cooper; John Kander, Frank Ebb and Terrence McNally's *The Visit*, directed by John Doyle, starring Chita Rivera, among many others. For more information, please visit www.wtfestival.org

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