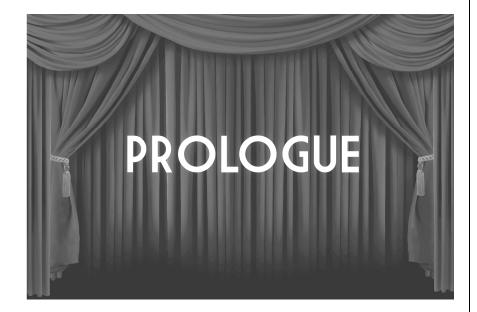
**Page2Stage** is a seasonal involvement in a novel that takes audiences on a journey from book to stage, offering thematicallyrelated performances along the way that deepen the audience's understanding of the story and broaden its resonance. This journey empowers individuals to experience the culminating world premiere production from a myriad of perspectives they could not achieve by reading the book alone, thereby deepening the community conversations which lie at the very heart of JTC's mission.

#### The Ministry of Special Cases by Nathan Englander

The Ministry of Special Cases transports you to Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1976. In the heart of Argentina's Dirty War, Kaddish Poznan struggles with a son who won't accept him; strives for a wife who forever saves him; and spends his nights protecting the good name of a community that denies his existence. When the nightmare of the disappeared children brings the Poznan family to its knees, they are thrust into the unyielding corridors of the Ministry of Special Cases, a terrifying, byzantine refuge of last resort. Through the devastation of a single family, Englander brilliantly captures the grief of a nation.







Bringing community together to share important stories www.jewishtheatrecollaborative.org November 2: Milagro November 3: MJCC November 4: Lincoln Hall, PSU

# PROLOGUE

**Directed by Sacha Reich** 

# **Interview with Nathan Englander**

## Intermission

## **Adaptors in Action**

## Adaptors

Sara Fay Goldman, Ken Gordon, Avital Shira & Sacha Reich.

## Performers

Bobby Bermea\*, Jason Glick, Michael C. Jordan, Mark Loring, Crystal Muñoz, Jamie M. Rea, and Jim Vadala

Costume Design ~ PSU Intro to Costume Design Class Assistant Director ~ Sara Fay Goldman Stage Manager ~ Mike Chapman Box Office Valerie Liptak

\*Member Actors' Equity Association

#### SOURCE MATERIAL:

- Feitlowitz, Marguerite. A Lexicon of Terror: Argentina and the legacies of Torture.. Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Kupferboim, Rona, "Argentine Jewry's Dark Secret", *Ynetnews/Jewish Scene*, May, 2007.
- Gross, Terry. "Nathan Englander: Assimilating Thoughts Into Stories". National Public Radio, February 15, 2012.

Misc. interviews with Nathan Englander

# Thank you to the generous foundations and individuals that make JTC programs possible

Ronni Lacroute & WillaKenzie Estate Meyer Memorial Trust James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation Jewish Federation of Greater Portland Oregon Cultural Trust, Collins Foundation Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation and MILAGRO who gives us a creative home

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JTC is proud to collaborate with Portland State University's Alison Heryer on the costumes for *Prologue*. In small teams, her students were assigned a member of the cast and responsible for designing and creating their actor's costumes for the piece.

### **Costume Designers**

Elena Afanasiev, Gavin Burgess, Melissa Childs, Meaghan Edwards, Melina Frishberg, Cheaquetta Johnson, Benjamin Kim, Michelle Kopper-Seymour, Genevieve Larson, Justin Lizik, Lacey Mulford, Aaron O'Conner, Amanda Pred, Lexie Quandt, Valorie Randle, and Brandilyn Scott.



### Additional gratitude to

Jea Alford, Karin Magaldi, Fridrike Heuer, and Sofia May Cuxim

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

Since we have chosen to put on stage what might normally be found here in this section of your program, I thought I would use the space to share the artistic goals behind this endeavor.

