

THE PUBLIC THEATER
ANNOUNCES
NEW MUSICAL MEMOIR
***WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT
AMOUNT OF TIME***

June 13-July 14

Written and Performed by David Cale

Lyrics by David Cale

Music by David Cale and Matthew Dean Marsh

Directed by Robert Falls

February 28, 2019 - The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced today that the New York premiere of ***WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME*** has been added to The Public's 2018-19 Season. Both written and performed by **David Cale**, with music co-written with **Matthew Dean Marsh**, the musical memoir is directed by **Robert Falls**, in a co-production with Goodman Theatre. Cale's autobiographical solo-show will begin previews in The Public's Anspacher Theater on Thursday, June 13 with a Joseph Papp Free Preview and run through Sunday, July 14, with an official press opening on Thursday, June 27.

Growing up, writer/performer David Cale escaped his parents' fraught marriage by singing in his bedroom and tending to birds in his backyard animal hospital. Lush songs, featuring a six-piece orchestra, and an intimate portrait of his mother unite in Cale's vivid musical memoir of hope, family, and transcendence. Cale returns to The Public after appearing in *Deep in a Dream of You* and *The Total Bent*.

"I'm deeply thrilled to bring my most personal, and I think, artistically ambitious show, *We're Only Alive for A Short Amount of Time*, home to New York City," said **David Cale**. "It was my dream early on in the writing and composing of the show that it would live in the Anspacher at The Public Theater, where I've had such spiritually stirring experiences, and the fact that is happening makes me profoundly happy."

WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME features scenic design by Kevin Depinet; costume design by Paul Marlow; lighting design by Jennifer Tipton; sound design by Mikhail Fiksel; and arrangements and music direction by Matthew Dean Marsh.

"...A deeply personal, indisputably courageous, frequently shocking and deeply moving autobiographical show."

-- Chicago Tribune

"Succeeds on the strength of its material and the man at its center."

-- Daily Herald

WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME is made possible with the generous support of piece by piece productions.

DAVID CALE (*Playwright, Lyricist, Co-Composer, Performer*). Cale's solo works include *Palomino* (Kirk Douglas Theatre, K.C. Rep, also director), *A Likely Story* (The New Group), *Lillian* (Playwrights Horizons,

Goodman Theatre, Obie Award), *Deep in a Dream of You* (Public Theater, Goodman, Bessie Award), and *The Redthroats* (Second Stage, P.S. 122, Goodman, Bessie). He wrote the book, lyrics, co-composed the music for, and starred in the musical *Floyd and Clea Under the Western Sky* (Playwrights Horizons, Goodman, Outer Critics Circle Nomination). He composed the songs for *Employee of the Year* (UTR, Public, Bessie Nomination). Select acting credits include *The Threepenny Opera* (Broadway/Studio 54) and *The Total Bent* (Public Theater). Film credits include *Light From Light* (upcoming), *Private Life*, and *The Slaughter Rule*. TV credits include "Russian Doll." Most recently he wrote the solo play *Harry Clarke* starring Billy Crudup (Vineyard Theatre/Audible, Minetta Lane, Lucille Lortel Award).

ROBERT FALLS (*Director*). Most recently, Falls directed the world premiere of David Cale's *We're Only Alive for A Short Amount of Time*, *Pamplona*, and remounted his Lyric Opera of Chicago production of *Don Giovanni* for the Dallas Opera. In the Goodman's 2017-18 Albert Season, he directed the world premiere of Rogelio Martinez's *Blind Date* and a new production of Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, for which he also wrote the adaptation. In the 2015-16 Season, Falls directed the Chicago premiere of Rebecca Gilman's *Soups, Stews, and Casseroles: 1976*, and partnered with Goodman Playwright-in-Residence Seth Bockley to direct their world premiere adaptation of Roberto Bolaño's *2666* (Jeff Award for Best Adaptation). Recent productions also include *The Iceman Cometh* for the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Rebecca Gilman's *Luna Gale* for the Center Theatre Group, *Measure for Measure*, and the world and Off-Broadway premieres of Beth Henley's *The Jacksonian*. Among his other credits are *The Seagull*, *King Lear*, *Desire Under the Elms*, John Logan's *Red*, Jon Robin Baitz's *Three Hotels*, Eric Bogosian's *Talk Radio*, and Conor McPherson's *Shining City*; the world premieres of Richard Nelson's *Frank's Home*, Arthur Miller's *Finishing the Picture*, Eric Bogosian's *Griller*, Steve Tesich's *The Speed of Darkness* and *On the Open Road*, John Logan's *Riverview: A Melodrama with Music*, and Rebecca Gilman's *A True History of the Johnstown Flood*, *Blue Surge* and *Dollhouse*; the American premiere of Alan Ayckbourn's *House and Garden*; and the Broadway premiere of Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida*. Falls' honors for directing include, among others, a Tony Award (*Death of a Salesman*), a Drama Desk Award (*Long Day's Journey into Night*), an Obie Award (*subUrbia*), a Helen Hayes Award (*King Lear*) and multiple Jeff Awards (including a 2012 Jeff Award for *The Iceman Cometh*). For "outstanding contributions to theater," Falls has been recognized with such prestigious honors as the Savva Morozov Diamond Award (Moscow Art Theatre), the O'Neill Medallion (Eugene O'Neill Society), the Distinguished Service to the Arts Award (Lawyers for the Creative Arts), the Illinois Arts Council Governor's Award, and induction into the Theater Hall of Fame.

