



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER ANNOUNCES FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR THE WORLD PREMIERE OF **KATE ATTWELL'S *BIG DATA***

Directed by Tony Award winner and A.C.T. Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon and featuring Tony Award winner BD Wong as 'M', *Big Data* explores questions of attention, connection, nourishment, and the dizzying possibilities of AI.

A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater
February 15 – March 10, 2024

SAN FRANCISCO (December 11, 2023)—Today, **American Conservatory Theater** (A.C.T.) announced the full cast and creative team for the world premiere of **Kate Attwell's *Big Data***, performing at A.C.T.'s **Toni Rembe Theater** (415 Geary St., San Francisco) **February 15 – March 10, 2024**. Press night for *Big Data* will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024. Single tickets (ranging from \$25–\$130) are available now at the A.C.T. Box Office at 415-749-2228 or online at act-sf.org/bigdata. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

Sam loves Timmy, and Lucy loves Max, but the pressures of modern life leave them anxious, lonely, and susceptible to the siren song of tech. Do our devices—tantalizingly incarnate in this funny, sexy, uncanny world premiere—really know us best? Are our digital footprints predictive of our future choices, or are they choosing for us? When Sam and Lucy's parents make a shocking announcement, the family is forced to confront what's distracted them from each other—and the legacy they'll leave behind. A.C.T.'s Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon and playwright Kate Attwell reunite to realize this revolutionary piece, inspired by Attwell's experience touring Mozilla's "Glass Room" pop-up interactive exhibit in San Francisco. Come explore questions of attention, connection, nourishment, and the dizzying possibilities of AI.

Says **Tony Award winner and Director Pam MacKinnon**: "Kate Attwell has written a play so topical about how AI is rapidly and maybe forever changing how we interact and think about what we want. I love Kate's voice as a playwright, her surprising humor and mischief, and all she throws into and at her characters. I feel grateful that this is our second world premiere production together at A.C.T. and hold fond memories of *Testmatch* in 2019. I am also grateful that while the Bay and the world wrestle with the fundamental ethics of where we are headed, that this play is in the wrestle too."

The cast of *Big Data* includes (in alphabetical order): **Gabriel Brown** (Sam), **Rosie Hallett** (Lucy), **Julia McNeal** (Didi), **Michael Phillis** (Timmy), **Harold Surratt** (Joe), **Jomar Tagatac** (Max), and **BD Wong** (M). The understudy cast includes **Eddie Ewell**, **Norman Gee**, **Jeremy Kahn**, **Stacy Ross**, and **Megan Trout**.

Directed by Tony Award winner and A.C.T. Artistic Director **Pam MacKinnon**, the creative team for *Big Data* includes **Tanya Orellana** (Scenic Designer), **Lydia Tanji** (Costume Designer), **Russell H. Champa** (Lighting Designer), **Madeleine Oldham** (Sound Designer), **Kaitlyn Pietras and Jason H. Thompson** (Projection Designers), **Elisa Guthertz** (Stage Manager), and **Megan McClintock** (Assistant Stage Manager).

In connection with *Big Data*, 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:

- **Drinks & Drama Friday:**
Friday, February 16, 6:30 p.m.
Join us for a party before the show with a local DJ, drink specials, and more!
- **Audience Exchanges:**
Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m. | Sunday, March 3, 2 p.m. | Wednesday, March 6, 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, February 28, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance
A revamped pre- and postshow party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community.
- **Open Captioned Performance:**
Saturday, March 2, 2 p.m. performance
At this performance, the dialogue will be displayed on a screen at the front of the stage on house left. To purchase seats in the best viewing section, please use code CAPTION when ordering.
- **Tasting Night:**
Tuesday, March 5, 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, March 9, 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 *Big Data* Production Sponsors: Season Presenters **Mary and Steven Swig**; Company Sponsors **Lily Chu and Daniel Sturman**; **Kathleen Donohue and David Sze**; Producer **Cherie Sorokin**; and Associate Producers: **Dr. Barbara L. Bessey**; **Linda K. Brewer**.

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**; **Barbara Ravizza**** and **John S. Osterweis**; **Toni Rembe and Arthur Rock**; **Robina Riccitiello**; and **Mary and Steven Swig**; and Company Sponsors: **Anonymous**; **Lily Chu and Daniel Sturman**; **Ray and Dagmar Dolby Fund**; **Linda Jo Fitz**; **Kevin and Celeste Ford**; **Jo S. Hurley**; **Mary Hynes and Marc Tessier-Lavigne**; **Fred M. Levin, in honor of Nancy Livingston Levin, The Shenson Foundation**; **The Marymor Family Fund**; **Deedee McMurtry**; **Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller**; **Patti and Rusty Rueff**; and **Kay Yun and Andre Neumann-Loreck**.

***in memoriam*

Additional support provided by **National Endowment for the Arts**; **San Francisco Grants for the Arts**; **Koret Foundation**; and **The Shubert Foundation**.

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

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BIG DATA FACT SHEET

WHAT: Sam loves Timmy, and Lucy loves Max, but the pressures of modern life leave them anxious, lonely, and susceptible to the siren song of tech. Do our devices—tantalizingly incarnate in this funny, sexy, uncanny world premiere—really know us best? Are our digital footprints predictive of our future choices, or are they choosing for us? When Sam and Lucy’s parents make a shocking announcement, the family is forced to confront what’s distracted them from each other—and the legacy they’ll leave behind. A.C.T.’s Artistic Director Pam MacKinnon and playwright Kate Attwell reunite to realize this revolutionary piece, inspired by Attwell’s experience touring Mozilla’s “Glass Room” pop-up interactive exhibit in San Francisco. Come explore questions of attention, connection, nourishment, and the dizzying possibilities of AI.

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CREATIVE TEAM: *Kate Attwell* (Playwright), *Pam MacKinnon* (Director) *Tanya Orellana* (Scenic Designer), *Lydia Tanji* (Costume Designer), *Russell H. Champa* (Lighting Designer), *Madeleine Oldham* (Sound Designer), *Kaitlyn Pietras* & *Jason H. Thompson* (Projection Designers), *Elisa Guthertz* (Stage Manager), and *Megan McClintock* (Assistant Stage Manager).

WHERE: A.C.T.’s Toni Rembe Theater
415 Geary Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

WHEN: February 15 – March 10, 2024

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TICKETS: 415-749-2228 | act-sf.org/bigdata
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