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AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES THE CAST OF WORLD-PREMIERE GATSBY

Performances begin May 23 in Cambridge, MA

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Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., announced today the cast for its world-premiere musical *Gatsby*, an adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's legendary novel. *Gatsby* begins performances at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square, Cambridge on Thursday, May 23, 2024, opens officially on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, and runs through Sunday, July 21, 2024.

The cast includes Isaac Powell (Gatsby), Charlotte MacInnes (Daisy), Ben Levi Ross (Nick), Cory Jeacoma (Tom), Eleri Ward (Jordan), Solea Pfeiffer (Myrtle), Matthew Amira (Wilson), and Adam Grupper (Wolfsheim). The ensemble includes Nick Bailey, Kailey Boyle, Runako Campbell, Jada Clark, Joshua Grosso, Alex Haquia, Gabriel Hyman, Matt Kizer, Lorenzo Pagano, Christopher Ralph, Christopher M. Ramirez, Shea Renne, Aliza Russell, Shota Sekiguchi, and Maya Sistruck. Cameron Burke, Jacob Burns, Mia DeWeese, Paige Krumbach, Justin Gregory Lopez are swings. Sam Simahk is the standby for Gatsby.

F. Scott Fitzgerald's legendary novel *The Great Gatsby* comes to new life in this world-premiere musical with a score by international rock star **Florence Welch** (Florence + The Machine) and Oscar and Grammy Award nominee **Thomas Bartlett** (Doveman), and a book by Pulitzer Prize winner **Martyna Majok** (*Cost of Living*).

As previously announced, *Gatsby* is staged by Tony Award-winning director Rachel Chavkin (*Hadestown*; *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812; Moby-Dick*) with choreography by Tony Award winner Sonya Tayeh (*Moulin Rouge!*). The *Gatsby* creative team includes MacArthur Fellow and Tony Award-winning scenic designer Mimi Lien, who returns to A.R.T. having previously designed *Moby-Dick* and *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*. Academy Award-winning costume designer Sandy Powell (*The Young Victoria, The Aviator, Shakespeare in Love*) makes her A.R.T. debut. Lucille Lortel Award-winning lighting designer Alan Edwards (*Henry Clark*) returns to the A.R.T. having previously designed *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* in the 2022/23 Season. Olivier Award-winning sound designer Tony Gayle (*My Neighbour Totoro*) makes his A.R.T.

debut. *Gatsby* music supervision is by **Kimberly Grigsby** (*Days of Wine and Roses: The Musical*), and **Wiley DeWeese** (*The Lightning Thief*) is the music director.

Jhanaë Bonnick is the production stage manager and is joined by assistant stage managers Aaron Elgart, Heather Englander, and Alex Luong. Camden Gonzales is the Associate Choreographer and Keenan Oliphant is the Associate Director. Casting is by Tara Rubin Casting/Tara Rubin, CSA, ARC / Duncan Stewart, CSA and Patrick Maravilla.

"ART is one of my favorite places to work, and I'm thrilled to be returning with such an extraordinary creative team to wrestle with another iconic novel," says director Rachel Chavkin. "Through the visceral visions of Florence, Thomas, and Martyna, *Gatsby* will meet Fitzgerald's romantic and painful story *head on*, and I think illuminate so much about this incredible American tragedy. Can't wait to share it with folks!"

Production support of *Gatsby* is provided by Katie and Paul Buttenwieser, The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust, and Janet and Irv Plotkin.

A.R.T.'s 2023/24 season support is provided by Harvard University, The Barr Foundation, The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund, The Shubert Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Barton & Guestier, and Meyer Sound.

GATSBY TICKETING INFORMATION

Tickets from \$35 are available at link <u>AmericanRepertoryTheater.Org/Gatsby</u>. Discounts are available to students and ticket-buyers under age 25, Blue Star families, EBT cardholders, seniors, Harvard faculty and staff, and others. More information at <u>AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit</u>.

