

TWO RIVER THEATER

25 TH ANNIVERSARY

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TWO RIVER THEATER CONTINUES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON WITH THE COMMISSIONED WORLD PREMIERE OF *THEO*, WRITTEN BY OBIE AWARD WINNER MARTIN MORAN AND DIRECTED BY CAROLYN CANTOR

THE COMPANY INCLUDES ZACHARY BOOTH, JESSE JAMES KEITEL, JON-MICHAEL REESE, ANDREA SYGLOWSKI, AND BRENDA WEHLE

Performances: Saturday, February 23 - Sunday, March 24, 2019
Opening: Friday, March 1, 2019 at 7pm

RED BANK, NJ — Over the past decade, Two River Theater has presented the world premieres of 15 original plays and musicals—13 of them since the theater’s 2011/12 Season, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst. This winter, Two River continues its 25th Anniversary Season with the commissioned world premiere of *Theo*, a new play written by Obie Award winner **Martin Moran** and directed by **Carolyn Cantor**. Performances will begin in Two River’s Marion Huber Theater, 21 Bridge Avenue, on **Saturday, February 23** and continue through **Sunday, March 24**. The opening night performance is **Friday, March 1 at 7pm**. Tickets are available from 732.345.1400 or tworivertheater.org. Two River’s 2018/19 Season Sponsor is Hackensack Meridian Health Riverview Medical Center.

As an actor, Martin Moran has appeared on Broadway in many productions including *Wicked*, Monty Python’s *Spamalot* and *Titanic*. He was awarded a 2004 Obie Award and two Drama Desk nominations for his play *The Tricky Part*, based upon his memoir of the same title, and a 2013 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway Solo Show for his play *All the Rage*. He performed *The Tricky Part* and *All the Rage* at Two River Theater, in repertory, in 2013/14, after which the theater commissioned him to write *Theo*, his first play for other actors.

In this five-character play, Moran renders the complexity of living with humor and truth. When a family's matriarch, Margaret, is forced to acknowledge that her health is deteriorating, her son Theodore returns to their Catskills home after many years away. There, he reconnects with Abe, an acquaintance from his youth who is now his mother's home aide, and with his sister Beth, a single mother struggling to understand her teenaged child, Maddy. A warm look at the far-reaching ties of love, this new play is a moving portrait of kinship, faith, and the pursuit of one's true self.

The cast of *Theo* includes **Zachary Booth** (Theo), **Jesse James Keitel** (Maddy), **Jon-Michael Reese** (Abe), **Andrea Syglowski** (Beth) and **Brenda Wehle** (Margaret).

The creative team includes scenic designer **Antje Ellermann**, costume designer **Kristin Isola**, lighting designer **Yuki Nakase**, sound designer **Leon Rothenberg**, and wig designer **Tommy Kurzman**. The fight direction is by **UnkleDave's Fight-House**. The casting is by **Heidi Griffiths & Kate Murray** and the production stage manager is **Nathan K. Claus**.

"In all of his writing—and now, in *Theo*—Martin Moran demonstrates a quest for self-knowledge that takes audiences from pain and anger all the way through forgiveness and redemption," says Artistic Director John Dias. "Telling a story is a brave act, and a generous one; illuminating and cathartic not only for the storyteller, but also for the audience. In *Theo*, Moran asks how we who are wounded can heal our own trauma, and in doing so bring a sense of grace to ourselves, to those we love, and to the world."

Ticket Information

Ticket prices range from \$50 to \$70, with discounts available for groups, seniors, and U.S. military personnel, their families, and veterans. A limited number of \$20 tickets are available for every performance; \$20 tickets may be partial view. Tickets for patrons under 30 are \$20 and include the best available seats at every performance. Tickets are available from tworivertheater.org or 732.345.1400.

Audience Extras

Before Play and Lobby Display

Audiences will learn about Martin Moran and *Theo* in Two River's Before Play lecture series, which takes place 45 minutes prior to every performance, and Lobby Display.

Post-Play Conversations

Discussions with the cast and a member of Two River's Artistic staff will take place on Wednesday, March 6 at 7pm; Sunday, March 10 at 3pm; and Wednesday, March 13 at 1pm.

Accessibility

Working with Google, Two River offers a virtual tour of its facility, which lives on Google Maps and tworivertheater.org. This virtual tour provides an additional level of support and benefit for patrons who use wheelchairs or require other assistance by allowing them to virtually come through the theater's front doors and view the space in detail in advance of their visit.

An audio-described performance is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20 at 1pm, and an **open-captioned performance** is scheduled for Saturday, March 23 at 3pm. Tickets are available at a discounted rate of \$25 for patrons using these services. To reserve wheelchair-accessible seating or tickets to a performance listed above, patrons should call 732.345.1400 or e-mail boxoffice@trtc.org.

Calendar

Saturday, February 23 at 8pm
Sunday, February 24 at 3pm
Wednesday, February 27 at 1 pm and 7pm
Thursday, February 28 at 8pm
Friday, March 1 at 7pm (**Opening Night**)
Saturday, March 2 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 3 at 3pm
Wednesday, March 6 at 1pm and 7pm
Thursday, March 7 at 8pm
Friday, March 8 at 8pm
Saturday, March 9 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 10 at 3pm
Wednesday, March 13 at 1pm and 7pm
Thursday, March 14 at 8pm
Friday, March 15 at 8pm
Saturday, March 16 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 17 3 at 3pm
Wednesday, March 20 at 1pm and 7pm
Thursday, March 21 at 8pm
Friday, March 22 at 8pm
Saturday, March 23 at 3pm and 8pm
Sunday, March 24 3 at 3pm

Sponsorship

Two River's 2018/19 Season Sponsor is Hackensack Meridian Health Riverview Medical Center. Inside Two River is sponsored by The William T. Morris Foundation and The Gallery Residential Brokerage.

Two River Theater is supported in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Monmouth University, The Shubert Foundation, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Riverview Medical Center, The Stone Foundation of New Jersey, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, Springpoint Senior Living

Foundation at The Atrium at Navesink Harbor, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Jorgensen Foundation, US Trust, Wells Fargo, William T. Morris Foundation, Kessler Foundation, Investors Foundation, The John Ben Snow Foundation, VNA Health Group, Brookdale Community College, and many other generous foundations, corporations and individuals.

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Since its founding in 1994, Two River Theater has been committed to creating great American theater by developing and producing work by some of the country's leading artists. We are proud to be viewed as a vital cultural resource in the community of Red Bank, New Jersey. Through 8+ theatrical productions each year (including world premieres, musicals, classics and theater for young audiences) and 40+ annual events happening around Monmouth County, we produce exceptional theater and cultivate engaged audiences. Two River Theater is under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst. For more information, visit tworivertheater.org or call 732.345.1400.