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“A box of treasures, a haze of marvels, a banquet of dreams”  
—*The Chicago Reader*

**BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE TO PRESENT  
THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF  
*THE MATCHBOX MAGIC FLUTE***

Adapted and directed by theatrical powerhouse Mary Zimmerman, *The Matchbox Magic Flute* is a mesmerizing adaptation of Mozart’s iconic *Magic Flute* featuring only 10 singers and five musicians

Berkeley Rep’s Roda Theatre  
October 18–December 8, 2024

BERKELEY, CA (September 4, 2024)— This fall, theatrical powerhouse **Mary Zimmerman** (*Metamorphoses*, *The Arabian Nights*, *The White Snake*) triumphantly returns to Berkeley Rep with ***The Matchbox Magic Flute***, a mesmerizing English language adaptation of Mozart’s iconic *Magic Flute*, performing at Berkeley Rep’s Roda Theatre from **Friday, October 18 through Sunday, December 8, 2024**. Press night will be held on Wednesday, October 23. Single tickets are available now online at [berkeleyrep.org](http://berkeleyrep.org) or by phone at 510-647-2949 (Tue–Sun, 12–7 p.m.). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

Join Tamino on a daring quest to rescue the captive princess Pamina. Encounter dragons, birdmen, and trials by fire in this enchanting microcosm of wonder where magic and music intertwine. Featuring only 10 singers and five musicians, *The Matchbox Magic Flute* will transport audiences to realms of imagination and wonder. This production—perfect for musical theatre and opera enthusiasts—offers a magical and entertaining way for audiences aged 8 and up to come together during the holiday season.

“I am delighted to welcome Mary Zimmerman back to Berkeley Rep and the Bay Area,” said Berkeley Rep Artistic Director **Johanna Pfaelzer**. “She is beloved by our audiences, and I know her exquisite, imaginative, playful *Matchbox Magic Flute* will be a balm for us all this fall!”

“Berkeley Rep is my theatrical home away from home,” adds **Zimmerman**. “It was the first theatre ever to produce a run of a show of mine outside of Chicago, and it remains my favorite place to come. I love the theatre, the entire staff, the audiences, and the surrounding city, hills, and Bay. The whole cast is really excited to spend time here with our crazy little music-hall *Flute*.”

The cast of *The Matchbox Magic Flute* includes (in alphabetical order) **Marlene Fernandez, Emilie Lynn** (beginning November 12), **Russell Mernagh, Lauren Molina, Tina Muñoz-Pandya, Reese Parish, Shawn Pfautsch, Emily Rohm, Billy Rude, and Monica West** (through November 10). Additional casting will be announced.

Adapted and directed by **Mary Zimmerman**, the creative team for *The Matchbox Magic Flute* includes **Amanda Dehnert** (Music Supervisor/Music Director), **Sheela Ramesh** (Associate Music Director/Conductor), **Todd Rosenthal** (Scenic Design), **Ana Kuzmanić** (Costume Design), **T.J. Gerckens** (Lighting Design), **Andre Pluess** (Sound Design), **Charles G. LaPointe** (Wigs, Hair, and Makeup), **Tom Lee & Blair Thomas** (Puppet Design), **Marne Anderson** (Stage Manager), and **Sofie Miller** (Assistant Stage Manager).

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART** and **Peet’s Coffee**, Berkeley Rep’s official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to recognize the support at the season sponsor level from **Stephen & Susan Chamberlin, Yogen & Peggy Dalal, Bruce Golden & Michelle Mercer, Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau, Wayne Jordan & Quinn Delaney, Jonathan Logan & John Piane, Gisele & Kenneth F. Miller, Jack & Betty Schafer, The Strauch Kulhanjian Family, Kelli & Steffan Tomlinson, and Gail & Arne Wagner**.

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#### **ABOUT BERKELEY REP**

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 6 million people have enjoyed more than 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, including 85 world premieres. Berkeley Rep shows have gone on to win eight Tony Awards, nine Obie Awards, 11 Drama Desk Awards,

a Grammy Award, a Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Through its annual seven-play season, together with up to four special event presentations, Berkeley Rep invites audiences to enjoy an eclectic range of theatrical experiences featuring diverse artistic voices, themes, and perspectives. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. Serving some 20,000 people a year, Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre ensures broad access to dynamic arts educational activities, especially for Bay Area youth, and provides immersive training for current and future theatre makers. In 2021, Berkeley Rep launched In Dialogue, a program that places its theatre-making skills and resources in service of the community. Using storytelling as an anchor, In Dialogue is developing long-term collaborations with local, socially centered organizations, as well as educating and activating our audiences around organizations whose work aligns with the themes of our productions. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities—which include the 600-seat Roda Theatre, 400-seat Peet's Theatre, Medak Center, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley—are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at [berkeleyrep.org](https://berkeleyrep.org).