

# ALLEY THEATRE

## Nick Payne's Love Story *Constellations* at Alley Theatre, May 3 – June 2, 2019.

*Alley Resident Acting Company members and real-life married couple Elizabeth Bunch and Chris Hutchison star in the Broadway hit*

HOUSTON –The Alley Theatre and Interim Artistic Director James Black, announce the cast and creative team of ***Constellations*** by Nick Payne. Alley's production of the unusual love story is directed by Leslie Swackhamer (Alley's *Cinched* and *Strapped*). The entire creative team is made up of Alley artists. *Constellations* runs May 3 – June 2, 2019 in the Alley's Neuhaus Theatre. Tickets are available at [alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org) or by calling the Box Office at 713.220.5700.

One couple. Infinite possibilities. Science and romance collide in this spellbinding play that imagines what happens when boy meets girl. And when boy meets girl again. And again. Defying the boundaries of the world one thinks they know, *Constellations* delves into the universal truth of finding and losing love and questions the difference between choice and destiny.

The Alley's production stars a real-life married couple. Actors **Elizabeth Bunch** and **Chris Hutchison** are longtime Alley Resident Acting Company members, but this, their 51<sup>st</sup> Alley production, will be the first time the couple will star together in a two-person play. The Alley's production of *Proof* in 2004 was the first play they appeared in together. Other roles for the couple at the Alley include *Lieutenant of Inishmore* (2008), *Peter Pan* (2010), *Pygmalion* (2013), *Dracula* (2014), *As You Like It* (2015), *Holmes and Watson* (2018), and *Twelfth Night* (2018).

View a slideshow of Chris and Elizabeth's Alley productions together [HERE](#).

The *Constellations* creative team is comprised of Alley artists including Scenic and Lighting Design by Kevin Rigdon, Costume Design by Kim Cook, Sound Design by Pierre Dupree, and Stage Manager Rachel Dooley-Harris alongside Voice and Dialect Coach Elisa Carlson.

Leslie Swackhamer returns to the Alley after directing Jennifer Haley's workshop reading of *Sustainable Living* in March and Selina Fillinger's workshop of *Cinched* and *Strapped* for the 2018 Alley All New Festival.

*Constellations* premiered on Broadway in a Manhattan Theatre Club production on January 13, 2015 and closed on March 15, 2015. The cast starred Jake Gyllenhaal (in his Broadway debut) and Ruth Wilson. Ruth Wilson received a nomination for the 2015 Tony Award®, Best Performance By a Leading Actress in a Play. The play received three Drama League Award nominations: Best Play, Best Actor, Gyllenhaal, and Best Actress, Wilson.

*Constellations* begins previews May 3 opens May 8, and runs through June 2 in the Neuhaus Theatre. Performances of *Constellations* are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. *Constellations* is recommended for ages 13 and up.

**SPONSORS:** *Constellations* is supported by Lead Sponsor Schlumberger and Associate Producers Thomas R. Walters and Hollis B. Kazmann. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2018-19 Season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre; Four Seasons Hotel Houston, the official hotel of the Alley Theatre; and Lynn Wyatt.

**TICKETS:** Tickets to *Constellations* are now on sale and start at \$37. Discounted tickets are available for military, seniors, and any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for designated performances. Tickets can be ordered online ([alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

**ALLEY IN CONTEXT:** The Alley Theatre will present a post-show discussion following the 7:30 p.m. performance on Sunday, May 11 with members of the cast and creative team.

The *Constellations* cast will be featured during a post-show discussion following the Tuesday, May 14 (7:30 p.m.) performance.

**DESIGNER TALK:** One hour before the Sunday, May 5 matinee preview performance (2:30 p.m.), a member of the artistic staff will lead a discussion with the production's creative team to give audiences a behind-the-scenes look at the design process. These pre-show talks will offer audiences an exclusive opportunity to ask questions about the designer's work and learn how they brought the script to life. Designer Talks will take place in the Texas Room.

**PRESS PHOTOS:** <https://www.alleytheatre.org/press>

**CONNECT WITH US:** #AlleyConstellations @alleytheatre

#### **ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE**

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Interim Artistic Director James Black and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. Rob Melrose will serve as the Alley's Artistic Director beginning with the 2019-20 Season. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a Resident Acting Company and engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists. Offering nearly 500 performances each season, the Theatre's audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages. The Alley Theatre reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performances and education programs.

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