PROLOGUE is a creative project that involves 4 adaptors, months of work creating the script, a single week of rehearsals with 7 actors, 2 stage managers, 18 designers and three performances at theatres around town. Adapting a novel such as Nathan Englander's *The Ministry of Special Cases* requires an intimacy with the world of the book and its characters. The PAGE2STAGE PROLOGUE offers audiences and artists an opportunity to develop that fluency. PROLOGUE leverages the delightful and dynamic medium of theatre to introduce this year's author and the context of the book. In addition, it offers you an insider's peak into our rather unusual artistic process and is designed to whet your appetite for the novel we are exploring this year. Prologue is a creative investment that ultimately pays off in the spring with our world premier production of *The Ministry of Special Cases*.

We hope that you enjoy this evening's experience and will consider joining us for the entire season. Sacha Reich

## ARTISTS

**SACHA REICH** (DIRECTOR/ADAPTOR) The Founder & Executive Director of JTC, Reich has conceived, adapted and directed programming for the company, including *A Pigeon & A Boy, Café Baghdad, Charlotte Salomon: Life? Or Theatre?* and *Kindertransport.* 

**AVITAL SHIRA** (Adaptor: Chapter One/Core Company Member) Recent JTC Credits include: *Adventures Of Hershel Of Ostropol* (Adapter/Director), *A Pigeon And A Boy* (Assoc. Director), and *Wrestling with Home* (Adapter/Director). Avital has worked as an Assistant Director at theatres including Lincoln Center, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, and Writers' Theatre.

**SARA FAY GOLDMAN** (Adaptor: Idiot's Guide Dark Secrets and Adaptors in Action/Core Company Member) Sara has helped create three touring shows with Sacha for JTC: *The Power of Light, Naftali; Story Voyager on the Yiddish Seas, and The Adventures Hershel of Ostropol.* She is also part of *Tears of Joy*'s touring show Raven Stories.

## ARTISTS (cont'd)

**KENNETH GORDON** (Adaptor: Interview/Core Company Associate) Ken serves as Outreach and Tour Coordinator for Jewish Theatre Collaborative's Page2Stage Express.

**BOBBY BERMEA (AEA)** - is a two-time Drammy Award winning actor (Leading Actor, *The Brother/Sister Plays*, Supporting Actor, *A Raisin in the Sun*) and has performed in professional theatres across the country. Bermea is the artistic director of BaseRoots Theatre Company, a founding member of Badass Theatre Company, and longtime artistic associate of Sojourn Theatre.

**JASON GLICK** - JTC audiences have seen Jason as Herbie in Loman Family Picnic and in the JTC touring show Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well Being. He was most recently seen as Joaquin in Exiles at Artists Repertory Theatre.

**MICHAEL C. JORDAN** - recently joined Jewish Theatre Collaborative as part of the touring show *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Well Being.* He was seen this past year with Original Practices Shakespeare Festival as Flute in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing.* 

**MARK LORING -** is known to many local audiences for his works as a set designer over the years with Storefront Theatre, Oregon Stage Company, New Rose, Civic, Portland Repertory Theater, and A. R. T., Jewish Theatre Collaborative, The Miracle Theatre Group and many others. In more recent years Mark has ventured to this side of the stage and pursued voice work as an actor.

**CRYSTAL MUÑOZ** –is a founding member of the Anon It Moves theatre company, and a 2013 Drammy winner (*Matilde in The Clean House, Lunacy Stageworks*). Crystal has appeared locally with Portland Playhouse, Milagro Theatre, Portland Shakespeare Project, triangle productions!, Post5 Theatre Co, and FUSE Theatre Ensemble.

**JAMIE M. REA -** is a core company member of JTC and associate artist with Sojourn Theatre. Local favorites include the direction of the 4 time Drammy Award winning, *Songs for a New World* for Staged! & The Miracle Theatre Group, *Jesus Hopped the A Train* for Badass Theatre Company's Text Out Loud series and recently, *Hen Night Epiphany* for Corrib theatre.

**JIM VADALA** - came to Portland in 2012 as a Portland Playhouse Acting Apprentice. Local Credits include *Portlandia* (IFC), *The Homecoming* (Imago Theatre), *Love's Labour's Lost* (Post5), *Othello* (Portland Center Stage), and *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Portland Playhouse).