American Repertory Theater



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World Premiere of Amir Nizar Zuabi's *This Is Who I Am*, Directed by Evren Odcikin, to Open December 13

Performances Now Run December 5, 2020 - January 3, 2021

PlayCo and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, in association with American Repertory Theater at Harvard University, the Guthrie Theater, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival, today announce that Amir Nizar Zuabi's *This Is Who I Am*, directed by Evren Odcikin, opens officially on Sunday, December 13, at 4pm EST. This world premiere run of the play—all performances of which take place live—now runs December 5 - January 3.

In *This Is Who I Am*, an estranged father and son separated by continents reunite over Zoom. From their respective kitchens in Ramallah and New York City, they recreate a cherished family recipe and struggle to bridge the gap between them, one ingredient at a time. Told through the intimacy of a video call with humor and humanity, Amir Nizar Zuabi's new play explores the unpredictable nature of grief and the delicacy of family connection across geographical and generational divides.

This Is Who I Am's cast includes **Ramsey Faragallah** (Dad) and **Yousof Sultani** (Son). The design team, working with actors to adapt their home kitchens for live performances of the play, includes **Mariana Sanchez** (Set), **Dina EI-Aziz** (Costume Consultant), **Reza Behjat** (Lighting), **James Ard** (Sound), and **Ido Levran** (Video Systems Editor); **Joseph Haj** is the production dramaturg.

See the previous release for full production information—note that dates within have changed.

Performance Schedule and Tickets

Preview performances begin December 5 at 4pm EST and continue December 8 and 10-12 at 8:30pm EST and December 6 and 9 at 4pm EST.

Critics are welcome as of December 13 at 4pm EST, which also serves as the production's official opening—RSVP information to follow.

Post-opening performances take place December 15-19, 22, 23, 26-30 and January 2 at 8:30pm EST and December 20, 26, 27, 31, January 2 and 3 at 4pm EST.

Tickets to *This Is Who I Am* start at \$15 and are available online at <u>woollymammoth.net</u>, by phone at (202) 393-3939, and via email at <u>tickets@woollymammoth.net</u>. To make this production accessible for as many audiences as possible, \$5 tickets are available for preview performances with the code EVERYONE5.

About American Repertory Theater

American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by programming transformative theatrical experiences, always including the audience as a central partner, and is committed to a long-term process of centering anti-racism in its practice, policies, culture, pedagogy, governance and organizational structure. Under the leadership of Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. has received 19 Tony Awards including: Pippin, The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess, and All the Way. Other Broadway productions include Jagged Little Pill; Waitress (also US National Tour and in London's West End); Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812; Finding Neverland; The Glass Menagerie; and Once. A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models. As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages more than 5,000 community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area. A.R.T. acknowledges that its theaters are situated on the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Massachusett Tribe.

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