

**BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES
FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR TECTONIC THEATER PROJECT'S
*HERE THERE ARE BLUEBERRIES***

Conceived by Tony and Emmy Award nominee Moisés Kaufman and Emmy Award nominee Amanda Gronich, the acclaimed 2024 Pulitzer Prize-finalist play—based on real events—tells the story behind historical photographs from the Nazi era.

Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre
April 5–May 11, 2025

BERKELEY, CA (February 18, 2025)—Today, **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** announced the full cast and creative team for *Here There Are Blueberries*, the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize finalist play from **Tectonic Theater Project** by Tony and Emmy nominee **Moisés Kaufman** and Emmy nominee **Amanda Gronich**, performing at Berkeley Rep's **Roda Theatre** from **Saturday, April 5 through Sunday, May 11, 2025**. Press night will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. Single tickets (\$25–\$134) are available online at berkeleyrep.org or by phone at 510-647-2949 (Tue–Sun, 12–7 p.m.). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

In 2007, a mysterious album featuring Nazi-era photographs arrived at the desk of a U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum archivist. As curators unraveled the shocking truth behind the images, the album soon made headlines and ignited a debate that reverberated far beyond the museum walls. Based on real events, *Here There Are Blueberries* tells the story of these historical photographs—what they reveal about the perpetrators of the Holocaust, and our own humanity.

The world premiere of *Here There Are Blueberries* was produced in 2022 by La Jolla Playhouse, where it was named one of the Best Plays of 2022 by the *Los Angeles Times*. The play was awarded the Theater J Trish Vradenburg Jewish Play Prize and was nominated for seven Helen Hayes Awards, winning two for Outstanding Director of a Play (Moisés Kaufman) and Outstanding Media/Projection Design (David Bengali) for its 2023 production at Shakespeare Theatre Company. At New York Theatre Workshop, *Here There Are Blueberries* was named a 2024 Pulitzer Prize Finalist for Drama, was the focus of a top-rated CBS "60 Minutes" segment by Anderson Cooper, and became their highest-grossing production in the 45-year history of the institution. *Here There Are Blueberries* is presented by special arrangement with **Tectonic Theater Project, Brian & Dayna Lee, and Sonia Friedman Productions.**

"It is always a pleasure to have Moises Kaufman at Berkeley Rep, this time in partnership with Amanda Gronich," said **Berkeley Rep Artistic Director Johanna Pfaelzer**. "Here There are Blueberries lands at a

moment in which the call to remember the past feels particularly acute. This beautiful play functions like a detective story, with Tectonic’s perpetually innovative style of theatrical storytelling wedded to an exploration of a specific moment in history—one which is in danger of being repeated if we permit ourselves the false luxury of looking away.”

The cast of *Here There Are Blueberries* includes **Scott Barrow** as Karl Höcker, **Barbara Pitts** as Judy Cohen, **Grant Varjas** as Peter Wirths, **Nemuna Ceesay** as Charlotte Schüzel, **Delia Cunningham** as Rebecca Erbeling, **Luke Forbes** as Tilman Taube, **Jeanne Sakata** as Melita Maschmann, and **Marrick Smith** as Rainer Höss. Each actor plays a principal role as well as multiple additional characters. **Sam Reeder** and **Anna Shafer** serve as understudies.

Directed by **Moisés Kaufman**, the creative team of *Here There Are Blueberries* features Tony Award winner **Derek McLane** (Scenic Design), Tony Award winner **Dede Ayite** (Costume Design), Tony Award nominee **David Lander** (Lighting Design), **Bobby McElver** (Sound Design), Tony Award nominee **David Bengali** (Projection Design), **Ann James** (Intimacy Coordinator & Sensitivity Specialist), **Amy Marie Seidel** (Associate Director, Dramaturg, and Deviser), **Stephanie Yankwitt**, **TBD Casting** (Casting), and **Jacob Russell** (Stage Manager).

Here There Are Blueberries is made possible by support from **Bill Falik & Diana Cohen; Jean Strunsky;** and **The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund.**

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART** and **Peet’s Coffee**, its official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to acknowledge 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 Plane, 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 86 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.