

MEDIA CONTACT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Lucille Lortel Theatre Presents
Gertrude Stein's Libretto of Virgil Thomson's Opera
“Four Saints in Three Acts”

Performed by David Greenspan
Directed by Ken Rus Schmoll

A Solo, Spoken Tour de Force of Language and Performance
“If you enjoy it, you understand it.” – Gertrude Stein on *Four Saints in Three Acts*

Preview: Thursday, September 15 – Sunday, September 18

Opening Night: Monday, September 19, 2022

Closing Night: Sunday, October 9, 2022

New York, NY — The Lucille Lortel Theatre presents a solo play presentation of *Four Saints in Three Acts*, starring renowned actor David Greenspan (*The Patsy*, *Strange Interlude*) interpreting 66 unique roles.

Four Saints in Three Acts is a culmination of Greenspan's more than decade long journey into creating a tour de force trilogy of solo interpretations of plays from the 1920's. These previous works included various genres such as *The Patsy*, a playful comedy by Barry Connors and Eugene O'Neill's experimental 6-hour dramatic play, *Strange Interlude*. **In *Four Saints in Three Acts*, Greenspan concludes this ambitious series with his interpretation of a radical libretto by famed modernist writer and art collector Gertrude Stein. Originally set to music by Virgil Thomson, Greenspan will perform the script only, allowing a lyrical interpretation to set the tone for an evening where sound and words delight the senses.**

“Four Saints in Three Acts” is noted for its non-linear structure that speaks to the internal and external lives of artists embodied by the play's “saints.” In this work, the saints occupy and inhabit every word and syllable, toying with the playfulness of language and creating unconventional expressions and depictions of the human experience. With no discernable plot, the work exemplifies Stein's love of “emotion and time” rather than “story and action” and allows audiences to enjoy a lyrical journey that doesn't end at a finite destination.

Through Greenspan's perfectly honed delivery employing rhythm, cadence, wordplay, and rhymes, coupled with raw physical motion, audiences will bathe in a range of emotional moments through the sheer enjoyment and pleasures of language, sound, and performance.

“If you enjoy it, you understand it.” – Gertrude Stein on *Four Saints in Three Acts*

“*Four Saints in Three Acts* is an opportunity to release yourself from the boundaries of traditional theater through David Greenspan grappling with the singular theatrical imagination of Gertrude Stein. By turns hilarious, absurd, and introspective, this work takes you on an unexpected ride via language and through human experience,” said Ken Rus Schmoll, Director.

“I am convinced that the script itself for *Four Saints in Three Acts* has theatrical merit and that performing it without the music will bring out its unheard nuances and subtleties - both dramatic and comedic,” said David Greenspan.

The production of *Four Saints in Three Acts* is made possible with support from Target Margin Theater.

PRESS PERFORMANCES:

Preview – Saturday, September 17 at 8:00PM

Preview – Sunday, September 18 at 2:00PM

Opening Night – Monday, September 19 at 6:45PM

CREDITS

Text: Gertrude Stein

Director: Ken Rus Schmoll

Dramaturg: Jay Stull

Scenic and lighting design by Yuki Nakase Link

Production Stage Manager: Michal V. Mendelson

Production Manager: William Adams

TICKETING INFORMATION

The Lucille Lortel Theatre’s production of “Four Saints in Three Acts” will be showing at:

The Doxsee @ Target Margin Theater

232 52nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220

Telephone: (212)924-2817

Tickets are available at: www.lortel.org

Price: Ticket prices are \$15, \$25 or \$35, with open seating and a pay-what-you-can pricing model.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

The Lucille Lortel Theatre’s performance “Four Saints in Three Acts” runs in previews from Thursday, September 15 – 18, 2022. Opening night is Monday, September 19. The show closes on Sunday, October 9.

Runtime: 95 minutes; no intermission

Performance Type	Day	Date	Time
Open Preview	Thursday	9/15/2022	7:00
Open Preview	Friday	9/16/2022	8:00
Open Preview	Saturday	9/17/2022	2:00

Open and Press Preview	Saturday	9/17/2022	8:00
Open and Press Preview	Sunday	9/18/2022	2:00
Opening Night and Press Night	Monday	9/19/2022	7:00
	Tuesday	9/20/2022	CLOSED
	Wednesday	9/21/2022	CLOSED
	Thursday	9/22/2022	7:00
	Friday	9/23/2022	8:00
	Saturday	9/24/2022	2:00 & 8:00
	Sunday	9/25/2022	2:00
	Monday	9/26/2022	7:00
	Tuesday	9/27/2022	CLOSED
	Wednesday	9/28/2022	CLOSED
	Thursday	9/29/2022	7:00
	Friday	9/30/2022	8:00
	Saturday	10/1/2022	2:00 & 8:00
	Sunday	10/2/2022	2:00
	Monday	10/3/2022	7:00
	Tuesday	10/4/2022	CLOSED
	Wednesday	10/5/2022	CLOSED
	Thursday	10/6/2022	7:00
	Friday	10/7/2022	8:00
	Saturday	10/8/2022	2:00 & 8:00
Closing Night	Sunday	10/9/2022	2:00

