

For Immediate Release

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David Mirvish present the Studio 180 Theatre production of

OSLO

2017 TONY AWARD FOR BEST PLAY

English-language Canadian Premiere

February 9 – March 3, 2019

CAA Theatre, 651 Yonge Street, Toronto

David Mirvish is delighted to present the English-language Canadian premiere of the Tony Award-winning Best Play **OSLO**, playing at the **CAA Theatre, February 9 to March 3, 2019**. Written by **J.T. Rogers** and directed by **Joel Greenberg**, this **Studio 180 production** stars **Jonas Chernick, Patrick Galligan, Amitai Kedar, Omar Alex Khan, Mark McGrinder, Marla McLean, Sarah Orenstein, Jordan Pettle, Alex Poch-Goldin, Geoffrey Pounsett, Sanjay Talwar, Blair Williams** and **Anders Yates**.

Set & Costume Design is by **Ken Mackenzie**, Sound Design by **Thomas Ryder Payne**, Lighting Design by **Kimberly Purtell** and Projection Design by **Cameron Davis**. The Stage Manager is **Laura Baxter**, and the Assistant Directors are **Kerry Ann Doherty** and **Sarah Orenstein**.

About The Play

In 1993, in front of the world's press, the leaders of Israel and Palestine shook hands on the lawn of the White House. Few watching would have guessed that the negotiations leading up to this iconic moment started secretly in a castle in the middle of a forest outside Oslo.

Inspired by the true story of the back-channel talks, unlikely friendships, and quiet heroics that led to the Oslo Peace Accords, **OSLO** is a deeply personal story set against a complex historical canvas, a story about the individuals behind world history and their all too human ambitions.

"Vivid and thoughtful, crackling theatre." — *The New York Times*

"A fast-paced, quick-witted intellectual thriller. Remarkable!" — *The Independent, London*

"At this cultural moment when finding common ground is paramount, OSLO gives us hope" — *NY Daily News*

OSLO had its world premiere Off-Broadway at the Lincoln Centre in [June 2016](#) and then transferred to Broadway in [April 2017](#).

The Off-Broadway production won the Lucille Lortel Award for Best Play, the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Broadway Play, the 2017 Drama League Award for Outstanding Production of a Play, and two 2017 Obie Awards, one for Best New American Theater Work and the other an Ensemble Award (shared by the director and the entire Off-Broadway cast).

The Broadway production won the Tony Award for Best Play, the 2017 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play and the 2016-2017 New York Drama Critics' Circle award for Best Play – for a sweep of the 2016-2017 awards season.

OSLO premiered in the UK at the National Theatre in September 2017 and then was transferred to the West End, playing [October 2](#) to [December 30](#), 2017 at the Harold Pinter Theatre.

Studio 180 Theatre has a relationship with playwright J. T. Rogers, having previously produced the Canadian premiere of his play *The Overwhelming* in 2010.

OSLO

By J.T. Rogers

Directed by Joel Greenberg

February 9 – March 3, 2019

(Media performance is Thursday February 14th, at 7:30 PM)

Tuesday - Saturday 7:30 PM

Wednesday 1:30 PM

Saturday & Sunday 1:30 PM

No performance - Wednesday February 13, 1:30 PM

CAA Theatre, 651 Yonge Street, Toronto

Tickets \$39 to \$99; \$25 students

www.mirvish.com

416-872-1212 or 1-800-461-3333

Bios — Cast, Playwright & Director

JONAS CHERNICK - *Uri Savir*

For Studio 180: Asher Lev in *My Name is Asher Lev*. Theatre credits include Biff in *Death of a Salesman*, *Speed-The-Plow*, *The Chosen* (WJT); *Cote Saint Joe* (Persephone / WJT); Film & TV credits include *Fargo*, *The Best Laid Plans* (Canadian Screen Award), *The Border* (Gemini Award, ACTRA Award nomination), *My Awkward Sexual Adventure* (TIFF Top Ten, ACTRA Award & Canadian Comedy Award nominations), *Borealis* (Vancouver International Film Festival Special Jury Award), *A Swingers*

Weekend (Canadian Film Festival Best Ensemble Cast Award), *How to Plan an Orgy in a Small Town* (Canadian Film Festival Best Ensemble Cast Award), *Private Eyes*, *Saving Hope*, *Covert Affairs* and the upcoming films *James vs His Future Self* and *The Prague Orgy* based on the novel by Philip Roth.

