

COMPLETE CASTING ANNOUNCED!

ROBERT PETKOFF, JON TENNEY

TO JOIN

**ESHAN BAY, ADELAIDE CLEMENS, JOHN PATRICK DOHERTY,
NINA GROLLMAN, KATIE BETH HALL, ELEANOR HANDLEY,
OLIVIA HEBERT, SAGAR KIRAN, CHRIS O'SHEA, MADELEINE PACE,
TARA SUMMERS, BAYLEN THOMAS, KIM N. WONG, KAROLINE XU**

in

**LINCOLN CENTER THEATER'S
UPCOMING PRODUCTION OF**

"THE HARD PROBLEM"

A NEW PLAY BY TOM STOPPARD

DIRECTED BY JACK O'BRIEN

PERFORMANCES BEGIN THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

OPENING NIGHT IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

AT THE MITZI E. NEWHOUSE THEATER

Lincoln Center Theater (under the direction of André Bishop) has announced full casting for its upcoming production of ***THE HARD PROBLEM***, a new play by Tom Stoppard, to be directed by Jack O'Brien. The production will feature Eshan Bay, Adelaide Clemens, John Patrick Doherty, Nina Grollman, Katie Beth Hall, Eleanor Handley, Olivia Hebert, Sagar Kiran, Chris O'Shea, Madeleine Pace, Robert Petkoff, Tara Summers, Jon Tenney, Baylen Thomas, Kim N. Wong, and Karoline Xu. ***THE HARD PROBLEM*** will begin performances Thursday, October 25 and open Monday, November 19 at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater (150 West 65 Street).

In Tom Stoppard's ***THE HARD PROBLEM***, Hilary (to be played by Adelaide Clemens) is a young psychology researcher at the Krohl Institute for Brain Science where psychology and biology meet. If there is nothing but matter, what is consciousness? This is "the hard problem" facing science, and for Hilary the possibility of genuine altruism, without a hidden Darwinian self-interest, depends on the answer. Meanwhile she is nursing a private sorrow. She needs a miracle and is prepared to pray for one.

THE HARD PROBLEM will feature sets by David Rockwell, costumes by Catherine Zuber, lighting by Japhy Weideman, sound by Marc Salzberg, and original music by Bob James.

TOM STOPPARD continues a long association with Lincoln Center Theater where his plays *Arcadia*, *Hapgood*, *The Invention of Love*, and *The Coast of Utopia* (Tony Award – Best Play) were produced. LCT was also a co-producer of the Broadway production of Stoppard's *Rock 'N' Roll*. His other works include *Jumpers*, *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*, *Travesties*, *Night and Day*, *The Real Thing*, *Indian Ink*, and his first full-length play *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, which was staged by the National Theatre in 1967. Stage adaptations and translations: *Undiscovered Country* (Schnitzler), *On the Razzle* (Nestroy), *Rough Crossing* (Molnar), *The Seagull* (Chekhov), *Henry VI* (Pirandello), *Heroes* (Sibleyras), *Ivanov* (Chekhov), *The Cherry Orchard* (Chekhov). Screenplays: *Brazil*, *Empire of the Sun*, *Enigma*, *Shakespeare in Love* (Academy Award – Best Original Screenplay). He also directed the film version of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* (Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival). Stoppard received a knighthood in 1997 and in 2000 was awarded the Order of Merit by Her Majesty the Queen.

JACK O'BRIEN directed the LCT productions of Tom Stoppard's *The Coast of Utopia* (Tony Award), *The Invention of Love* (Drama Desk Award), and *Hapgood* (Lucille Lortel Award). His other LCT productions include *Macbeth*, *The Nance*, *Henry IV* (Tony Award), *Pride's Crossing*, *The Little Foxes*, and *Two Shakespearean Actors* (Tony nomination). His Broadway credits include the current *Carousel*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *The Front Page*, *It's Only a Play*, *Dead Accounts*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Impressionism*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Hairspray* (Tony Award), *Imaginary Friends*, *The Full Monty*, *More to Love*, *Getting Away With Murder*, *Damn Yankees*, and *Porgy and Bess*. Metropolitan Opera: *Il Trittico*. Carnegie Hall: *Guys and Dolls*. Central Park: *Much Ado About Nothing*. London: *Love Never Dies*, *Hairspray*, *His Girl Friday* (National Theatre). He was the Artistic Director of The Old Globe Theatre from 1981-2007 and directed six movies for PBS's "American Playhouse." Book: *Jack Be Nimble*, published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux. O'Brien directed the critically acclaimed national tour of *The Sound of Music* and the world premiere of the Jake Heggie/Terrence McNally opera *Great Scott* for The Dallas Opera. Mr. O'Brien was nominated for an Emmy Award for his documentary "Becoming Mike Nichols" (HBO).

