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**THE PUBLIC THEATER  
BEGINS PERFORMANCES FOR  
DAVID CALE'S  
*WE'RE ONLY ALIVE*  
FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME  
WITH JOSEPH PAPP FREE PREVIEW  
THURSDAY, JUNE 13**

**Written and Performed by David Cale  
Lyrics by David Cale  
Music by David Cale and Matthew Dean Marsh  
Directed by Robert Falls**

June 7, 2019 - The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) will begin performances for the acclaimed production ***WE'RE ONLY ALIVE FOR A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME*** on Thursday, June 13 with a Joseph Papp Free Preview. 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 acclaimed autobiographical solo-show runs 90 minutes and plays 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*.

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

- Chicago Tribune

The musicians joining Matthew Dean Marsh (Co-Composer/Music Director/Piano) include **John Blevins** (Trumpet), **Josh Henderson** (Viola), **Tyler Hsieh** (Clarinet), **Tomina Parvanova** (Harp), and **Jessica Wang** (Cello).

***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.

***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, Obie Award), *Deep in a Dream of You* (The Public, 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 at The Public, Bessie nomination). Select acting credits include *The Threepenny Opera* (Broadway/Studio 54) and *The Total Bent* (The Public). 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, Music Director, Piano*) 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), and 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, 178 Obie Awards, 53 Drama Desk Awards, 56 Lortel Awards, 34 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org)

## **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, Public Supporter, and Member tickets are available now. Full price tickets, starting at \$45, can be accessed by calling **(212) 967-7555**, visiting [publictheater.org](http://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 [publictheater.org](http://publictheater.org).

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