

# ALLEY THEATRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **Alley Theatre Announces Casting for *Camp David, 1984, Dead Man's Cell Phone, Amerikin, and Sense and Sensibility***

HOUSTON, TX – The Alley Theatre and **Rob Melrose**, Artistic Director of the Tony Award®-winning Alley Theatre, have announced casting for the remainder of its 2019-20 season, which includes *Camp David, 1984, Dead Man's Cell Phone, Amerikin, and Sense and Sensibility*. Tickets to all shows are available at [alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org) or by calling the Box Office at 713.220.5700.

"I'm so excited about the casting at the Alley this season. It balances a number of important goals: attracting the best actors to the Alley from across the country; featuring our fabulous Resident Acting Company; and perhaps the most new to the Alley and equally as important—giving opportunities to the wide range of excellent actors who make their home here in Houston," said Rob Melrose. "I see this as essential for keeping the theatre community in Houston strong and encouraging our best actors to continue to make Houston their creative home."

Houstonians will be delighted to see the entire Alley Theatre Resident Acting Company on stage in a variety of roles that showcases their talent. The Alley Theatre's Resident Acting Company members include **Elizabeth Bunch, Dylan Godwin, Shawn Hamilton, Chris Hutchison, Melissa Pritchett, David Rainey, Jay Sullivan, and Todd Waite**.

Actors returning to the Alley are **Elijah Alexander** (*The Winter's Tale*), **Rebecca Brooksher** (*The Monster at the Door*, Public Theater: *Love's Labour's Lost*), **Michelle Elaine** (*Quack, All The Way*), **Adam Gibbs** (*Cleo, A Christmas Carol*), **Christine Jugueta** (*Alley All New Festival 2020*, Public Theater: *Dogeaters*), **David Matranga** (*The Three Musketeers, Holmes & Watson*), **Chelsea Ryan McCurdy** (*Crimes of the Heart, All My Sons*), **Melissa Molano** (*The Winter's Tale, Murder on the Orient Express*), **Josh Morrison** (*A Christmas Carol*), **Raven Troup** (*Alley All New Festival 2020, A Christmas Carol*), **Bree Welch** (*Crimes of the Heart, A Christmas Carol*), and **Teresa Zimmermann** (*Alley All New Festival 2020, A Christmas Carol*).

Actors making their Alley Theatre debut include **Sam Khazai** (Atlantic Theater Company: *Tosca Tehran*, Flea Theater: *Echo & Narciss*), **Jordan Lage** (Broadway: *Inherit the Wind, Glengarry Glen Ross*), **Shunté Lofton** (Colorado Shakespeare Festival: *As You Like It, King John*), **Stephen Thorne** (Resident Acting Company Member at Trinity Repertory Company: *Othello, Little Shop of Horrors*), and **Mark Zimmerman** (Broadway: *Rocky, West Side Story*).

## CASTING

*Camp David* by Lawrence Wright  
Directed by Oskar Eustis  
with Assistant Director Brandon Weinbrenner  
Elijah Alexander  
Rebecca Brooksher  
Sam Khazai  
Jordan Lage  
Stephen Thorne  
Mark Zimmerman

About *Camp David*: Take a behind-the-scenes look at the 1978 historical moment whose legacy continues to resonate 41 years later - the inspirational agreement between Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, with the powerful help of U.S. President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Runs in the Alley's Neuhaus Theatre from February 14 – March 15, 2020.

*1984* by George Orwell  
Adapted by Michael Gene Sullivan  
Directed by Rob Melrose  
Elizabeth Bunch\*  
Shawn Hamilton\*  
Chris Hutchison\*  
David Rainey\*  
Jay Sullivan\*  
Todd Waite\*

About *1984*: The story of Winston Smith and a stark vision of a world in which freedom of action, word, and thought are controlled by Big Brother. A ferocious and provocative adaptation of one of the most prescient works of literature of the last century. Runs in the Alley's Hubbard from March 6 – March 29, 2020.

*Dead Man's Cell Phone* by Sarah Ruhl  
Directed by Brandon Weinbrenner  
Elizabeth Bunch\*  
Michelle Elaine  
Chris Hutchison\*  
Melissa Pritchett\*  
Jay Sullivan\*  
Todd Waite\*

About *Dead Man's Cell Phone*: An incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet café. A stranger at the next table who has had enough. And a dead man. An off-the-wall play about the odyssey of a woman forced to confront her own assumptions about morality, redemption, and the need to

connect in a technologically obsessed world. Runs in the Alley's Hubbard Theatre from April 17 – May 10, 2020.

World Premiere

*Amerikin* by Chisa Hutchinson

Directed by James Black\*\*

Adam Gibbs

Shawn Hamilton\*

David Matranga

Chelsea Ryan McCurdy

Josh Morrison

Raven Troup

Teresa Zimmermann

About *Amerikin*: Developed as part of the 2019 Alley All New Festival. A new father desperate for community, casually follows his buddy's advice and tries to join a white supremacist group...but the results of his ancestry test prove surprising. The line between "us" and "them" gets incredibly blurry. Runs in the Alley's Hubbard Theatre from May 8 – June 7, 2020.

*Sense and Sensibility*

by Kate Hamill

based on the novel by Jane Austen

Directed by Adriana Baer

with Assistant Director Dana Bowman

Elizabeth Bunch\*

Dylan Godwin\*

Chris Hutchison\*

Christine Jugueta

Shunté Lofton

Melissa Molano

Melissa Pritchett\*

David Rainey\*

Jay Sullivan\*

Todd Waite\*

Bree Welch

About *Sense and Sensibility*: A playful new adaptation that follows the fortunes (and misfortunes) of the Dashwood sisters. Set in gossipy late 18th-century England, the play is full of humor, emotional depth, and bold theatricality. Runs in the Alley's Hubbard Theatre from June 5 – July 5, 2020.

\* Denotes an Alley Theatre Resident Acting Company Member

\*\* Denotes an Alley Theatre Resident Acting Company Emeritus Member

## **CONNECT WITH US**

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### **ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE**

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Artistic Director Rob Melrose and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley produces at least 16 plays each year in its newly renovated Theatre, 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. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists.

Alley's Hubbard Theatre features a 774-seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Alley Theatre reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

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