



**Tony Estrella, Artistic Director • Amy Gravell, Managing Director**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **THE GAMM STAGES JOSHUA HARMON'S FIERCE, FUNNY *BAD JEWS***

**WARWICK, RI (January 31, 2023) –** Joshua Harmon's *Bad Jews* runs from **March 2-26 at The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre** (The Gamm). **Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella** helms this vicious yet hilarious take on family and faith, tradition and progress, and the complications of identity.

In Harmon's award-winning play, a beloved grandfather and Holocaust survivor has died, leaving a treasured heirloom with religious significance up for grabs. But who among a group of brawling cousins should get it?

The *Bad Jews* cast includes Gamm newcomers **Sarah Corey** as Daphna Feygenbaum, a devout Jew with an Israeli boyfriend; **John Hardin** as her cousin Liam Haber, a self-absorbed PhD candidate who prides himself on being open to other cultures; and **Hillel Rosenshine** as Liam's younger brother, Jonah Haber, a college sophomore turned unwilling peacemaker. Gamm regular **Nora Eschenheimer** (Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Thea Hovstag in *A Lie Agreed Upon*) plays Liam's big-hearted but non-Jewish girlfriend, Melody.

Harmon, whose play *Admissions* had a popular and critically acclaimed run at The Gamm in 2020, has a talent for using sharp, witty dialogue to explore universal themes, Estrella said.

"I am thrilled to bring Harmon's **electric, hilarious, gasp-inducing dialogue** back to the Gamm stage. *Bad Jews* has the whiplash ferocity of *Admissions* and digs deep to uncover unsettling truths about identity, family and our debt to history. Harmon is like a contemporary Moliere, exposing the hypocrisy that lurks at the heart of self-righteousness while making us laugh wildly if uncomfortably at ourselves," Estrella said.

*Bad Jews* runs from **March 2-26 at The Gamm Theatre, 1245 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, R.I.** Tickets: **\$55-\$65**; preview performances (March 2-5) just **\$38**. Information about Friday night **pay-what-you-wish rush tickets**, as well as discounts for seniors, students, groups and more at [gammtheatre.org/discounts](http://gammtheatre.org/discounts). Tickets: **401-723-4266** or [gammtheatre.org/badjews](http://gammtheatre.org/badjews)

**MASKED MATINEE:** A nose and mouth covering is required for patrons attending the performance on **Saturday, March 25 at 2pm only**.

#### **ABOUT *BAD JEWS***

From the author of *Admissions* (Gamm 2020), **a deliciously savage comedy about family, faith and the complications of identity**. A beloved grandfather and Holocaust survivor has died, leaving a treasured heirloom with religious significance up for grabs. But who should get it? Volatile, self-described "Super Jew" Daphna, who plans to move to Israel after college; or her wealthy, self-absorbed cousin Liam, an ethnic studies grad student with a secular worldview and a shiksa girlfriend? Then there's Jonah, Liam's younger brother, forced to play peacemaker as the rivals argue, insult, and try to outwit each other to the play's bitter, hilarious end.

**"Delicious, nasty fun.... Equal parts brains and brawl, Joshua Harmon's play isn't a textbook comedy of hostility, but a smart, divisive conversation starter."** *New York Post*

**"A radioactive brew of neuroses and glee for audiences of all stripes."** *Los Angeles Times*

Season supporter: **Rhode Island State Council on the Arts**

#### **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

**Bad Jews** by **Joshua Harmon**

Directed by **Tony Estrella**<sup>†</sup>

### **CAST**

Daphna.....**Sarah Corey**\*

Liam.....**John Hardin**\*

Jonah.....**Hillel Rosenshine**

Melody.....**Nora Eschenheimer**\*

### **CREW**

Set Design **Patrick Lynch**<sup>△</sup>

Costume Design **Jessie Darrell Jarbadan**

Lighting Design **David Roy**

Sound Design **Peter Sasha Hurowitz**

Production Management **Jessica Hill Kidd**

Stage Manager **Kelsey Emry**\*

Assistant Stage Manager **James Kane**\*

<sup>†</sup> Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical union.

<sup>△</sup> Member of United Scenic Artist, Local USA 829 of the IATSE, the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

### **ABOUT THE GAMM THEATRE**

Founded in 1984, the non-profit Gamm Theatre is proud to tell stories that entertain, provoke, and engage seriously with the most important issues of our time. The Gamm further serves the public with educational programming that enriches the cultural and civic life of our community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Estrella and Managing Director Amy Gravell, The Gamm is a regionally recognized, award-winning theater and a proud member of New England Area Theatre (NEAT), a bargaining unit of the Actors' Equity Association.

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