PATRICK GALLIGAN - Johan Jorgen Holst/Finn Grandal

For Studio 180: *King Charles III*, *NSFW*. Shaw Festival (15 seasons) highlights: *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Henry V* (2018), *Androcles and the Lion*, *Dancing at Lughnasa* (2017), *Our Town*, *Dance of Death* (2016), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (2015), *The Sea*, *When We Are Married* (2014), *My Fair Lady* (2011), *Doctor's Dilemma*, *An Ideal Husband* (2010), *Born Yesterday* (2009), *After the Dance* (2008), *Hotel Peccadillo* (2007), *Rosmersholm* (2006), *Journey's End* (2005), *Man and Superman* (2004), *Widower's Houses*, *Plough and the Stars* (2003). Other theatre: *Measure for Measure*, *The Winter's Tale* (Groundling Theatre); *War Horse* (Mirvish/National Theatre of Great Britain); *The Misanthrope*, *Courageous*, *Elisa's Skin*, *One-Eyed Kings*, *The Four Lives of Marie*, *The Glass Menagerie* (Tarragon Theatre); *Richard III*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Stratford Festival).

AMITAI KEDAR - Yair Hirschfield/Shimon Peres

For Studio 180: debut. Amitai is thrilled to make his Canadian debut in *Oslo*. Born in Toronto and raised in Israel, he is a graduate of Tel Aviv University's School of Performing Arts and has appeared in numerous film, television and live theatre productions in Israel, Europe and the United States. His film credits include the Oscar-winning *Son of Saul* (2016). Theatre roles include Habima's (Israeli National theatre) production of *The Dybbuk* and a North American national tour of the Gershwin musical *My One and Only*. For Yiddishpiel, he starred in *Oedipus Schmoedipus*, a stage adaptation of *New York Stories*, in which he played the role of Woody Allen.

OMAR ALEX KHAN - Hassan Asfour

For Studio 180: Debut. Theatre Credits (Selected): *Timon of Athens*, *The School For Scandal*, *The Komagata Maru Incident* (Stratford); *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, *The Wars* (The Grand); *The New Canadian Curling Club*, *1837: The Farmers' Revolt* (Blyth); *As You Like It*, *Titus Andronicus* (Shakespeare in High Park/Canadian Stage); *The Kite Runner* (Theatre Calgary/Citadel); *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Seafarer* (RMTC); *Acha Bacha* (Passe Muraille/Buddies). Film and TV Credits (Selected): *Todd and the Book of Pure Evil*, *Less Than Kind*, *Killjoys*, *The Strain*. Other: omaralexkhan.com, @omaralexkhan

MARK McGRINDER - Yossi Beilin

For Studio 180: *The Laramie Project*, *Stuff Happens*, *Our Class*, *Parade*, *Clybourne Park*, *You Will Remember Me* and, most recently, *The Nether*. Mark is a member of Studio 180's Core Artistic Team and co-ordinates the Studio 180 IN DEVELOPMENT program. He also adapted and directed *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish* for the company and has assistant directed productions of *Blackbird*, *God of Carnage* and *The Laramie Project* 10th Anniversary reading. Mark was a member of the Shaw Festival's acting ensemble for 5 seasons and performed in several reviews with The Second City's National Touring Company. Film and television credits include; *Spotlight*, *Remedy*, *Murdoch Mysteries* and *Mayday*.