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ACTOR - David Greenspan

David Greenspan has been associated with New York's Off-Broadway theater for over forty years. He is recognized for appearing in his own plays, most notably *Dead Mother*, *She Stoops to Comedy*, *Go Back to Where You Are*, *I'm Looking for Helen Twelvetrees*, and his solo plays *The Argument* and *The Myopia* – and for performing solo renditions of Barry Conner's *The Patsy*, Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude* and Gertrude Stein's lectures *Plays*, *Composition as Explanation*, and *What Are Masterpieces*. He has acted in numerous plays by contemporary authors, including Terrence McNally, Richard Foreman, Mart Crowley, Sarah Ruhl, Adam Rapp and David Adjmi. He enjoys close collaborative relationships with directors Ken Rus Schmoll, David Herskovits, Leigh Silverman and Jack Cummings, and has received Guggenheim, Lortel and Fox Fellowships, Alpert, Lambda Literary and Helen Merrill Playwriting awards; a RUTHIE and six OBIES.

DIRECTOR - Ken Rus Schmoll

Ken Rus Schmoll directed David Greenspan's radio plays *Loops* and *(There's) No Time for Comedy* for Playwrights Horizons Soundstage, as well as Mr. Greenspan's adaptation of Thornton Wilder's *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* at Two River Theater, which featured lighting designed by Yuki Nakase Link. Other credits include the world premiere of Charles Wuorinen's cantata *It Happens Like This* (Tanglewood), the American premiere of Wolfgang Rihm's opera *Prosperpina* (Spoleto Festival USA), the New York premiere of George Brant's play *Grounded* (Page 73), and six productions for Clubbed Thumb, where he is an associated artist and co-founder of its directing fellowship. He is the recipient of two Obie Awards and nominations for both the Lucille Lortel Award and the Drama League Award and was a finalist for the Joe A. Callaway Award.

DRAMATURG - Jay Stull

Jay Stull is a playwright, director, and dramaturg. He is a 2022 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in Playwriting. His work as a director and playwright has been developed by The Alliance Theater, Ars Nova, The Amoralists, The Brick, Dixon Place, City Center, Joe's Pub, New Light Theater Project, Roundabout, and The Tank, among others. He is an alumnus of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab, The Civilians R&D Group, and the Clubbed Thumb Early Career Directing Fellowship. MFA: Columbia. www.jaystull.com

DESIGNER - Yuki Nakase Link

Yuki Nakase Link is a lighting designer for theatre, dance, opera, performing arts, television, and fashion productions. Previous design work with *Ken Rus Schmoll* includes *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Long Wharf Theatre), *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* (Two River Theater), *Octavia* (Todd Theatre/University of Rochester), *The Women of Padilla* (Two River Theater) and *Blue Window* (Columbia Stages/CSC). Her recent design credits include *Seven Deadly Sins* (Meatpacking District, NYC), *Seven Deadly Sins* (Lincoln Road, Miami Beach), *The Cubans*, *Queen of Basel* (Colony Theatre), *Blood Moon* at Prototype 2020 (Baruch Performing Arts Center), *Triptych* (Eyes of One on Another) (Disney Hall, Power Center, Kennedy Center, and BAM), *Rakugo* (New World Stages), *Sell/Buy/Date* (New York Live Arts), *Look Who's Coming to Dinner* (La MaMa), *Resonance III* (LaGuardia Performing Arts Center), *Theo*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Two River Theater). She was born in Tokyo, grew up in Kyoto, Japan, and currently lives north of NYC in the woods of Hudson Valley. MFA: NYU. <https://yukinlink.com/>

ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE

The Lucille Lortel Theatre's mission is to foster both new and established artists, increase awareness and appreciation of Off-Broadway, and uphold fair and equitable business and artistic practices in service of creating a larger, more diverse community of theatre makers and audiences. The Theatre has numerous programs, including the NYC Public High School Playwriting Fellowship, *Live at The Lortel* podcast, the Lucille Lortel Awards and Playwrights' Sidewalk, the Internet Off-Broadway Database (IOBDB.com), Non-Profit Theatre Strategic and Management Services, Subsidized Theatre Space, and Fellowships in Theatre with Bennington College. For more information, please visit www.Lortel.org

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