NOTABLE DATES

- Opening Celebration
 Wednesday, June 5, 2024 at 7:30PM
- ASL Interpreted*
 Tuesday, July 10, 2024 at 7:30PM & Sunday, July 14, 2024 at 2PM
- Audio Described*
 Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 7:30PM & Saturday, June 29, 2024 at 2PM
- Open Captioned*
 Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 7:30PM & Saturday, June 29, 2024 at 2PM
- Relaxed Performance*
 Sunday, July 14, 2024 at 2PM

*Book Access seats by contacting <u>Access @amrep.org</u> or calling 617.547.8300.

CAST BIOS

Ben Levi Ross (*Nick*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Dear Evan Hansen* (Evan Hansen), The Music Box Theatre. First National Tour: *Dear Evan Hansen* (Evan Hansen). Off-Broadway: *The Connector* (Ethan Dobson), MCC Theater. Regional: *Next to Normal* (Henry), The Kennedy Center. Film: *Tick, Tick... Boom!* (Freddy). Training: Carnegie Mellon.

Isaac Powell (*Gatsby*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *West Side Story* (Tony; Outer Critics Circle Award – Outstanding Actor in a Musical), *Once on This Island* (Daniel). TV: "American Horror Story: NYC," "American Horror Story: Double Feature," "Modern Love." Film: *Our Son*, *Susie Searches, Cat Person, Dear Evan Hansen.*

Charlotte MacInnes (*Daisy*) A.R.T.: Debut. Theater: *The Deb* (Maeve), ATYP. TV/Film: "North Shore" (Erica); *The Deb* (Maeve). Concerts: AACTA Awards (Featured Soloist, AACTA Awards), Divine Miss Bette (Vocalist,

Tenacious C Presents, P&O Cruises). Training: Music Theatre B.A., Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts at Edith Cowan University.

Cory Jeacoma (*Tom*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Gerry Gordon). Off-Broadway: *Jersey Boys* (Bob Gaudio). TV/Film: "Power Book II: Ghost" (Trace Weston), "4400" (Logan Kaminski); *FanGirl* (Mr. Edwards.) Concerts: Sinatra Centennial at David Geffen Hall (Alternate Cast for Sting).

Eleri Ward (*Jordan*) A.R.T.: Debut. Off-Broadway: *Only Gold*, MCC Theater. Regional: *The Wizard of Oz*, The MUNY. Concerts: *Eleri Ward Acoustic Sondheim*, Joe's Pub, Sony Hall; The Tender Tour, National Tour (headline); Josh Groban Harmony Tour, National Tour (Opener); Williamstown Theatre Festival Cabaret, Williamstown Theatre Festival; *Miscast*, MCC Theater. Workshops: *What's Eating Gilbert Grape; La La Land; The Night Falls*. Education: Berklee College of Music; Musical Theater with Emphasis in Songwriting and Acting B.F.A., The Boston Conservatory.

Solea Pfeiffer (*Myrtle*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Almost Famous* (Penny Lane); *Hadestown* (Eurydice). Off-Broadway: *You Are Here* (Audible); *Evita* (Eva Peron); *Songs for a New World*, City Center; *Hamlet* (Ophelia), Delacorte. National Tour: *Hamilton* (Eliza in the West Coast premiere). Other: *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Hollywood Bowl); *West Side Story* (LA Philharmonic, National Symphony Orchestra); *The Light in the Piazza* (Lyric Opera of Chicago). TV/Film: "The Good Fight," "Scandal;" *A Jazzman's Blues*, Netflix.

Matthew Amira (Wilson) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway National Tour: Beautiful, The Carole King Musical; Dirty Dancing (Robbie Gould), North American Tour. Regional: Rocky, The Musical (Rocky Balboa), Walnut Street Theatre; Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (Brick), Walnut Street Theatre; Jersey Boys (Nick Massi); Beautiful (Gerry Goffin); Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Bob Wallace); Goodspeed Opera House, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Fulton Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, Gloucester Stage, MSMT, MTW, and more. Lotte Lenya Competition Finalist. Education: Musical Theatre B.F.A., Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM).

Adam Grupper (Wolfsheim) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Pictures From Home, My Fair Lady, Fiddler on the Roof, Wicked, The Addams Family, Brighton Beach Memoirs, La Boheme, 45 Seconds from Broadway, The Wild Party, Guys and Dolls, The Secret Garden, City of Angels, Into the Woods. Off-Broadway: I Can Get It For You Wholesale, Merrily We Roll Along. TV/Film: "Spirited," "Dopesick," "Pose," "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "The Blacklist," "Rise," "Homeland," "Master of None." Education: B.S., Yale University.

Nick Bailey (Ensemble, u/s Nick, Tom, Wilson) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Casa Valentina. Tour: Waitress. Off-Broadway: Hit the Wall. Regional: Sunday in the Park with George, CCAE Theatricals; Hood, Dallas Theatre Center; A Sign of the Times, Goodspeed; Into the Woods, TUTS; Bridges of Madison County, Williamstown. Workshop: American Psycho. Film: Starring Jerry as Himself, The Outcasts. TV: "Red Oaks," "The Americans," "NCIS: New Orleans," "Criminal Minds," "Bull," "Little America," "Party of Five," "The Get Down." Education: Drama B.F.A., UNCSA.

Kailey Boyle (Ensemble, u/s Daisy) A.R.T.: Debut. Christmas Spectacular featuring the Radio City Rockettes (Mrs. Claus). Regional: MAMMA MIA! (Sophie Sheridan), Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival; Much Ado About Nothing (Hero), Great Lakes Theater; The Secret Garden (Martha), New London Barn Playhouse. Concerts: South Pacific. Education: Music Theater B.M., Baldwin Wallace University.

Runako Campbell (*Ensemble*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Jagged Little Pill*. Opera: *The Hours*, The Metropolitan Opera; *Lohengrin*, The Metropolitan Opera. Concerts: *Children of Eden* (Aphra), Lincoln Center. Dance: Jack Harlow, Vogue NY Fashion Week. TV/Film: "Good Morning America." Education/Training: B.A., Princeton University.

Jada Clark (*Ensemble***)** A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway National Tour: *Jagged Little Pill, Moulin Rouge*. Regional: *Rattlesnake Kate*, DCPA. TV/Film: "VMA's" (Doja Cat). Education/Training: Commercial Dance B.F.A., Pace University (NYC).

Alex Haquia (Ensemble) A.R.T.: Debut. Regional: Complexions Contemporary Ballet-Season 29, The Joyce Theater; Stardust with Complexions Contemporary Ballet (Soloist), Jacob's Pillow; BAAND Dance Festival 2022, Lincoln Center. International: Holland Dance Festival/The Ailey School 2020, Theater de Veste. TV: "Next at the Kennedy Center" (PBS Special), Ballet Hispánico's "Doña Perón". Awards: ArtDesk's Top 100 Leading Creatives 2023. Graduated Summa Cum Laude with Distinguished Honors from the Fordham/Ailey B.F.A. Program in 2022.

Gabriel Hyman (*Ensemble***)** A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Bob Fosse's Dancin'* (Chita Rivera Award); *King Kong* (Chita Rivera and Outer Critics Circle Award). National Tour: *Hamilton* (Charles Lee); *Fire Shut Up in My Bones*, The Metropolitan Opera; *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*. TV/Live Performance: "The 76th Tony Awards" (Opening Number), "Super Bowl LV Halftime Show" (with The Weeknd), "Pose" (FX), "Succession" (HBO), "Dickinson" (Apple TV+). Former Ailey II dancer. Education: Dance B.F.A., The Ailey School/Fordham University Lincoln Center.

Joshua Grosso (*Ensemble, u/s Gatsby*) A.R.T.: Debut. National Tour: *Les Miserables* (Marius); *The Band's Visit* (Telephone Guy). Regional: *In The Heights* (Usnavi), Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. TV/Film: "The Late Late Show with James Corden," "Rise," "Broadway or Bust." Education: Musical Theater B.F.A., Carnegie Mellon.

Matt Kizer (Ensemble, u/s Wolfsheim) A.R.T.: Moby-Dick. Regional: Cashed Out (Buddy Paul), San Francisco Playhouse; River Bride (Señor Costa), Alter Theater; El Paso Blue (Hefe), O'Neill Foundation; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Reuben); Grease (Vince Fontaine); Damn Yankees (Smokey), AMTSJ; A Funny Thing... Forum (Miles Gloriosus); West Side Story (Action); Mountain Play; Concerts: Excerpts from Moby-Dick In Concert Under the Whale, American Museum of Natural History/A.R.T. Workshops: The Gift; Moby Dick; Requiem for Kivalina.

Lorenzo Pagano (*Ensemble*) A.R.T.: Debut. Theater: Martha Graham Dance Company, Sonya Tayeh Unveiling Project, Hofesh Shechter CAVE/The Rave, Compañia Naciónal de Costa Rica. Workshop: *Black Swan the Musical*. Awards: Italian International Dance Award; Italian National Award La Sfera D'Oro. Education: B.A., State University of New York; Martha Graham School.

Christopher Ralph (*Ensemble*) A.R.T.: Debut. Performances with Gregory Dolbashian (The Dash Ensemble), Loni Landon Dance Project, Aszure Barton and Artists, Janis Brenner, Doug Varone, The Metropolitan Opera, Rebecca Lazier, Patrick Corbin, Jenn Freeman and Sonya Tayeh. Recent work: Collaboration with FKA Twigs (upcoming video project). Teaching: Contemporary and Heels classes at Peridance Capezio Center, Broadway Dance Center, Ballet Hispanico, Princeton University, The Hart School, TU Dance, New York University. Training: Steps on Broadway. Education: Dance B.F.A., SUNY Purchase.

Christopher M. Ramirez (Ensemble) A.R.T.: Real Women Have Curves: The Musical. Off-Broadway: As You Like It (Touchstone), Shakespeare in the Park, Delacorte Theater. Regional: Living and Breathing, Two River Theater; HAIR, Destiny of Desire, Twelfth Night, Old Globe Theatre; Disney's Freaky Friday, La Jolla Playhouse, Cleveland Play House, Alley Theatre; Quixote Nuevo, Denver Center; Lookingglass Alice, Baltimore Center Stage; Man of La Mancha, Barrington Stage; TV: "Instinct," "FBI," CBS. Education/Training: M.F.A., USD/Old Globe; B.F.A, Boston Conservatory.

Shea Renne (*Ensemble, u/s Myrtle*) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *Here Lies Love*, Broadway Theatre; *Hadestown* (Fate, u/s Persephone), Walter Kerr Theatre; *Allegiance*, Longacre Theatre. Broadway Tour: *Hadestown*. Select Regional: *Here Lies Love*, Seattle Repertory Theatre; *South Pacific*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Cape Playhouse, Music Theatre Wichita; *The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Mamma Mia!*, *Little Shop of Horrors, Footloose*, Fulton Theatre; *Seussical the Musical*, The Muny; *Spring Awakening*, Hangar Theatre. Education: B.F.A., University of Michigan.

Aliza Russell (Ensemble) A.R.T.: Debut. Theater: Sleep No More, NYC; Bald Witch, The McKittrick Hotel; The Odyssey (Villain-Suitor), Park Avenue Armory. TV/Film: "ZIWE", A24; "Last Snow", Nowness. Exhibitions: "Thierry Mugler: Couturissime," Brooklyn Museum; "HEEL," ICA Philadelphia. Awards: 2018 Princess Grace Award Recipient in Dance. Education: Dance B.F.A., New York University Tisch School of the Arts; Springboard Danse Montréal.

Shota Sekiguchi (*Ensemble*) A.R.T.: Debut. Capezio commercial (Dancer/Model), Redken Industrial commercial (Dancer/Model), Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (Dancer). Education: The Ailey School Certificate graduate.

Maya Sistruck (*Ensemble, u/s Myrtle*) A.R.T. Debut. Regional: *The Great Gatsby*, Paper Mill Playhouse. TV: "East New York," "Up Here." Education: Musical Theatre B.F.A., University of Michigan.

