



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER OPENS 2024/25 SEASON WITH A REIMAGINED PRODUCTION OF NOËL COWARD'S *PRIVATE LIVES*

Bay Area favorite KJ Sanchez directs Coward's hysterical classic tale of the tempestuous dance that is marriage

A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater
September 12–October 6, 2024

SAN FRANCISCO (July 31, 2024)—**American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.)** kicks off its 2024/25 season with a reimaged production of Noël Coward's ***Private Lives* (September 12–October 6, 2024)**. Bay Area favorite **KJ Sanchez** directs Coward's hysterical classic tale of the tempestuous dance that is marriage. Reset to 1930s Argentina and featuring sensual tango dancing, Coward's iconic, wry comedy sings with spiky repartee. When an explosive divorced couple and their new spouses inadvertently honeymoon in adjacent rooms at the same hotel, combustible chemistry reignites, strong passions and stronger personalities take over, and mayhem ensues. Performances of ***Private Lives*** will take place at the **Toni Rembe Theater** (415 Geary St., San Francisco). [Press night for *Private Lives* will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024.](#) Single tickets (ranging from \$25–\$130) will go on sale on August 15 at 10 a.m. PT at the A.C.T. Box Office at 415-749-2228 or online at act-sf.org/private-lives. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

"Kicking off A.C.T.'s 24/25 season in style, I am thrilled to be producing the vision of my dear friend director KJ Sanchez," said **A.C.T. Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon**. "This is Noël Coward's brilliant marriage play with all the verbal sparring and wit an evening can hold, now set in Mar Del Plata, Argentina and Montevideo, Uruguay with tango to boot. We touch these classic plays through the decades because they reveal something new each time."

The cast of *Private Lives* includes (*in alphabetical order*): **Hugo E. Carbajal** (Elyot Chase), **Livia Gomes Demarchi** (Understudy, Amanda Prynne & Sibyl Chase), **Bacilio Mendez II** (Understudy, Elyot Chase & Victor Prynne), **Brady Morales-Woolery** (Victor Prynne), **Sarita Ocón** (Amanda Prynne), and **Gianna DiGregorio Rivera** (Sibyl Chase).

Directed by **KJ Sanchez**, the creative team for *Private Lives* includes **Tanya Orellana** (Scenic Designer), **Jessie Amoroso** (Costume Designer), **Scott Bolman** (Lighting Designer), **Jake Rodriguez** (Sound Designer), **Dave Maier** (Fight Director), **Lisette Perelle** (Tango Instructor), **Laura Hicks** (Stage Manager), and **Julia Formanek** (Assistant Stage Manager).

In connection with *Private Lives*, A.C.T. will offer numerous **InterACT events**—many of which are presented free of charge—that will give patrons opportunities to get closer to the action while having an entire night out at the theater. Visit act-sf.org/interact to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Post-Show Conversations:**
Tuesday, September 24, 6:30 p.m. | Sunday, September 29, 1 p.m. | Wednesday, October 2, 2 p.m.
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **Pride Night:**
Wednesday, September 25, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and post-show party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community.
- **Open Captioned Performance:**
Saturday, September 28, 2 p.m. performance
At this performance, the dialogue will be displayed on a screen at the front of the stage on house left.
- **Tasting Night:**
Tuesday, October 1, 6:30 p.m.
Meet fellow theatergoers and get to know one of our local vendors at this hosted event before the show.
- **PlayTime:**
Saturday, October 5, 12:45 p.m.
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with the artists who make it happen at this interactive theater workshop.

A special thank you to A.C.T.'s *Private Lives* Production Sponsors: Company Sponsors **Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson**; Executive Producers **Daniel E. Cohn and Lynn Brinton**; **John L. Garfinkle**; **Jo S. Hurley**; **Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson**; Producers **Luba Kipnis and David Russel**; **Cherie Sorokin**; and Associate Producers **Judy and David Anderson**; and **Dr. Allan P. Gold and Mr. Alan C. Ferrara**.

A.C.T. gratefully acknowledges its Season Presenters: **Barbara Bass Bakar**; **Stephen Davis and Jill Cowan**; **Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson**; **Kathleen Donohue and David Sze**; **Priscilla and Keith Geeslin**; **Arjay R. and Frances F. Miller Foundation**; **Toni Rembe and Arthur Rock**; **Robina Riccitiello**; **Mary and Steven Swig**; and one **Anonymous** supporter; and Company Sponsors: **Lily Chu and Daniel Sturman**; **Ray and Dagmar Dolby Fund**; **Mary Hynes and Marc Tessier-Lavigne**; **John Little and Heather Stallings Little**; **The Marymor Family Fund**; **Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller**; **Sonja Hoel Perkins**; **Patti and Rusty Rueff**; and one **Anonymous** supporter.

Corporate Production Sponsor: **Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP**

Official Hotel Partner: **The Westin – St. Francis**

Additional support provided by **Noël Coward Foundation**, **San Francisco Grants for the Arts** and **The Shubert Foundation**.

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PRIVATE LIVES FACT SHEET

- WHAT:** Bay Area favorite **KJ Sanchez** directs Coward's hysterical classic tale of the tempestuous dance that is marriage. Reset to 1930s Argentina and featuring sensual tango dancing, Coward's iconic, wry comedy sings with spiky repartee. When an explosive divorced couple and their new spouses inadvertently honeymoon in adjacent rooms at the same hotel, combustible chemistry reignites, strong passions and stronger personalities take over, and mayhem ensues.
- CAST:** *(in alphabetical order):* **Hugo E. Carbajal** (Elyot Chase), **Brady Morales-Woolery** (Victor Prynne), **Sarita Ocón** (Amanda Prynne), and **Gianna DiGregorio Rivera** (Sibyl Chase).
- CREATIVE TEAM:** Directed by **KJ Sanchez**, the creative team includes **Tanya Orellana** (Scenic Designer), **Jessie Amoroso** (Costume Designer), **Scott Bolman** (Lighting Designer), **Jake Rodriguez** (Sound Designer), **Dave Maier** (Fight Director), **Lisette Perelle** (Tango Instructor), **Laura Hicks** (Stage Manager), and **Julia Formanek** (Assistant Stage Manager).
- WHERE:** A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater
415 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94108
- WHEN:** **September 12–October 6, 2024**
- INTERACT EVENTS:** **Post-Show Conversations:**
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After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
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Wednesday, September 25, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and post-show party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community.
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At this performance, the dialogue will be displayed on a screen at the front of the stage on house left.
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