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## AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER CLOSES ITS 2023/24 SEASON WITH THE FIVE-TIME TONY AWARD-WINNING PLAY, ***THE LEHMAN TRILOGY***

**A.C.T.'S TONI REMBE THEATER**  
**\*\*\* MAY 25–JUNE 23, 2024 \*\*\***

SAN FRANCISCO (May 3, 2024)—**American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.)** closes its 2023/24 season with the **National Theatre** and **Neal Street Productions'** critically acclaimed, five-time Tony Award® winning production, ***The Lehman Trilogy***, performing at A.C.T.'s **Toni Rembe Theater** from **Saturday, May 25 through Sunday, June 23, 2024**. Press night will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 7 p.m. Single tickets (\$25 - \$137) are on sale now by visiting [act-sf.org/lehman](https://act-sf.org/lehman).

"In the grand tapestry of human drama, *The Lehman Trilogy* unfurls as a magnificent saga," said A.C.T. Artistic Director **Pam MacKinnon**. "It's epic scope, gorgeous stagecraft, and riveting narrative illuminate the rise and fall of a family empire — and leaves us thinking about its legacy and where we go from here. It's a theatrical experience that will leave San Francisco Bay Area audiences breathless."

Written by **Stefano Massini**, adapted by **Ben Power**, and directed by Academy Award®, Tony Award®, and Golden Globe winner, **Sam Mendes**, with set design by **Es Devlin**, ***The Lehman Trilogy*** is an extraordinary feat of storytelling told in three parts on a single evening.

On a cold September morning in 1844, a young man from Bavaria stands on a New York dockside dreaming of a new life in the new world. He is joined by his two brothers, and an American epic begins. 163 years later, the firm they establish—Lehman Brothers—spectacularly collapses into bankruptcy, triggering the largest financial crisis in history. Weaving together nearly two centuries of family history, ***The Lehman Trilogy*** charts the humble beginnings, outrageous successes, and devastating failure of the financial institution that would ultimately bring the global economy to its knees.

The cast of *The Lehman Trilogy* includes **Aaron Krohn** who will play the role of Mayer Lehman, **Howard W. Overshown**, who will play the role of Emanuel Lehman, a role he played at the Ahmanson Theatre in 2022, and **John Heffernan** will join the company to perform the role of Henry Lehman. They will be joined by pianist, **Rebekah Bruce**. **Ravi Aujla** will play the role of Janitor and the understudy role of Emanuel Lehman. Performing the other understudy roles, are **Leighton Pugh** as Henry Lehman, **Simon Victor** as Mayer Lehman, and **Anyssa Neumann** as the alternate pianist.

Rounding out the creative team for *The Lehman Trilogy* are **Es Devlin** (Set Design), **Katrina Lindsay** (Costume Design), **Luke Halls** (Video Design), **Jon Clark** (Lighting Design), **Nick Powell** (Composer and Sound Design), **Dominic Bilkey** (Co-Sound Design), **Candida Caldicot** (Music Director), **Polly Bennett** (Movement Director), and **Rory McGregor** (International Tour Director), in collaboration with West End Director, **Zoé Ford Burnett**.

This production of ***The Lehman Trilogy*** was first commissioned by Neal Street Productions and developed and co-produced with the National Theatre premiering in the Lyttelton theatre in 2018. An acclaimed sold-out run at the Park Avenue Armory in the Spring of 2019 followed with ***The Lehman Trilogy*** returning to London for a 16-week sold-out run at the Piccadilly Theatre in the West End from in summer 2019. Following Broadway's 18-month shutdown, ***The Lehman Trilogy*** was the first British play to return to Broadway — where it had previously played four performances in March 2020 — for a much-lauded limited engagement at the Nederlander Theatre from September 2021 until January 2022. It was the most awarded play on Broadway that year, winning Best Play, Best Director, Best Set Design, Best Lighting Design and Best Actor at the Tony Awards®. It also won the Drama League Award for Best Play and six Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best Play. ***The Lehman Trilogy*** transferred to the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles from March until April 2022, before returning to London's West End in 2023 for a 17-week sold-out run. ***The Lehman Trilogy*** most recently played a limited engagement at Theatre Royal Sydney in Sydney, Australia.

Prior to this production, the world premiere of **Stefano Massini's *The Lehman Trilogy*** opened at the Piccolo Teatro in Milan in 2015. It turned out to be Artistic Director **Luca Ronconi's** final production before his death. A long-term admirer of Ronconi's, **Sam Mendes** was inspired to begin planning an English adaptation for Neal Street Productions. **Ben Power** was commissioned by Neal Street Productions to create a new version of this epic play, using a literal English translation by **Mirella Cheeseman**.

