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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### EVENT-RELATED IMAGES FOR DOWNLOAD

# AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH ITS PRODUCTION OF *TWO STRANGERS (CARRY A CAKE ACROSS NEW YORK)*

## SPEED FRIENDING, SCAVENGER HUNT AT HARVARD ART MUSEUMS, FILM SERIES AT THE BRATTLE, AND MORE

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University has announced programming and audience engagement associated with its upcoming production of *Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*. The North American premiere of the hit West End rom-com musical begins performances at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square on Tuesday, May 20, opens officially on Friday, May 30, and runs through Sunday, June 29, 2025.

### AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

- **Essential Question:** *We all tell ourselves stories about our own lives. Why do we need these stories? Which ones help us, and which ones hold us back?*

A.R.T. leads with inquiry and believes in asking questions in a spirit of brave curiosity in a never-ending journey of learning and growth. For each production, the creative team, company, and Engagement team develop an Essential Question to guide work in the rehearsal room, onstage, and for engaging with audiences.

- **In the Loeb Drama Center West Lobby**

In ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)***, Dougal and Robin discover the meaningful impact on each of their lives a stranger can make.

A.R.T. invites audiences to think about someone who has made a meaningful impact on their life—a friend, family member, or near-stranger—and to drop them a note letting them know you’re thinking of them using a provided custom postcard. Deliver it by hand or leave it in the mailbox in the lobby for A.R.T. to send.

- **Recommended Reading List**

In partnership with Harvard Book Store, enhance your ***Two Strangers*** experience by diving into this fun summer reading list put together by booksellers. It features weddings-gone-wrong and rom-coms with a twist, with themes of the “fresh, funny, ironic, and inventive” (*The Observer*) new musical that balances life’s sweetness and struggle.

See the list at [amrep.org/2SReading](https://amrep.org/2SReading).

## **EVENTS AND CONVERSATIONS**

- **Two Strangers (Share a Pint): Speed-Friending at Aeronaut Allston**

Friday, May 23 at 5:30PM | