



American Repertory Theater

64 brattle street, cambridge, massachusetts 02138

617.495.2668 TEL

617.495.1705 FAX

617.547.8300 TICKETS

www.americanrepertorytheater.org

CONTACT:

Rebecca Curtiss, Public Relations Director

rebecca_curtiss@harvard.edu

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**CHRISTIANI PITTS AND SAM TUTTY
TO STAR AT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER IN
TWO STRANGERS
(*CARRY A CAKE ACROSS NEW YORK*)**

Performances begin in Cambridge on May 20 — Tickets on sale now!

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, under the leadership of Diane Paulus and Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., announced today that **Christiani Pitts** and **Sam Tutty** will star in its production of the West End hit ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)***.

Christiani Pitts previously appeared on Broadway in ***A Bronx Tale*** and as Ann Darrow in ***King Kong***, for which *Slate* praised her as, “a wonder...a rawly funny actor with a five-alarm voice, a presence as possessed of grit as she is of glamour.”

Sam Tutty received the 2020 Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical for his portrayal of the title role in ***Dear Evan Hansen***; *The Independent* called his “a star-making performance.” He also appeared in ***Two Strangers*** at London’s Criterion Theatre. “[Tutty has] magnificent comic timing but can also switch in a second to raw vulnerability,” wrote *London Theatre* of his performance.

The “uplifting” (*British Vogue*), “fresh, funny, ironic, and moving” (*The Observer*) acclaimed new musical ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*** makes its North American debut at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square on Tuesday, May 20, opens officially on Friday, May 30, and runs through Sunday, June 29, 2025.

Two Strangers is written and composed by **Jim Barne** and **Kit Buchan**. The creative team includes **Tim Jackson** (direction and choreography), **Soutra Gilmour** (scenic and costume design), **Jack Knowles** (lighting design), **Tony Gayle** and **Cody Spencer** (sound design), **Earon Chew Nealey** (hair, wig, and makeup design), **Lux Pyramid** (orchestrations), **Nick Finlow** (music supervision), **Benedict Braxton-Smith** (associate music supervision), and **Jeffrey Campos** (music direction).

Judith Schoenfeld is the production stage manager. **Fatimah Amill** is the assistant stage manager. Casting is by **C12 Casting / Stephen Kopel**.

Asmeret Ghebremichael is the associate director and choreographer, **Brian Webb** is the associate scenic designer, **Ricky Lurie** is the associate costume designer, and **Kirk Fitzgerald** is the associate lighting designer.

Understudies will be announced at a later date.

ABOUT TWO STRANGERS (CARRY A CAKE ACROSS NEW YORK)

“Effervescent and uplifting!” — *British Vogue*

“Funny, heartfelt, but unsentimental. It’s a charmer.” — *The Guardian*

“★★★★★ Flawless! A pick-me-up of a show, what we need in hard times.” — *The Observer*

A naïve and impossibly upbeat Brit, Dougal, has just landed in New York for his dad’s second wedding—the dad he’s never known. Robin, the sister of the bride, is at the airport to pick him up—and she’s late for work. Hungry for an adventure in the city he’s only seen in movies, Dougal hopes native New Yorker Robin will be his guide. Taking inspiration from traditional rom-coms, this “fresh, funny, ironic, and inventive” (*The Observer*) new musical balances life’s sweetness and struggle as Dougal and Robin discover the meaningful impact on each of their lives a stranger can make.

Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York) is a Kiln Theatre production (***The Wife of Willesden***) and previously played at the West End’s Criterion Theatre. The ***Two Strangers*** London cast album is currently available on [all major streaming platforms](#).

Production support of ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*** is provided by **The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust** and **Katie and Paul Bittenwieser**.

A.R.T.’s 2024/25 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**.

TWO STRANGERS TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets from \$35 are available at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Two-Strangers and 617.547.8300. Discounts are available to students and ticket-buyers under age 25, Blue Star families, EBT cardholders, seniors, Harvard faculty and staff, groups of 10+, and others, as well as through **Take Five**.

- **Take Five** invites community members who feel attending theater is financially out of reach or want to take a chance on something new to experience the A.R.T. with a **\$5 ticket**. Select a performance of ***Two Strangers***, enter the code **TAKEFIVE** in the promotion code box, then select seats at the \$5 price point. Availability is limited; additional blocks of **Take Five** tickets will be released in the coming weeks.

More information at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit.

CAST BIOS

CHRISTIANI PITTS (*Robin*)

A.R.T.: Debut. Broadway: *King Kong* (Ann Darrow), *A Bronx Tale* (Jane). Developmental Lab: *Aida* (Aida) Dir. Schele Williams, *Clueless the Musical* (Dionne) Dir. Kristin Hanggi. Film: *Resort to Love*. TV: "Power Book III: Raising Kanan," "Dead Ringers," "Blue Bloods," "The Good Fight," "Evil," "Elementary." Education: BFA-Musical Theatre, Florida State University.

SAM TUTTY (Dougal)

A.R.T.: Debut. West End: *Two Strangers: Carry A Cake Across New York* (Dougal, Original West End Cast), *Dear Evan Hansen* (Evan, Original West End Cast, Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Musical). Off-West End: *Two Strangers: Carry A Cake Across New York* (Dougal, Original Cast), The Kiln Theatre. *Once On This Island* (Daniel), Southwark Playhouse. Workshops: *Bliss* (Prince Devin), Lillian Bayliss Studio, Sadler's Wells. Film: *Four Minute Warning*, *Romeo & Juliet*.

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER (A.R.T.) AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus began her tenure in 2008 and leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began in 2022. A.R.T. is a creative hub, launching productions seen on Broadway, across the US, and around the world and receiving dozens of Tony, Drama Desk, Olivier and other nominations and awards throughout its 45-year history. As the professional theater on campus, A.R.T. plays a central role at Harvard University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange, and sharing University resources with the broader community. Driven by its value to lead with inquiry, A.R.T. builds community with audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. In 2026, A.R.T. will relocate from Harvard Square to its new home in Boston, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity and Performance. Currently under construction, this new, inspiring center will include flexible adaptive spaces to rehearse, create, teach, and convene in community, fueling A.R.T.'s vision and creative work for years to come.

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