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**AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER ANNOUNCES
CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR
AUGUST WILSON'S *TWO TRAINS RUNNING* AND
CHRISTINA ANDERSON'S MODERN VERSE TRANSLATION OF
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S *THE COMEDY OF ERRORS***

**Presented in rotating repertory by the Tony Award-winning troupe, The Acting Company,
in partnership with Play On Shakespeare**

**A.C.T.'s Toni Rembe Theater
April 15 – May 4, 2025**

SAN FRANCISCO (February 28, 2025)—Today, **American Conservatory Theater** (A.C.T.) announced the full cast and creative team for **August Wilson's *Two Trains Running*** (April 15–May 4, 2025) and **Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*** (April 22–May 3, 2025), presented in rotating repertory by the Tony Award-winning troupe, **The Acting Company**, in partnership with **Play On Shakespeare**, the not-for-profit organization dedicated to exploring the world of Shakespeare through modern verse translation. Single tickets (ranging from \$25–\$130) are on sale now at the A.C.T. Box Office at 415-749-2228 or online at act-sf.org/trains and act-sf.org/comedy. *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

From the author of *The Piano Lesson* and *Fences* comes the story of Memphis Lee, a diner owner in a historically Black neighborhood in Pittsburgh at the height of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, who must decide if he should allow the government to take over his building or sell the property to a ruthless businessman. Full of vivid characters, joy, hope, love, and perseverance, **August Wilson's *Two Trains Running*** celebrates the spirit, laughter, heart, and resilience of the people who make our country great even when faced with overwhelming odds.

Shakespeare's quintessential comedy, ***The Comedy of Errors*** is a farcical tale of separated families and mistaken identities delights audiences young and old. Antipholus and his servant, Dromio, travel in search of a long-lost family member, only to get mixed up in a madcap race against the clock, love-at-first-double-take, run-ins with local law enforcement, and double trouble – times two. Christina Anderson's translation maintains all we love about Shakespeare's language even as it updates the jokes and wordplay, breathing new life into the double (and triple) entendres. This madcap whirl through bawdy adventures, mad scientists, romance, heartfelt reunions, and even a few happy endings will excite and titillate any audience. Additional support for *The Comedy of Errors* is provided by the Hitz Foundation and Play On Shakespeare.

The cast features **J'Laney Allen** as Wolf (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 1–Dromio and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Michael J. Asberry** (starting 3/23) as Holloway (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 9 (*The Comedy of*

Errors); **Chuckie Benson** as Hambone (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 2–Dromio and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Diana Coates** as Risa (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 6–Luciana and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Brian D. Coats** (through 3/22) as Holloway (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 9 (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Robert Cornelius** as West (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 8 (*The Comedy of Errors*); **James Milord** as Sterling (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 4–Antipholous and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Jeffrey Rashad** as West (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 4–Antipholous and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); **Michael A. Shepperd** as Memphis (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 7–Dr. Pinch and others (*The Comedy of Errors*); and **DeAnna Supplee** as Risa (*Two Trains Running*) and Clown 5–Adriana and others (*The Comedy of Errors*).

August Wilson’s *Two Trains Running*, the seventh play in The American Century Cycle chronicling the African American experience in the 20th century, is directed by **Lili-Anne Brown**. ***The Comedy of Errors***, in a modern verse translation by **Christina Anderson**, is directed by The Acting Company’s Producing Director, **Devin Brain**, and produced in partnership with **Play On Shakespeare**. The creative team includes **Tanya Orellana** (Scenic Designer), **Sarita Fellows** (Costume Designer, *The Comedy of Errors*), **Samantha C. Jones** (Costume Designer, *Two Trains Running*), **Jared Gooding** (Lighting Designer), **Lindsay Jones** (Original Music & Sound Designer), **Anna Dorodnykh** (Props Designer), **Duane Boutté** (Voice & Speech), **Orlando Pabotoy** (Movement Director, *The Comedy of Errors*), **Ann James** (Intimacy Director, *Two Trains Running*), **Tommy Kurzman** (Wig & Hair Designer), **Martine Kei Green-Rogers** (Dramaturg, *The Comedy of Errors*), **Irvin Mason Jr.** (Associate Director, *Two Trains Running*), **Murnane Casting**, **Amber Snead, CSA**, **Chad Eric Murnane, CSA**, **Nathaniel Riccio** (Casting), **Esther Bermann** (Production Stage Manager), and **Imani Ross** (Assistant Stage Manager).

In connection with *Two Trains Running* and *The Comedy of Errors*, A.C.T. will offer **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, April 15, 6:30 p.m. (*Two Trains Running*) | Sunday, April 27, 1 p.m. (*The Comedy of Errors*)
After the show, stick around for a lively Q&A session with the actors and artists who create the work onstage.
- **Pride Night:**
Wednesday, April 23, before and following the 7:30 p.m. performance (*The Comedy of Errors*)
A revamped pre- and post-show party celebrating LGBTQ+ pride within the theater community.

A special thank you to A.C.T.’s Production Sponsors: Executive Producers **Linda Jo Fitz; Elsa and Neil Pering**; and Associate Producers **Helen and Roger Bohl; Dr. and Mrs. Richard E. Geist**.

A.C.T. gratefully acknowledges its Season Presenters: **Barbara Bass Bakar; 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; Jeri Lynn and Jeffrey W. Johnson; The Marymor Family Fund; Donald J. and Toni Ratner Miller; Sonja Hoel Perkins; Patti and Rusty Rueff**; and one **Anonymous** supporter.

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

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

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Play On Shakespeare is a non-profit company promoting and creating contemporary modern verse translations of Shakespeare's plays that originated out of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Since its inception in 2015, Play On Shakespeare has commissioned dozens of contemporary playwrights and translators to translate 39 Shakespeare plays into modern English, with a majority of the commissions being helmed by BIPOC and womxn playwrights. Far from a paraphrasing exercise, each playwright was tasked with matching Shakespeare's linguistic rigor as they approached the text, preserving rhyme, rhythm, metaphor, meter, imagery, symbolism, rhetoric, and the structure that make Shakespeare's plays engaging and accessible to today's audience. Play On Shakespeare partners with artists and organizations across the globe to deliver and advocate for these translations through theatrical productions, podcasts, and publications. For more information, visit playonshakespeare.org. Play On Shakespeare is made possible through the generous support of the Hitz Foundation.