

WallisAnnenberg
Center for the
Performing Arts

PRESENTS

The Eighty-Eight Entertainment, Samantha F. Voxakis and Karen Racanelli
Production of

HERSHEY FELDER AS LEONARD BERNSTEIN
MAESTRO IN
A PLAY WITH MUSIC

MUSIC & LYRICS BY

LEONARD BERNSTEIN & OTHERS

BOOK BY

HERSHEY FELDER

SCENIC DESIGN

François-Pierre Couture

LIGHTING & PROJECTION DESIGN

Christopher Ash

SOUND DESIGN/LINE PRODUCER

Erik Carstensen

PRODUCTION

Trevor Hay

DIRECTED BY

JOEL ZWICK

AUGUST 10–28, 2016

Bram Goldsmith Theater

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HERSHEY FELDER (Leonard Bernstein/Playwright) Mr. Felder created and performed *George Gershwin Alone*, which played on Broadway at the Helen Hayes Theatre, in the West End at the Duchess Theatre, and in theatres around the country. His Composers Sonata—*George Gershwin Alone*; *Monsieur Chopin*; *Beethoven, As I Knew Him*; *Maestro Bernstein*; *Hershey Felder as Franz Liszt in Musik*, *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*—has been presented at dozens of theatres across the U.S. and around the world. His compositions and recordings include *Aliyah*, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*; *Fairytale*, a musical; *Les Anges de Paris*, *Suite for Violin and Piano*; *Song Settings*; *Saltimbanques for Piano and Orchestra*; *Etudes Thematiques for Piano*; and *An American Story for Actor and Orchestra*. As director, he premiered Mona Golabek in *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* at the Geffen Playhouse in 2012 and, earlier this year, produced and created scenic design for Taylor Hackford's *Louis and Keely 'Live' at the Sahara*. Mr. Felder has been a scholar-in-residence at Harvard University's Department of Music and is married to Kim Campbell, the first female Prime Minister of Canada.

JOEL ZWICK (Director) Joel Zwick directed *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time. Mr. Zwick is recognized as one of Hollywood's most prolific director of episodic television, having the direction of 650 episodes to his credit. These include having directed 21 pilots which have gone on to become regular series. He directed the Broadway production of *George Gershwin Alone*. Previous New York productions have included *Dance With Me* (Tony Award nomination), *Shenandoah* (Broadway national tour), *Oklahoma* (national tour) and *Cold Storage* (American Place Theater). He directed *Esther* (Promenade Theater, NY), *Merry-Go-Round* (Chicago, Las Vegas), *Last Chance Saloon* and *Woyzeck* (West End, London). Mr. Zwick has taught drama at the Yale School of Drama, Brooklyn

College, Queens College, Wheaton College and USC. A graduate (B.A., M.A.) of Brooklyn College, he currently directs for the Disney Channel.

FRANÇOIS-PIERRE COUTURE (Scenic Design) After completing a Masters' degree at UCLA in Scenic and Lighting Design, François-Pierre started working in Los Angeles, a city he finds culturally fascinating and diverse. In the last decade, he has had the privilege of working across the U.S. as a scenic, lighting and projection designer. Some of his designs include *Everything You Touch* for Rattlestick productions at the Cherry Lane Theatre in NYC; *Destiny of Desire* at Arena Stage in Washington DC; *Pinocchio* and *James and the Giant Peach* at South Coast Repertory; *The Year of Magical Thinking* at the Laguna Playhouse; *Death of a Salesgirl* at the Bootleg Theatre; *The Children* at the Boston Court Theatre; *A Picasso* at Geffen Playhouse; *Médée* and *Teseo* for the Chicago Opera Theatre.

