

15 YEARS AGO, SHE SLAMMED THE DOOR
NOW SHE'S KICKING IT IN

A

by LUCAS HNATH

directed by JENN THOMPSON

DOLL'S HOUSE

PART 2

January 17 - February 24

theaterworks



from the director

“...bad rules is what they are —

there are so many bad rules in the world, Emmy —
I’m not going to follow these bad rules,
this is my chance to change the rules

because 20, 30 years from now
the world isn’t going to be the kind of place I say it’s
going to be
unless I’m the one to make it that way —”

- Nora to her grown-up daughter, Emmy
in Lucas Hnath’s *A Doll’s House, Part 2*

Bad rules. We had them in 1879 when Henrik Ibsen shocked audiences with a heroine who so unapologetically walked out the door and out of her life as wife and mother. We still have them in 2019, when that same heroine comes roaring out of the past to enlighten and challenge us all over again with her ferocious appetite for freedom - at any cost.

Somehow, magically, Lucas Hnath’s delicious sequel to that infamous classic lives, seamlessly, within two time frames: The literal world of the play, set 15 years after that final door slam and the here and now of our ugly, divided 2019. With wit and bite our new updated Nora punches a hole into the present, still sporting the bruises of the past...asking us to forgive and celebrate her at the same time.

This is a Nora for our now. Messy, complicated, bursting with purpose.

Reminding us that there is still much work to do.

Jenn Thompson

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A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

by Lucas Hnath

directed by Jenn Thompson[†]

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

Nora	TASHA LAWRENCE*
Anne Marie	AMELIA WHITE*
Torvald	SAM GREGORY*
Emmy	KIRA PLAYER

**Norway. Inside the Helmer house.
Fifteen years after Nora left.**

Set Design	ALEXANDER DODGE
Costume Design	ALEJO VIETTI
Lighting Design	PHILIP ROSENBERG
Sound Design	BROKEN CHORD
Wig Design	MARK ADAM RAMPMEYER
Casting	McCORKLE CASTING, LTD
Assistant Director	ERIC ORT
Associate Set Design	ANN BEYERSDORFER
Production Manager	BRIDGET SULLIVAN
Stage Manager	KATE J. CUDWORTH*

Cover Design by **WondriskaRusso**
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Model: **Rosanna Karabetsos**

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2 is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced on Broadway by Scott Rudin, Eli Bush, Joey Parnes,
Sue Wagner, and John Johnson

Commissioned and first produced by South Coast Repertory

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2 benefited from a residency at New Dramatists

[†]Member of SDC, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

*Appearing through an Agreement between **TheaterWorks** and
Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and
Stage Managers in the United States..

**TheaterWorks is celebrating its 33rd season as a non-profit,
professional theater company. Founded in 1985.**

A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2
is the 2nd production of the 2018-2019 Season.

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who



SAM GREGORY (Torvald) is happy to be making his **TheaterWorks** debut. Most recently Sam was Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* at the Denver Center Theatre Company where he has appeared in almost 50 productions. He has done multiple seasons for the Colorado, California, and Alabama Shakespeare Festivals.

He has appeared at the Seattle, Milwaukee and San Jose Reps, Cleveland Play House, Cincinnati Playhouse, American Players Theatre, George Street Playhouse, Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center: New Playwrights Festival, Chautauqua Theatre Company, Two River Theatre Company, Northern Stage Company and the Eureka Theatre Company. And a long time ago, he did some TV: *NY Undercover*, *One Life To Live*, *As The World Turns*.



