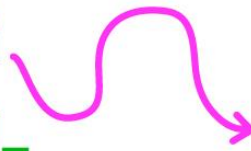


THE PUBLIC.



**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**
press@publictheater.org

**THE PUBLIC. + ELEVATOR
REPAIR
SERVICE**



Laurena Allan



Frank Boyd



Jim Fletcher



Ross Fletcher



Maggie Hoffman



Mike Iveson



Vin Knight



Annie McNamara



Scott Shepherd



Pete Simpson



Susie Sokol



Tory Vazquez



Ben Jalosa Williams

[CAST & CREATIVE HEADSHOTS](#)
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**ELEVATOR REPAIR SERVICE'S GATZ
RETURNS FOR FINAL NYC ENGAGEMENT;
PREVIEWS BEGIN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1
AT THE PUBLIC THEATER**

**Created and performed by Elevator Repair Service
Text: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Directed by John Collins**

Limited Engagement Through Sunday, December 1;
Official Press Opening on Friday November 8

“The most remarkable achievement in theater not only of this year but also of this decade.”
— Ben Brantley, *The New York Times*

“*Gatz* creates its own dramatic universe. It illuminates a familiar text, breathing strange new life into it while honoring its inherent completeness. One is left not primarily with the expected exhaustion, but with a unique and lasting texture of amusement, insight and possibility.”
— Quinton Skinner, *Variety*

“. . . every aspect of the production is so brilliantly conceived and executed. . .”
— Larry Ryan, *The Independent*

September 30, 2024 – The Public Theater (Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director and Patrick Willingham, Executive Director) will present the final New York City encore presentation of Elevator Repair Service (John Collins, Artistic Director)’s critically acclaimed **GATZ** based on *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. More than a decade after the last time the epic played at The Public, the production will once again bring this creative retelling of a classic to a new generation of audiences. Performances for the strictly limited run will begin in the Newman Theater on Friday, November 1 and run through Sunday, December 1. This iteration of **GATZ** opens on Friday, November 8.

Ahead of the centennial of *The Great Gatsby*’s publication and more than a decade after its original Obie and Lortel Award-winning engagements, **Elevator Repair Service’s GATZ** returns to The Public for a thrilling and final New York City encore of the acclaimed production. One morning in the office of a mysterious small business, an employee finds a copy of *The Great Gatsby* in the clutter of his desk. He starts to read it out loud and doesn’t stop. At first his coworkers hardly notice. But after a series of strange coincidences, it’s no longer clear whether he’s reading the book, or the book is transforming him. Told over a single 6 1/2-hour production created by Elevator Repair Service and directed by Elevator Repair Service Artistic Director **John Collins**, **GATZ** is not a retelling of the Gatsby story but an enactment of the entire novel. Fitzgerald’s American masterpiece is delivered word for word, startlingly brought to life by a low-rent office staff amid their inscrutable business operations. An event not to be missed and a last chance to see this theatrical and literary tour de force by one of the American theater’s most exciting and inventive companies.

“The whole **GATZ** company is utterly thrilled to be returning to The Public Theater, a home for Elevator Repair Service and especially for **GATZ** for 14 years,” shares Artistic Director of ERS and director of **GATZ** **John Collins**. “This run is a celebration, not just of our most successful show, but of the most fruitful and welcoming partnership in our 33-year history.”

The cast of **GATZ** includes **Laurena Allan, Frank Boyd, Jim Fletcher, Ross Fletcher, Maggie Hoffman, Mike Iveson, Vin Knight, Annie McNamara, Scott Shepherd, Pete Simpson, Susie Sokol, Tory Vazquez,** and **Ben Jalosa Williams**.

The production will include original scenic design by **Louisa Thompson**, costume design by **Colleen Werthmann**, lighting design by **Mark Barton**, and sound design by **Ben Jalosa Williams**. **Mo Lioce** will be the production stage manager and **Jack Ganguly** will be the stage manager.

“**GATZ** is one of the most thrilling, beautiful and unique pieces of theater we have ever produced. After its initial run in 2010, we were forced to bring it back in a larger theater for a longer run, and it is now returning for an unprecedented third (and final!) time,” says Artistic Director Oskar Eustis. “After almost twenty years

of performances, the Gatz ensemble will take its final bows in New York City, so this may be your last chance to see one of the defining theater pieces of this century. Don't miss it!"