CHRISTOPHER ASH (Lighting and Projection Design) is an international designer of scenery, lighting, and projections for theatre, dance, opera, and film. Recent projects include projection design for *Carmina Burana* (Chautauqua Institute), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Guthrie Theatre), scenic design for *The Fairy Tale Lives of Russian Girls* (Yale Repertory), projections for *La Traviata* (Lyric Opera of Chicago), *Marie Antoinette* (SOHO Rep), lighting for Heidi Latsky Dance's *One Hour: Two Works and GiMP*. Production and lighting design for Amanda Palmer's music video "Bedsong." He received his MFA in set design from the Yale School of Drama.

ERIK CARSTENSEN (Sound Designer/Producer) Sound Designer on *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*, *An American Story*, *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* (2012 Ovation Award Nomination), *Franz Liszt in Musik*, *Abe Lincoln's Piano*, and *Louis and Keely 'Live' at the Sahara*. Master Sound Technician at the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego 1997-2012. Production Engineer on over 60 productions, including *Allegiance*, *Robin and the Seven Hoods*, *A Catered Affair*, *Hershey Felder's George Gershwin Alone*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Chita Rivera-A Dancers Life*, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, *The Full Monty*, *Dirty Blonde*, and *Floyd Collins*. Erik is a member of IATSE Local 122.

TREVOR HAY (Production) Directed the world premieres of *An American Story for Actor and Orchestra*, *Abe Lincoln's Piano*, *Hershey Felder as Franz Liszt In Musik*, and *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*. He is Associate Director for Mona Golabek's *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*. Former member of

the historic Old Globe Theatre in San Diego where, at the age of nine, his first position was selling Old Globe memorabilia. Over the next 32 years, Mr. Hay went on to various aspects of production on more than 80 presentations, including the Broadway productions of Jack O'Brien's *Damn Yankees*, *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *Twyla Tharpe's The Times They Are A-Changin'*. Included in his 23 seasons at the Old Globe were eleven seasons of the Summer Shakespeare Festival Repertory, as well as work on Tracy Letts' *August: Osage County*, directed by Sam Gold, and *Hershey Felder's George Gershwin Alone*, *Monsieur Chopin* and *Maestro Bernstein*.

KAREN RACANELLI (Executive Producer) Karen comes to Eighty Eight Entertainment from Berkeley Repertory Theatre, where she worked as General Manager since 1993, overseeing daily operations, and where she had the pleasure of producing several shows performed and/or directed by Hershey Felder. She has represented the League of Resident Theatres during negotiations with both Actors' Equity Association and the union of Stage Directors and Choreographers, served on LORT's Executive Committee and served as a panelist at several LORT meetings. Prior to her tenure at Berkeley Rep, Karen worked as an independent producer at several Bay Area theatre companies and has served on the boards of Climate Theater, Overtone Theatre Company, Park Day School, and the Julia Morgan Center. Karen is married to arts attorney MJ Bogatin.

SAMANTHA F. VOXAKIS (Producer/Company Manager) Samantha is a native of Maryland where she spent twelve memorable years working in the front office of the Baltimore Orioles. Since 2004, Sam has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of Eighty-Eight LLC/Hershey Felder Presents. With special thanks to her family and Mr. Felder.

HERSHEY FELDER PRESENTS (Producer) Hershey Felder Presents is the newest division of Eighty-Eight Entertainment which was created in 2001 by Hershey Felder and is devoted to the creation of new works of musical theatre. Current projects include the musical plays *Our Great Tchaikovsky*, *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*, *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*, and *Louis and Keely 'Live' at the Sahara*. Recordings include *Love Songs of the Yiddish Theatre*, *Back from Broadway*, *George Gershwin Alone*, *Monsieur Chopin*, *Beethoven As I Knew Him*, and *An American Story for Actor & Orchestra*.

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Grosses bises à notre famille à Seine-Port– Pierre, Isa, Amandine, et Reglisse.

A heartfelt thank you to my team of devoted artists without whom none of our work would be possible, especially Karen Racanelli, Erik Carstensen, Trevor Hay, Christopher Ash, Meghan Maiya, Jordan and Emma Hay, Joey Moro, Devin Morrow, Richard Norwood, Rebecca Peters, Lawrence Siefert, Megan Snowden, Joseph Yoshitomi, Samantha and the entire Greek Family.