TASHA LAWRENCE (Nora) is making her **TheaterWorks** debut. She was most recently seen in *The Roommate* at Long Wharf. Broadway: *Good People* (MTC), *Wilder Wilder Wilder* (Circle in the Square, Willow Cabin), *Proof* (Nat'l tour). Off Broadway: *Pipeline* (Lincoln Center); *If I Forget* (Roundabout);

Lost Girls (MCC); *The Few* (Rattlestick); *The Whale* (Drama Desk Nom, Playwrights Horizons); *Asheville, Bhutan*, (Cherry Lane Theatre). Also: *Confederates* (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley), *A Great Wilderness* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); *Good People* (Dorset Theatre); *The Roommate* (Humana Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Bad Dates, Human Error* (City Theatre); *Dangerous Liaisons* (Huntington); *Clover Road* (CATF). Film: *Romance and Cigarettes* (dir: John Turturro); *Hangnail* (Slamdance); *Pooka, Irma and Floyd*. TV: *Looming Towers*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Law and Order*, (Classic, SVU, Criminal Intent); *Third Watch* (recurring); *Deadline*, *Kevin Hill*, *Royal Pains*, *Life with Boys*, and *The Line*, (ACTRA, Gemini Nominations, Best Actress).



KIRA PLAYER (Emmy) is making her **TheaterWorks** debut. She is an NYC-based actor who has appeared in a number of regional plays and workshops, most notably *Women on Fire: Stories from the Frontlines* (Royal Family Productions) and *Anne of Green Gables: Part 1* (Royal Family Productions).

She has also appeared in Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's Apprentice Showcase as Ariel in *The Tempest*. She received her BFA in Acting from Montclair State University and will be returning in the spring to showcase with her classmates. You can follow her on Instagram and keep up to date with all of her upcoming projects @kiraplayer.actor



AMELIA WHITE (Anne Marie) is making her **TheaterWorks** debut. Broadway credits include *Crazy for You* and *The Heiress*. She's worked Off-Broadway at the Atlantic Theater Company, Ground-Up Productions, and received a Theatre World Award for her work in *The Accrington Pals* at the Hudson

Guild. Los Angeles appearances include The Matrix Theatre, Fremont Centre Theatre, and many shows at The Antaeus Company. Her extensive regional theatre credits include *Silent Sky* and most recently *A Christmas Carol* at South Coast Rep as well as work at The Cleveland Play House, The Old Globe, Studio Arena Theatre, Hartford Stage, the Caldwell Theatre, two seasons at Cincinnati Playhouse in The Park, the Guthrie Theater, Geva Theatre, Denver Center Theatre Company, Weston Playhouse, and three seasons at the Dorset Theatre Festival. Film and television include *The Tulse Luper Suitcases*, *The Bastard*, *The Siege of Golden Hill*, *Three Ways to the Sea*, *Judging Amy* and *The Young and The Restless*. She works on radio with the California Artists Radio Theatre. Amelia was born in Nottingham, trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London, and is married to Geoffrey Wade. She is a proud AEA member.



JENN THOMPSON (Director) is a Drama Desk-nominated director, whose work has been seen in NYC and at theaters across the country including at **TheaterWorks** in THE CALL. Recent work for Off-Broadway's Mint Theatre Company includes the critically-acclaimed productions of *Conflict* and *Women Without Men*, which garnered 2016 Lortel and Off-Broadway Alliance Award nominations for Outstanding Revival as well as 5 2016 Drama Desk Award nominations including Outstanding Director. Jenn served as Co-Artistic Director of Off-Broadway's TACT/The Actors Company Theatre from 2011 to 2015, where her directing credits include productions of *The Gravedigger's Lullaby* (world-premiere), *Abundance* (Off-Broadway Alliance Award: Outstanding Revival); *Lost in Yonkers* (Drama Desk Award Nominee: Outstanding Revival) and *The Eccentricities of a Nightingale* (The New York Times-Year in Theater: Top 10), among others. Other NYC: New works at NAMT, NYMF, Abingdon, Rattlestick and The Fringe. Festival. Regional: Chicago Shakespeare Theatre; Denver Center Theatre; Barrington Stage, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Pioneer Theatre Company, City Theatre; Portland Stage Company; Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival; Dorset Theatre Festival as well as *Abundance* (Hartford Stage - multiple 2013 Connecticut Critics Circle nominations including Outstanding Director and Play) and *Oklahoma!*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and later this spring *The Music Man* (Goodspeed Opera House - Multiple 2016 and 2017 Connecticut Critics Circle Award nominations including, Outstanding Director and Musical). Jenn spent 19 seasons with Connecticut's award-winning River Rep at the Ivoryton Playhouse where she served as Producing Director working on over 50 productions. Jenn is married to actor Stephen Kunken, they live in Brooklyn with their 9-year-old daughter, Naomi. jennthompsondirector.com