MARLA McLEAN - Mona Juul

For Studio 180: debut. Selected credits: *Grand Hotel* (assistant director), *Oh What a Lovely War*,

Dracula, Uncle Vanya, Juno and the Peacock, The Philanderer, Enchanted April, Lady Windermere's Fan, Serious Money, Albertine in Five Times, An Ideal Husband, After the Dance, The Stepmother, A Month in the Country, St. Joan (The Shaw Festival). *Blithe Spirit, Miracle on 34th Street, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Government Inspector* (Neptune Theatre), *The 39 Steps* (LyndesFarn Theatre), *Mamma Mia* (Mirvish Productions), *The Miracle Worker, Three Sisters* (Atlantic Theatre Festival), *Evita* (MTC/Theatre Calgary). Film/TV: *Suits* (USA Network), *Beefcake* (Thom Fitzgerald), *Homeless to Harvard* (Hard Rock Pictures). Teacher with The National Theatre School.

SARAH ORENSTEIN - Marianne Heiberg/Toril Grandal/Assistant Director

For Studio 180: as actor – *Stuff Happens, The Normal Heart, God of Carnage, My Name is Asher Lev*; as Assistant Director – *King Charles III*. Selected theatre credits: ATP – *The Virgin Trial*. The Grand – *Glass Menagerie*. Tarragon – *The Message, Scorched, Mrs. Klien, Collected Works of Billy the Kid*. Stratford Festival – *Shakespeare in Love, Possible Worlds, Zastrozzi*. TPM – *The Stillborn Lover*. Theatre New Brunswick – *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*. Shaw Festival – (Company member 13 seasons) *Councillor at Law, Millionairess, Heartbreak House, Playboy of the Western World*. HGJT – *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Sarah is a multi award-winning actress with a career long commitment to developing new Canadian pieces. She is thrilled to be expanding her relationship with Studio 180 into directing.

JORDAN PETTLE - Ron Pundak/Jan Egeland

For Studio 180: debut. Jordan has been working across the country on both classical and contemporary plays, and in television, film and radio for over 20 years. He has spent four seasons with the Stratford Festival and has worked extensively with Soulpepper Theatre. Toronto acting credits include: Soulpepper – *A Christmas Carol, Picture This, The Heidi Chronicles, The Dybbuk, Twelve Angry Men* (Dora Award for Best Ensemble), *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* (Dora award for Best Ensemble), *Speed-the-Plow, The Sunshine Boys, Jitters, Glengarry Glen Ross, Travesties, Antigone, Ring Round the Moon, Waiting for Godot*; Tarragon – *The Waiting Room, Sextet, Generous, Goodness, The Whirlpool*; Canadian Stage – *Sunday Father, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Written on Water, Romeo and Juliet, Taming of the Shrew*; Factory Theatre – *Zadie's Shoes, Tiger of Malaya*; Theatre Passe Muraille – *Yichud, Three Squares, Small Returns*; YPT – *Danny, King of the Basement*. He has performed leading roles in Ottawa (GCTC, NAC); Halifax (Neptune); Winnipeg (PTE; WJT) and Edmonton (Citadel). Directing credits include: *Zadie's Shoes, Therac 25* (Factory Theatre), *Terminating* (Summerworks Festival); *Six Degrees of Separation, The Clandestine Marriage, She Stoops To Conquer* – Georgian Period Study (George Brown Theatre School) *Metamorphoses* (Ryerson Theatre School); *The Ash Girl, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (Wexford Collegiate for the Performing Arts). He has led acting workshops for Soulpepper Theatre and is a regular guest teacher at Randolph College for the Performing Arts, and Wexford Collegiate. TV and film credits include: *American Woman; Titans; The Strain; Designated Survivor; Saving Hope; Rookie Blue; Lost Girl; Murdoch Mysteries; Fugitive Pieces; Lost in Wonderland*. Jordan was a regular on the CBC radio drama *Afghanada* (ACTRA nomination for voice performance). He is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada.