Sam Simahk (Standby for Gatsby) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Into the Woods, Carousel. National Tours: Into the Woods, My Fair Lady, The King and I. Regional: West Side Story (Tony Standby); The King and I (Lun Tha), Lyric

Opera of Chicago; *Oklahoma!* (Curly), Theatre Under the Stars; *A Little Night Music* (Frid), Huntington Theatre Company; *Sweeney Todd* (Anthony), Lyric Stage Company of Boston. Concerts: Grant Park Music Festival, Millennium Park, Chicago. Education: Musical Theatre B.F.A., Emerson College.

Cameron Burke (Swing, u/s Wilson) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Moulin Rouge! The Musical. National Tour: Hamilton, Matilda the Musical, In the Heights. Regional: Chicago, North Shore Music Theatre; In the Heights, Geva Theatre; Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. Dance: The Chase Brock Experience. Film/TV: "Saturday Night Live." Education: Dance B.F.A., Marymount Manhattan College.

Jacob Burns (Swing, u/s Nick, Tom) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Once Upon a One More Time. Touring: Hamilton. Off-Broadway: Only Gold, MCC Theater. Regional: West Side Story (Riff), Milwaukee Rep; Hairspray, Dallas Theater Center; Newsies, Connecticut Rep. Concerts: Phish NYE at MSG. Education: B.F.A., Texas State.

Mia DeWeese (Swing, Assistant Choreographer) A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: Moulin Rouge! The Musical (swing/dance captain/associate choreographer) Off-Broadway: The Lucky Ones, The Connelly Theater (swing/dance captain). TV: "Rent: Live," "The Gilded Age." Dance: Freemove Dance's ..it's time..., Sonya Tayeh Dance's You'll Still Call Me By Name. Education: Dance B.F.A., Marymojacount Manhattan College.

Paige Krumbach (Swing, u/s Jordan) A.R.T.: Debut (Swing, U/S Jordan). Broadway: Hamilton, Angelica Tour (Ensemble). TV/Film: Vivo Selfie; "Bichota." Education/Training: Dance Theatre B.F.A., American Musical and Dramatic Academy.

Justin Gregory Lopez (Swing, u/s Gatsby) A.R.T.: Debut. Off-Broadway: Octet (Toby), Signature Theatre (Drama Desk Ensemble Award). Regional: Bernstein's Mass (1st Rock Soloist), The Kennedy Center; Evita (Che), Asolo Repertory & The REV; As You Like It (Orlando), Milwaukee Repertory; Octet (Toby), Berkeley Repertory; In The Heights (Usnavi), Ordway Center & Schuster Center; Paint Your Wagon (Armando, Gregory Award & Gypsy Rose Lee Award Nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor), 5th Avenue Theatre. Film/TV: "Jesus Christ Superstar Live" (Ensemble Soloist) on NBC; "Law & Order: SVU" (Guest Star).

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus began her tenure in 2008 and co-leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began his tenure in June 2022. A.R.T.'s mission is to expand the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as partner.

The A.R.T. focuses on the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences, serving as a creative hub that has launched productions seen across the US and around the world. A.R.T. received the Tony Award for Best New Play for *All the Way* (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for *Pippin* (2013) and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (2012), both of which Paulus directed. A.R.T.'s Tony Awardwinning and nominated productions include *1776*; *Jagged Little Pill*; *Waitress*; *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*; *All the Way*; *The Glass Menagerie*; *Pippin*; *Once*; *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*. International productions include *Waitress*, *Nice Fish*, *The Glass Menagerie* (West End); *Waitress*, *Pippin* (Japan); *Jagged Little Pill*, *Pippin* (Australia); *Sleep No More* (China). *Sleep No More* currently runs in New York City.

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many other distinguished awards including a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theatre Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. plays a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. A.R.T. is also engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day.

A.R.T. is dedicated to making great theater accessible to all. It builds community with its audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors, actively engaging community members and local students annually in project-

based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

In 2024, A.R.T. will break ground on its new home, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity & Performance. Designed by Haworth Tompkins, the new center will include two flexible performance venues, rehearsal studios, teaching spaces, a spacious public lobby, and an outdoor performance yard designed to host ticketed and free programming. Porous and welcoming intentional architecture will galvanize creativity and collaboration and fuel the mission. A.R.T. expects to begin producing in the new center in 2026.