LUCAS HNATH (Playwright) Plays include *The Christians* (2014 Humana Festival), *Red Speedo* (Studio Theatre, DC), *A Public Reading of an Unproduced Screenplay about the Death of Walt Disney* (Soho Rep), *NightNight* (2013 Humana Festival), *Isaac's Eye* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), *Death Tax* (2012 Humana Festival, Royal Court Theatre),

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and *The Courtship of Anna Nicole Smith* (Actors Theatre of Louisville). His plays are published by Dramatists Play Service. Lucas has been a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2011, and is a proud member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre. Lucas is a winner of the 2012 Whitfield Cook Award for *Isaac's Eye* and received a 2013 Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citation for *Death Tax*. He has also received commissions from the EST/Sloan Project, Actors Theatre of Louisville, South Coast Repertory, Playwrights Horizons, New York University's Graduate Acting Program, and the Royal Court Theatre. Lucas holds a BFA and an MFA from New York University's Department of Dramatic Writing.



ROB RUGGIERO (Producing Artistic Director) has been part of **TheaterWorks** artistic leadership for 26 years. He has directed over 60 shows, including TW productions of *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, *Constellations*, *Next to Normal*, *Relativity* (starring Richard Dreyfuss) and *Christmas on the Rocks*, which he also conceived. His Broadway credits include *Looped* (starring Valerie Harper in a Tony-nominated performance) and *High* (starring Kathleen Turner) which had its world premiere at TW. He also conceived and directed the musical revue *Make Me a Song: The Music of William Finn* which moved off-Broadway and was nominated for Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards. Rob conceived and directed *Ella*, a musical about Ella Fitzgerald, which saw sold-out runs in 24 regional theaters and was produced as a National Tour. His work on plays and musicals has received multiple awards in Connecticut and around the United States. In his eleventh collaboration with Goodspeed Musicals, Rob directed *Oliver* where he also directed many award-winning musical productions. His adaptation of *Show Boat* is now being licensed by the Rogers & Hammerstein Organization. Internationally he directed *Fiddler on the Roof* in Athens, Greece.

ALEXANDER DODGE (Set Design) **TheaterWorks:** Debut. Broadway: *Anastasia*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Present Laughter*, *Old Acquaintance*, *Butley*, *Hedda Gabler*. West End: *All New People*. Off-Broadway: *Harry Clarke* (Vineyard & Minetta Lane) *The Liar* (CSC); *Ripcord* (MTC); *Lips Together Teeth Apart* (Second Stage); *Rapture Blister Burn* (Playwrights Horizon); *Understudy* (Roundabout). Tours: Disney's *Hunchback of Notre Dame*: Germany and Japan; *Anastasia*: Madrid and Stuttgart. Opera: *Samson et Dalila* (Metropolitan Opera); *Thirteenth Child* (Santa Fe); *Ghosts of Versailles* (L.A. Opera); *Dinner at Eight* (Minnesota and Wexford); *Il tritico* (Deutsche Opera Berlin); *Lohengrin*. (Budapest). TV: *Julie's Greenroom* starring Julie Andrews (Netflix). Awards: 2 Tony, Drama Desk, 2 Outer Critics Circle Nominations; Lortel, Eliot Norton, Craig Noel, LA Critics, CT Critics, IRNE Award Winner. MFA: Yale.

ALEJO VIETTI (Costume Design) **TheaterWorks:** *Christmas on the Rocks '13-'18*, *Relativity*, *Venus in Fur*, *Ella*, *Woman Before a Glass*, and *Make Me a Song*. New York: Broadway's *Allegiance* (Drama Desk Nomination), *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (also West End - Olivier Nomination, National Tour, Australia and Japan) and *Holiday Inn*, Manhattan Theatre Club, Atlantic Theatre Company,

Primary Stages, MCC, Radio City Music Hall Rockettes, Irish Rep, The New Group, Cherry Lane, Rattlestick, Soho Rep, and Ensemble Studio Theatre among others. Selected Regional: Hartford Stage, Alley Theatre, Long Wharf, Old Globe, Guthrie, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Goodspeed, La Jolla Playhouse, Arena Stage, Repertory Theatre of Saint Louis, Paper Mill, Pittsburgh Public, Cleveland Play House, Cincinnati Playhouse, Colorado Ballet, Wolf Trap Opera and Minnesota Opera. Others: Ringling Brothers, Edinburgh Fringe, Donetsk Opera (Ukraine). TDF Irene Sharaff Young Master Award Recipient.