This fall, in addition to **THE HARD PROBLEM**, LCT is also producing the ongoing run of its award-winning production of *Lerner & Loewe's My Fair Lady*, directed by Bartlett Sher, at the Vivian Beaumont Theater; the LCT3 production of *Plot Points in our Sexual Development*, a new play by Miranda Rose Hall, directed by Margot Bordelon, beginning performances Saturday, October 6 at the Claire Tow Theater; and will be a co-producer of the Broadway production of *Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird*, a new play by Aaron Sorkin, also directed by Bartlett Sher, which will begin performances Thursday, November 1 at the Shubert Theatre.

American Express is the sponsor of LCT's Mitzi E. Newhouse season. **THE HARD PROBLEM** is supported by the Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater. The Mitzi E. Newhouse season is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

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ESHAN BAY (*Amal*). Off-Broadway: *Can You Forgive Her?* (Vineyard), *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner* (Atlantic), *Fit for a Queen* (Classical Theatre of Harlem), *Debutante* (Bernie Wohl Center), *Setting Up* (Ensemble Studio Theatre). Regional: *Agnes Under the Big Top* (Long Wharf). Film: *Jack*, *American Milkshake*, *The Wisdom Tooth*, *The Intern*, *When it Rains*, *The Language of Ball*. TV: "House of Cards," "Person of Interest," "Madam Secretary," "Elementary." Education: BA, NYU; MA, London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

ADELAIDE CLEMENS (*Hilary*). Off-Broadway: *Hold On to Me Darling* (Atlantic). Film: *To the Stars; Rabbit; Music, War and Love; Night of the Lotus; The Automatic Hate; The World Made Straight; The Great Gatsby; Generation Um...; No One Lives; Silent Hill: Revelation 3D; Camilla Dickinson; Certainty; Vampire; Wasted on the Young; At the Tattooist* (short); *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*. TV: "Watchmen," "Rectify," "Parer's War," "Parade's End," "Lie to Me," "The Pacific," "All Saints," "Dream Life," "Out of the Blue," "Love My Way," "Pirate Islands," "Blue Water High."

JOHN PATRICK DOHERTY (*Ensemble*). LCT: *The Coward* (LCT3). Off-Broadway: *A Bright New Boise*. Regional: *Henry V* (Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey); *A Woman of No Importance* (Yale Repertory); *The Torchbearers, Big Money, The Good Negro* (Williamstown Theatre Festival). Education: MFA, Yale School of Drama (2010).

NINA GROLLMAN (*Julia*). Off-Broadway: *The Lucky Ones* (Ars Nova), *The Winter's Tale* (The Public). Juilliard: *The Serpent Woman, Marisol, Daddy Issues, Iskandar, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Love's Labour's Lost, Cabaret, As Five Years Pass, Thinner Than Water, Uncle Vanya, The Tempest*. TV: "Red Oaks." Education: BFA, Juilliard.

KATIE BETH HALL (*Cathy*). Theater: *The Hard Problem* (Studio Theatre); *Gypsy, The Wizard of Oz* (The Public Theater of San Antonio); *Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr.* (The Woodlawn Theatre); *Annie Jr., Aladdin, Les Misérables* (Northside Performing Arts). Film: *Trailer Park Princess; The Big Impossible; Be Sweet, The New 35* (shorts). TV: "Bull," "Happy!," "Gone," "Shadow of Doubt," "I, Witness."

ELEANOR HANDLEY (*Ensemble*). New York theater includes *Jericho* (59E59), *Limonade Tous les Jour* (Cell Theatre) and *A Christmas Carol* (Morgan Library). Regional includes *Twelfth Night, The Taming of the Shrew, Blithe Spirit, Lend Me a Tenor, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Much Ado About Nothing, Comedy of Errors* (Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival); *Time Stands Still, Witness for the Prosecution, Lost in Yonkers, Rumors* (Bristol Riverside Theatre); and *King Lear, The Three Musketeers, Troilus and Cressida, Twelfth Night* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival). TV: "Unforgettable," "Royal Pains," "As the World Turns," "Twelfth Night."

OLIVIA HEBERT (*Ensemble*). NYU Theater: *Henry V, The American Daughter, The Great Disappointment, Thyestes, An Ideal Husband, The Big Knife, The Seagull, Macbeth*. NYU Film: *Will You Be My Twin?, Firecracker, The Seagull on the 5th Floor*. Education: BS, University of Evansville; MFA, NYU.

SAGAR KIRAN (*Ensemble*). Theater: *Death of a Salesman, How I Died, Loves Times Seven*. Film: *The Golden Goose, Bhandubhi, For the Love of Mangos*. TV: "FBI," "Blue Bloods," "The Perfect Murder." Web-series: "Down & Out."

CHRIS O'SHEA (*Spike*). Theater: *The History Boys* (Stella Adler Academy), *Henry V* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Sea Plays* (Old Vic), *Aristocrats, And the Little One Said, Out of the Sun, Mrs. Warren's Profession*. Film: *Modern Persuasion, Simple Wedding, Patriot's Day, Alaska Is a Drag*. TV: "Gone," "Me, Myself & I," "Madam Secretary," "Point of Honor," "Baby Daddy," "Hot Mess."