ALEX POCH-GOLDIN - Joel Singer

For Studio 180: *Our Class* (Dora Nomination). An actor and playwright, Alex has worked across Canada and his plays have been produced internationally. Selected theatre: *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, The Dybbuk, Incident At Vichy* (Dora Award – Soulpepper); *Amadeus* (TIFT); *Disgraced* (Mirvish); *King Lear* (Groundling); *My Name is Asher*

Lev (Segal/RMTC-META Award/WTA Nomination); *Superior Donuts* (Coal Mine); *Harper Regan, Angels in America, Intimate Apparel, Comedy of Errors* (Canadian Stage); *Remnants, Scorched* (National tour/Tarragon); *King Lear* (RMTC); *Belle* (NAC/Factory); *Possible Worlds* (Munich). Film/TV: *Suits, Dark Matter, Cardinal, The Calling, Nero Wolfe, Good God, The Kennedys, Flashpoint*. Playwriting: *Cringeworthy, This Hotel* (Dora Nominations), *Yahrzeit* (Jewish Playwriting Award/German tour), *The Great Shadow, The Bad Luck Bank Robbers, The Right Road To Pontypool* (4th Line). Opera Libretti: *The Shadow, From The House Of Mirth*. Alex has been nominated for five Dora Awards and a Jessie. Alex is a graduate of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, The Dome Theatre and teaches at The Toronto Film School.

GEOFFREY POUNSETT - Thor Bjornevog/US Diplomat

For Studio 180: Debut. Selected Theatre (Acting): *War Horse* (Mirvish); *If We Were Birds, No Great Mischief, Alias Godot* (Tarragon); *Leisure Society, Zadie's Shoes* (Factory); *Fire* (Charlottetown Festival, Theatre Calgary – Betty nomination); *Doubt* (Theatre Northwest); *Tuesdays With Morrie* (TIP); *You Will Remember Me, Games, How Do I Love Thee?* (ATP); *A Few Good Men, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Neptune); *Moon For The Misbegotten* (Watermark); *The Miser, The Game of Love & Chance, Three Days of Rain* (STC); *Romeo & Juliet, Juno & The Paycock, Cyrano* (Stratford). Selected Theatre (Directing): *As You Like It* (GBTS); *Brown Bull of Cuilange, Red Machine* (The Room); *Western* (NSTF); *A Quiet Place* (NSTF – Dora nomination); *The Swearing Jar* (Best of Fringe); *The Seagull* (LabCab). Recent Film & TV: *It* (New Line), *Impulse* (YouTube), *Private Eyes* (Global), *The Girlfriend Experience* (Starz).

SANJAY TALWAR - Ahmed Qurie

For Studio 180: debut. Shaw Festival: *Stage Kiss, The Orchard* (After Chekhov); *Wilde Tales, 1979, Arcadia, Peace in Our Time, Helen's Necklace, Come Back, Little Sheba*. Other theatre: *The Invisible Hand*, Theatre Aquarius; *The Men in White*, Arts Club; *As You Like It, Hamlet, Love's Labour's Lost, Peter Pan, Macbeth*, Stratford; *The Road to Paradise, Human Cargo; Around the World in 80 Days*, ATP; *The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Measure for Measure, Titus Andronicus*, director for *The Merchant of Venice*, 5 seasons as artistic director, Shakespeare in the Rough; *The Winter's Tale, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night*, Dream in High Park; *Helen's Necklace* (Jessie award), Tarragon, Pi Theatre. Film/TV: *Orphan Black, Puck Hogs, The Border, Flashpoint, Supernatural, Murder Unveiled/A Love Story*. Training: Dalhousie University

BLAIR WILLIAMS - Terje-Rod Larsen

For Studio 180: debut. Most recently, Blair toured Australia with the internationally renowned chamber Orchestra Tafelmusik in the narrative concert *Circle of Creation*. Selected credits: as director – *Here On The Flight Path* (Foster Festival); *Light Up The Sky. A Lovely Sunday For Creve Coeur, Peace In Our Time, The Millionairess, Ways Of The Heart, The President* (Shaw Festival); *The Play's The Thing* (Segal Centre); *Rope* (Vertigo Theatre). Acting credits include appearances with Nightwood, Vertigo, Thousand Islands Playhouse, Tarragon, Segal Centre, Soulepepper, Theatre Calgary, The Citadel, Canadian Stage, Walnut Street Theatre (Philadelphia), The Everyman (Liverpool, England) and over thirty productions with the Shaw Festival. He is the voice of Mr. Porter on Nickelodeon's hit series *Paw Patrol* and Uncle Phil on Teletoon's *Wishfart*. TV credits include *Suits, Murdoch Mysteries, The Romoffs, Reign, Dark Matter*, and *Designated Survivor*. He is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada.