PHILIP ROSENBERG (Lighting Design) **TheaterWorks:** *Constellations, Relativity, Freud's Last Session, and Mutherfucker with a Hat.* Broadway: *Pretty Woman: The Musical, The Elephant Man, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and *It's Only a Play.* Off Broadway: *The Cake, The Ruins of Civilization, The Explorer's Club* and *Cactus Flower.* Regional: Kennedy Center, La Jolla Playhouse, Ford's Theatre, The Guthrie Theater, The Old Globe, Hartford Stage, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Dallas Theatre Center, The Alley Theatre, Arena Stage, The McCarter Theatre, Manhattan School of Music, Portland Stage Company, TACT, Barrington Stage Company, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Dorset Theatre Festival, Bay Street Theatre, Goodspeed Opera, Two River Theatre Company, George Street Playhouse, and Westport Country Playhouse.

BROKEN CHORD (Sound Design) Broadway: *The Parisian Woman, Eclipsed.* Off Broadway: Atlantic Theater Company: *Scarcity, The Lying Lesson;* Incubator Arts Project: *OZET;* LCT3: *Bull in a China Shop;* Manhattan Theatre Club: *When We Were Young* and *Unafraid;* Primary Stages: *Informed Consent;* The Public Theater: *The Good Negro, Party People;* Signature Theatre: *The Dance and the Railroad, Appropriate.* Regional: Actors Theatre of Louisville: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer;* Berkeley Rep: *Ruined;* Cleveland Play House: *Fairfield;* Dallas Theater Center: *Hair, The Great Society;* Guthrie Theater: *An Enemy of the People;* Hartford Stage: *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Make Believe;* Huntington Theatre: *A Raisin in the Sun, Top Girls;* Oregon Shakespeare Festival: *UniSon;* Yale Rep: *These Paper Bullets!.* Film: *Fall to Rise, Sunburn.* www.brokenchord.us

MARK ADAM RAMPMEYER (Wig Design) is thrilled to start 2019 at **TheaterWorks** and to be reunited with one of his favorite directors, Jenn Thompson. Mark and Jenn collaborated on productions of *Bye Bye Birdie, Oklahoma!,* and the upcoming season opener of *The Music Man* for Goodspeed Musicals. He has designed hair and make-up at **TheaterWorks** for the holiday hit *Christmas on the Rocks* for the past 5 seasons as well as last year's big hair hit *The Legend of Georgia McBride.* His work has been seen on Broadway in *West Side Story, Lysistrata Jones,* and *The Farnsworth Invention* to name a few. Mark has designed several productions for Hartford Stage Company and many other regional theaters nationwide. He is the recipient of a special Drama Desk award for his contributions to the creative team for Horton Foote's *The Orphans' Home Cycle.* Mark is the Costume Rental Manager and Resident Hair and Make-Up Designer for Goodspeed Musicals in East Haddam. *peep*

who

MCCORKLE CASTING, LTD (Casting) Pat McCorkle, CSA & Katja Zarolinski, CSA. Broadway: Over 50 productions including: *On The Town*, *Amazing Grace*, *End of the Rainbow*, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, *Amadeus*, *She Loves Me*, *A Few Good Men*. etc. Off-Broadway: Over 60 productions: Highlights: *Party Face* *Clever Little Lies*, *Tribes*, *Our Town* (Barrow Street), *Freud's Last Session*, *Toxic Avenger*, *Almost Maine*, *Driving Miss Daisy*. Feature films: *Mental State*, *Senior Moment*, *Child of Grace*, *Year by the Sea*, *Premium Rush*, *Ghost Town*, *The Thomas Crown Affair*, *Die Hard with a Vengeance*, *School Ties*, etc. Television: *Twisted*, *Humans for Sesame Street*, *Hack* (CBS), *Californication* (Emmy Nomination), *Max Bickford* (CBS), *Chappelle's Show*, *Strangers with Candy*, *Barbershop*, etc. www.mccorklecasting.com.