MATTHEW DEAN MARSH (*Co-Composer*) is a NYC-based composer, writer, and performer. His compositions have sounded at Madison Square Garden, Barclays Center, Lincoln Center, BAM, the Goodman Theatre, MassMOCA, and the White House. Recent composition includes *Romeo & Juliet* (LCE), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (AADA), and *Love Letters* (Sleep No More). Arrangements include *Nasha America* (Alchemation). Music Directing credits include *Holiday Sauce* with Taylor Mac, Sing Out for Cynthia Nixon, *The Reality Show: NYU*, *Hurricane Diane* (Two River Theater), *Rimbaud in New York* (BAM), cabaret shows for David Cale, Ato Blankson-Wood, Jo Lampert, Max Jenkins/Tom Hennes, and Salty Brine. Accompanying credits include Joseph Keckler, Todd Almond, Erin Markey, Michael Musto, Denis O'Hare, Sandra Bernhard, Michael Cavadias, Shaina Taub, and Sherie Rene Scott.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER:

THE PUBLIC is theater of, by, and for all people. Artist-driven, radically inclusive, and fundamentally democratic, The Public continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, The Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Forum, Under the Radar, Public Studio, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning

musical *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 59 Tony Awards, 170 Obie Awards, 53 Drama Desk Awards, 54 Lortel Awards, 32 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

ABOUT GOODMAN THEATRE:

AMERICA'S "BEST REGIONAL THEATRE" (*Time* magazine), Goodman Theatre is a premier not-for-profit organization distinguished by the excellence and scope of its artistic programming and civic engagement. Led by Artistic Director Robert Falls and Executive Director Roche Schulfer, the theater's artistic priorities include new play development (more than 150 world or American premieres), large scale musical theater works and reimagined classics (celebrated revivals include Falls' productions of *Death of a Salesman* and *The Iceman Cometh*). Goodman Theatre artists and productions have earned two Pulitzer Prizes, 22 Tony Awards, over 160 Jeff Awards and many more accolades. In addition, the Goodman is the first theater in the world to produce all 10 plays in August Wilson's "American Century Cycle;" and its annual holiday tradition *A Christmas Carol*, which marks its 41st production this season, has created a new generation of theatergoers. The Goodman also frequently serves as a production partner with local off-Loop theaters and national and international companies by providing financial support or physical space for a variety of artistic endeavors.

TICKET INFORMATION

WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater on Thursday, June 13 and will run through Sunday, July 14 with an official press opening on Thursday, June 27.

Continuing The Public's mission to make great theater accessible to all, the Joseph Papp Free Preview Initiative will continue this summer; free tickets to the first preview on Thursday, June 13 will be available beginning June 7 via TodayTix mobile lottery, and on June 13 via the lottery in the lobby of The Public Theater at Astor Place, with entries starting at 1:00 p.m. and winners drawn at 2:00 p.m.

Public Theater Partner tickets will be available on Tuesday, March 12. Member tickets will be available on Thursday, March 14. Single tickets, starting at \$45, will be available on Thursday, April 4 and can be accessed by calling **(212) 967-7555**, visiting www.publictheater.org, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

The performance schedule is Tuesday through Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (*There is no 1:00 p.m. performance on Saturday, June 15. There is an added 1:00 p.m. performance on Wednesday, July 3. There is no performance on Thursday, July 4.*)

The open captioning performance will be at **1:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, June 29**. The audio described performance will be at **1:00 p.m.** on **Saturday, July 13**.

The Library at The Public is open nightly for food and drink, beginning at 5:30 p.m., and Joe's Pub at The Public continues to offer some of the best music in the city. For more information, visit www.publictheater.org.

#