ANDERS YATES - Trond Gunderson/German Husband

For Studio 180: debut. Recent theatre credits include *Slip* with Circlesnake Productions, *Toronto, I Love You* and *La Grande Jatte*, both with the Bad Dog Theatre Company. Feature film credits include *Indian Horse* (Screen Siren Pictures), *Through Black Spruce* (Serendipity Point Films) and *Stockholm* (Blumhouse Productions), along with television roles on *Titans* (DC Entertainment), *Condor* (MGM Television), *Taken* (Universal Television), *Murdoch Mysteries* (Shaftesbury Films) and *Helix* (Sony Pictures Television). Anders spends most of his time on stage doing improv, sketch or standup comedy and has toured North America and Europe with his award-winning comedy troupe *Uncalled For*. More recently he helped create the queer improv troupe *Kinsey Fail*. He has performed with the Second City Touring Company and can be seen regularly at the Bad Dog Comedy Theatre. He is also a frequent contributor to the satirical news site *The Beaverton*.

JOEL GREENBERG - Director

For Studio 180: *King Charles III*, *My Name is Asher Lev*, *My Night with Reg*, *You Will Remember Me*, *NSFW*, *Cock*, *God of Carnage*, *Clybourne Park*, *The Normal Heart*, *Our Class*, *Parade* (director and choreographer), *The Overwhelming*, *Stuff Happens*, *Blackbird*, *The Arab-Israeli Cookbook*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Passion of the Chris*. As performer – *Love*, *Dishonor*, *Marry, Die*, *Cherish*, *Perish*. Co-founder and Artistic Director. Other theatre credits include: As director – *The Underdogs*, *What the Butler Saw* (Just For Laughs, Montreal); *Taking Sides* (Centaur Theatre); *The House of Blue Leaves*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *You Can't Take It with You*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Theatre Aquarius); *Vanities* (The Grand Theatre). As director and choreographer – *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Dora Award); *Forbidden Broadway* (Dora Nomination); *Bells Are Ringing* (Grand); *The Golden Land*, *The Rothschilds* (Winnipeg Jewish Theatre). As choreographer – seven productions with Second City in Toronto and Chicago; *She Loves Me* (Grand). As playwright and director – *Drink the Mercury* (Dora Award) and *The Nuclear Power Show* (Chalmers Playwriting Award) for YPT.

J.T. ROGERS - Playwright

J.T. Rogers's plays include *Blood and Gifts* (National Theater, London; Lincoln Center Theater), *The Overwhelming* (National Theatre, followed by UK tour with Out of Joint and BBC Radio; Roundabout Theatre); *Madagascar* (Theatre 503, London; Melbourne Theatre Company), and *White People* (Off Broadway with Starry Night Productions). As one of the original playwrights for the Tricycle Theatre of London's *Great Game: Afghanistan*, he was nominated for 2009 Olivier Award. His works have been staged throughout the United States and in Germany, Canada, and Israel, and are published by Faber and Faber and Dramatists Play Service. Recent awards include NEA/TCG and NYFA fellowships, the Pinter Review Prize for Drama, the American Theatre Critics Association's Osborne Award, and the William Inge Center for the Arts' New Voices Award. Rogers's essays have appeared in *American Theatre* and in London's *Independent* and *The New Statesman*. He is a member of New Dramatists and the Dramatists Guild and holds an honorary doctorate from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. www.jtrogerswriter.com