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A special thank you to Candice and Joel Zwick, and Joel Zwick "Alone".

My father Jack, my sister and brother-in-law Tammy and Kevin, and their dear children Avery and Kiley. And of course, Leo and Kim.

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

"Somewhere"

from *West Side Story*, music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

"Carried Away"

from *On the Town*; music by Leonard Bernstein, book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, additional lyrics by Leonard Bernstein

Piano Sonata

music by Leonard Bernstein

Variations 1 and 9 from *Piano Variations*

music by Aaron Copland

"A Little Bit in Love"

from *Wonderful Town*; music by Leonard Bernstein, book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green

"I Hate Music"

music and lyrics by Leonard Bernstein

Lamentations

from Symphony No. 1: *Jeremiah*, music by Leonard Bernstein

Greeting

from *Arias and Barcarolles*, music by Leonard Bernstein

"Glitter and Be Gay"

from *Candide*, music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Richard Wilbur

"Maria"

from *West Side Story*, music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

"A Little Bit in Love" is used by arrangement with Warner/Chappell Music, Inc. Variations 1 and 9 are used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc. on behalf of The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc., copyright owner. The remaining songs listed above are used by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., Sole Agent for Leonard Bernstein Music Publishing Company LLC, publisher.

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The Wallis is deeply grateful to our many generous Sponsors of the Hershey Felder Opening Night Celebration on August 10, 2016.*

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*AS OF JULY 19, 2016

Bernstein In Los Angeles



Although a long-time New Yorker, Leonard Bernstein had several auspicious moments here in Los Angeles.

► **AUGUST 26, 1944**

Bernstein makes his Hollywood Bowl debut, conducting Oscar Levant playing Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*

► **SPRING 1949**

Bernstein returns to Hollywood for the filming of *On The Town*, the Broadway musical with book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, based on Jerome Robbins' ballet *Fancy Free*, set to Bernstein's music.

► **SPRING 1954**

Bernstein takes a hiatus from his post at Brandeis University and moves to Los Angeles to compose and record the score for *On The Waterfront*, which

would be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Score, winning for Best Picture, Director, Actor, Supporting Actress and 4 other Oscars.

► **AUGUST 16, 1955**

Bernstein launches the "Festival of the Americas" at the Hollywood Bowl, the first major music festival to be produced in Los Angeles. As Artistic Director, Bernstein programs five days of symphonies, choral works, jazz, musical theater, the Martha Graham Dance Company, Carlos Chávez, Dave Brubeck and a symposium with Billie Holiday and Andre Previn.

► **AUGUST 25, 1955**

A poolside meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel with writer Arthur Laurents reignites the stalled plan, originally conceived by Jerome Robbins, to create a modern musical based on *Romeo & Juliet*. *West Side Story* debuted on Broadway in 1957 and is now considered an American classic. The 1961 film version of *West Side Story* won 10 Academy Awards, including Best Picture.

► **AUGUST 29, 1963**

The New York Philharmonic, conducted by Bernstein, presents the first of three concerts at the Hollywood Bowl with pianist André Watts in his Bowl debut, and the Brahms Double Concerto played by Jascha Heifetz and Gregor Piatigorsky.

► **JULY 12, 1966**

Bernstein returns to Los Angeles to attend Gordon Davidson's acclaimed production of *Candide* for The Theater Group at UCLA, starring Carroll O'Connor as Dr. Pangloss. Davidson will direct the west coast premiere of the Bernstein and Stephen Schwartz musical *Mass* at the Mark Taper Forum in 1972.

► **JULY, 1982**

Bernstein and Ernest Fleischman co-founded the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute, with Bernstein and Daniel Lewis as artistic directors. The program operates for ten seasons, providing world-class training for young instrumentalists and conductors, including Ketih Lockhart and David Alan Miller.

► **FEBRUARY 26, 1986**

Bernstein receives the Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement at the Shrine Auditorium.

- William Nedved