The National Theatre and Neal Street Productions would like to dedicate this production of ***The Lehman Trilogy*** in memory of company member, **Adrian Schiller**.

In connection with ***The Lehman Trilogy***, 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](https://act-sf.org/interact) to learn more about subscribing to these events throughout the season:

- **Drinks & Drama:**  
***Saturday, May 25, 6:30 p.m.***  
Join us for a party before the show with a local DJ, drink specials, and more!
- **Audience Exchanges:**  
***Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m. | Sunday, June 9, 2 p.m. | Wednesday, June 19, 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, June 5, 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, June 8, 1 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, June 11, 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, June 15, 12:45 p.m.***  
Before this matinee performance, get hands-on with the artists who make it happen at this interactive theater workshop.

A.C.T.'s presentation of ***The Lehman Trilogy*** is dedicated to the memory of **Chair Emerita Nancy Livingston Levin**.

A special thank you to A.C.T.'s ***The Lehman Trilogy*** Lead Supporters: **Barbara Bass Bakar; Jerome L. and Thao N. Dodson; Ray and Dagmar Dolby Fund; Sakurako and William Fisher Family; Frannie Fleishhacker; Priscilla and Keith Geeslin; John & Marcia Goldman Foundation; Fred M. Levin in honor of Nancy Livingston Levin, The Shenson Foundation; Robina Riccitiello; Patti and Rusty Rueff; Kay Yun and Andre Neumann-Loreck; and one Anonymous supporter.**

A.C.T. gratefully acknowledges its ***The Lehman Trilogy*** Production Sponsors: Company Sponsors **Linda Jo Fitz; Jo S. Hurley; John Little and Heather Stallings Little; The Marymor Family Fund;** Executive Producers **Neil and Elsa Pering; Laura Posey and Aaron Goldsmid;** Producers **Norman Abramson in memory of David Beery; Luba Kipnis and David Russel; Abby and Gene Schnair; Clay Foundation – West;** and Associate Producers **Paul Angelo and Cindy Low; Helen and Roger Bohl; Linda Joanne Brown and Lauren K. Morlock; Lee and Carolyn Snowberg; and Emmett and Marion Stanton.**

Corporate Production Sponsor: **Cozen O'Connor**

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

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

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## **ABOUT THE NATIONAL THEATRE**

The National Theatre makes theatre that entertains and inspires using its creativity, expertise and unique reach. The National Theatre shares unforgettable stories with millions of audience members across the UK and around the world – on its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home.

World-leading artists make their best work at the National Theatre with the widest possible audience and impact. The National Theatre invests in talent and innovation on stage and off, taking seriously its role as the nation's theatre. Of the new productions developed each year with a wide range of theatre companies, a third of that research and development resource is dedicated to shows staged at theatres outside London.

Through touring our work to local theatres and schools and nationwide education and community programmes, we are active in 71 of the 109 levelling up priority areas in the UK. A registered charity with deeply embedded social purpose, the National Theatre works with hundreds of schools and communities across the UK to fire imagination and inspire creativity, and to develop skills and pathways for careers in theatre.

For more information, please visit [nationaltheatre.org.uk](https://nationaltheatre.org.uk)  
[@NationalTheatre](#)  
[@NT\\_PressOffice](#)

## **NEAL STREET PRODUCTIONS**

Neal Street Productions is one of the UK's most respected production companies, producing award-winning film, television and theatre. Founded 2003 by Sam Mendes, Pippa Harris and Caro Newling, it makes distinctive, popular, award-winning projects on both sides of the Atlantic.

TV series include: *Call the Midwife*, *Britannia*, *Penny Dreadful*, *The Hollow Crown*.

Films include Mendes' *Empire of Light*, *1917*, *Away we Go*, *Revolutionary Road*, and *Things We Lost in the Fire*.

Currently running in the West End is *The Hills of California* by Jez Butterworth (co-production with Sonia Friedman Productions).

Other recent theatre includes *The Motive and the Cue* by Jack Thorne (co-production with the National Theatre), *Hamnet*, a stage adaptation by Lolita Chakrabarti based on Maggie O'Farrell's novel (a co-production with the

Royal Shakespeare Company), *Walking with Ghosts* starring Gabriel Byrne, *The Ferryman* by Jez Butterworth, the new stage adaptation of *Local Hero* and the national tour of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

In 2015 Neal Street moved under the umbrella of parent company, All3Media.