The Public's 2024-2025 Season began with the North American premiere of **COUNTING AND CRACKING**, a **Belvoir St Theatre** and **Kurinji** co-production of the epic play written and associate directed by **S. Shakthidharan** and directed and associate written by **Eamon Flack**, which just completed its run at NYU Skirball. Currently running at The Public's home on Astor Place is the New York premiere of **GOOD BONES**, a sharp, funny new work about gentrification and the growing price of the American dream written by Pulitzer Prize winner **James Ijames** and directed by The Public's Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director **Saheem Ali**. Next, Australian playwright **David Finnigan** brings his play **DEEP HISTORY**, an urgent and personal retelling of how we've reached the brink of unthinkable climate disaster, to New York. **Elevator Repair Service's GATZ** returns to The Public in November for final New York City encore of the acclaimed production, a thrilling enactment of *The Great Gatsby*.

Tied to the upcoming 2024 Election, The Public will also present a series of programming entitled **THE POLITICS OF NOW**, which will include week-long presentations of **THE FORD/HILL PROJECT** (a **Waterwell** production co-presented by The Public and **Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company**) and **GUAC**, written and performed by **Manuel Oliver**. There will also be a one-night-only free screening of **Theater on Podil's** production of **Richard Nelson's CONVERSATIONS IN TUSCULUM** in Kyiv, Ukraine.

With Ma-Yi Theater Company and La Jolla Playhouse, The Public kicks off 2025 with **SUMO**, a mesmerizing new drama set in the sacred world of Sumo wrestling by **Lisa Sanaye Dring**. The Astor Place season concludes with **GLASS. KILL. WHAT IF IF ONLY. IMP.**, a quartet of inventive plays written by groundbreaking playwright **Caryl Churchill** and directed by **James Macdonald**. Finally, the season will conclude with the New York Premiere of **GODDESS**, a new musical and a rousing tale of romance, the supernatural, and the quest towards one's truest self. The production is conceived and directed by Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director **Saheem Ali**, features music and lyrics by **Michael Thurber**, a book by Tony Award nominee **Jocelyn Bioh**, and choreography by **Darrell Grand Moultrie**. The Public will also produce a world premiere audio play of **LET'S KEEP DANCING: A Death Row Story** by **John Purugganan** about two souls fighting to survive death row.

Following a significant revitalization, The Delacorte Theater, home of Free Shakespeare in the Park, will reopen in Summer 2025 with a production of Shakespeare's classic comedy **TWELFTH NIGHT**, also directed by The Public's Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director, Tony Award nominee **Saheem Ali**, and featuring an all-star cast of Public Theater alumni, including **Peter Dinklage**, **Jesse Tyler Ferguson**, **Lupita Nyong'o**, **Sandra Oh**, and more to be announced soon.

The Library serves food and drink beginning at 6:00 p.m. and closing at midnight. The Library is closed on Mondays. During the dinner break of **GATZ**, The Library will be offering a three-course meal for \$45. For more information and to make a reservation, visit publictheater.org.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER:

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 Lab, 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 musicals *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda, *Suffs* by

Shaina Taub, and *Hell's Kitchen* by Alicia Keys and Kristoffer Diaz. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 194 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 61 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 65 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonio Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

The LuEsther T. Mertz Legacy Trust provides leadership support for The Public Theater's year-round activities.

TICKET INFORMATION

GATZ begins performances in the Newman Theater on Friday, November 1 and will run through Sunday, December 1, with an official press opening on Friday, November 8.

Public Theater Partner, Supporter, and full-price single tickets can be accessed by visiting publictheater.org, calling **212.967.7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

GATZ will be presented as a marathon theatrical event, with two intermissions and a dinner break, four times per week. Performances begin on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 3 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. ERS company members may alternate roles at select performances. The week of November 25, there will be a performance on Tuesday, November 26 at 3:00 p.m. There will be no performance on Wednesday, November 27.

The **Open Captioned** performance will be at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 23.

The full performance calendar can be found at publictheater.org.

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