ERIC ORT (Assistant Director) directed *The Wolves* at **TheaterWorks**. He joined the staff in 2016, but has been affiliated with the theater for four seasons as assistant director for seven shows including *Next To Normal*, *Midsummer*, *Dancing Lessons*, and *Time Stands Still*. A theater educator, Eric was director of theater at Miss Porter's School for six years where favorite productions included: *The Children's Hour*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Metamorphoses*, *The Secret Garden* and *Working*. Other directing projects include work at Brooklyn College, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, The Hartt School and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. Eric has taught at Brooklyn College and is currently an adjunct faculty member at The Hartt School, University of Hartford. Eric is a graduate of Brooklyn College, The University of Chicago and Vassar College. www.ericort.com

BRIDGET SULLIVAN (Production Manager) joined the **TheaterWorks** team in 2016. Her experience includes production and project management, as well as many years in the world of props. Head of production for the Weston Playhouse Theatre Company in Vermont for 7 years, Bridget's past work also includes managing celebrity concerts at North Shore Music Theatre and being Project Manager for Barbizon Lighting Company. Other credits include City Theatre Company in Pittsburgh and the Santa Fe Opera. She's looking forward to this renovation season after working through renovations at Weston and NSMT. Go Team TW!

KATE J. CUDWORTH (Production Stage Manager) has enjoyed six seasons with **TheaterWorks** including *The River*, *Hand to God*, *The Invisible Hand*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, *The Wolves*, *Fade*, *Next to Normal*, *Sunset Baby*, *Relativity*, *Midsummer*, *Woody Sez* and *Becoming Dr. Ruth*. Off-Broadway: *Freud's Last Session*, [title of show]. NY/Regional: Barrington Stage Company (8 seasons including *Freud's Last Session*; *Dr. Ruth*, *All The Way*; Joe Iconis' *The Black Suits*), Atlantic Stage Company, Hartford Stage, Manhattan School of Music (4 seasons), Yale Opera, York Theatre Company, Bronx Opera Company, Fringe NYC, NYMF.



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A year of transformation and new experiences.

Happy 2019! What a year we have ahead of us. **Beginning in March**, our theater will undergo a \$5.5 million renovation, upgrading our theater spaces and securing our place in downtown Hartford for years to come. It's an exciting time!

These improvements will have a profound impact on your experience and for our guest artists, but they will not alter that personal, intimate experience we all value so deeply.

While we renovate, we'll be temporarily housed over at the Wadsworth in their charming historic theater. It's just a few blocks away, so you can still park and eat at your favorite places, or you can explore new experiences near Front Street.

When you return to our building in the fall, you'll encounter all sorts of wonderful new things. You'll no longer have to share two small bathrooms with our actors, and you'll be able to watch our shows in new seats (with lumbar support!). There will be a dedicated elevator in our newly designed lobby to take you to the theater, and the historic staircase will be re-opened. Plus much more...

We are also going to fix a lot of things that need updating. Did you know that currently our stage manager can't see the entire stage from the production booth and that many of the AC units throughout the building have died? In fact, there really isn't enough electricity coming into the building to fulfill all of our needs – it's time.

It will truly be transformative, but **we need the support and patience of patrons like you** to see it through — and once we get to the other side, we'll all celebrate together.

As the journey continues, you can learn more about what's going on and the ways you can help at **twreno.org**. We hope you're as excited as we are by what lies ahead and we look forward to making the journey together.

Put on your hardhat. Here we go!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rob'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'R' and a smaller 'ob'.

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Building the Dream
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foh interns

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Natalie Livingston

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Phillip McInerney

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electricians

Megan O'Brien

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Jodi Stone

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