MADELEINE PACE (*Ensemble*). Broadway: *Once*. Other theater: *Seussical Jr., The Little Mermaid* (French Woods Camp). TV: "Sesame Street," "The Path," "The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon," "Maya & Marty," "Saturday Night Live," "Odd Mom Out."

ROBERT PETKOFF (*Leo*). LCT: *Happiness*. Broadway: *All the Way, Anything Goes, Ragtime, Spamalot, Fiddler on the Roof, Epic Proportions*. West End: *The Royal Family*. Off-Broadway: *The Cradle Will Rock* (Encores! Off-Center), *The 39 Steps, Beast in the Jungle* (Vineyard), *More Stately Mansions* (NYTW), *Avow*. National Tour: *Fun Home, Spamalot, The Importance of Being Earnest, Tantalus* (Royal Shakespeare Company). Regional includes *Sweeney Todd, Young Frankenstein, Follies, Richard III, Sunday in the Park with George* and *The Rivals*. Film: *Irrational Man, Game Day, Milk & Money, Loverboy, Vice Versa*. TV includes "Madam Secretary," "Elementary," "Hack," "Sister Kate," "Married...with Children," "Mr. Belvedere," "Mona" and "Liberace."

TARA SUMMERS (*Ursula*). Broadway: *Gypsy of Chelsea* (also The Royal Court, Hudson Theatre). Other theater: *Yes, Prime Minister* (Geffen); *Darwin in Malibu* (Old Vic); *School for Scandal* (LA Theatre Works). Film: *Driven, Wanderland, Major Arcana, Ovid and the Art of Love, 1%ers, Here Comes the Night, Hitchcock, The Lake Effect, Factory Girl, Rabbit Fever, Alfie,*

What a Girl Wants. TV includes “Strangers,” “Dietland,” “American Crime Story: Versace,” “Mercy Street,” “Stalker,” “Rake,” “Sons of Anarchy,” “Monday Mornings,” “Ringer,” “Damages,” “Boston Legal” and “Dirt.”

JON TENNEY (*Jerry*). LCT: *The Heiress*, *The Substance of Fire* (also Playwrights Horizons). National Tour: Tom Stoppard’s *The Real Thing*. Off-Broadway: *Beggars in the House of Plenty* (MTC), *Tuesday’s With Morrie*. Regional: *Good People* (LA premiere), David Mamet’s *Speed-the-Plow* (both at Geffen Playhouse). Film: *The Seagull*, *Love the Coopers*, *Legion*, *Stepfather*, *The Best of Me*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Looking for Comedy in the Muslim World*, *You Can Count on Me*, *Tombstone*, *Watch It*, *Fools Rush In*, *The Twilight of the Golds*, *Beverly Hills Cop III*, *The Phantom*, *Lassie*, *With Friends Like These*, *I See You* (upcoming). TV: “The Closer;” “Major Crimes;” “Scandal;” “Homecoming;” “True Detective;” “The Romanoffs” (upcoming).

BAYLEN THOMAS (*Ensemble*). LCT: Tom Stoppard’s *The Coast of Utopia*, Edward Albee’s *Seascape*, *King Lear*, *Henry IV*, *Chaucer in Rome*. Broadway: *The Big Knife*, *Arcadia*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *After the Fall*, *Proof*. Off-Broadway: *Prodigal Son*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Doll’s House*, *Her Majesty The King*. Regional includes *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Guthrie); *A Christmas Carol* (McCarter); *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Hostage*, *As You Like It* (Old Globe); and *Othello* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival). Film: *The Beaver*, *The Namesake*, *Drums Bass and Guitar*. TV includes “The Blacklist,” “Madam Secretary,” “Unforgettable,” “The Good Wife,” “Life on Mars” and “Guiding Light.”

KIM N. WONG (*Ensemble*). New York theater: *Promising* (InProximity Theatre), *Red Flamboyant* (Firebone Theatre), *Romeo and Juliet* (American Globe), *The Philanderer* (The Pearl), *Julius Caesar* (Coyote Laboratory). Regional includes *King Lear* (Guthrie); *Hamlet* (Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival); *All’s Well That Ends Well*; *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; *Much Ado About Nothing* (Barrington Stage); *South Pacific*; and *Twelfth Night*, *Henry IV*, *Richard III* (Adirondack Shakespeare Company). TV: “The Deuce,” “Wizard of Lies,” “Blue Bloods,” “Deception.” Education: BFA, NYU.

KAROLINE XU (*Bo*). Theater: *You Across From Me* (also Humana Festival), *Angels in America*, *Six*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Maggie and Winnie* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Hamlet*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Santa Cruz Shakespeare); *A Language to Hear Myself* (American Repertory); *Precious Little* (Central Square); *Hitting Bedrock* (La MaMa); *ReadyMade Cabaret* (Judson Church). Education: BA, Harvard College.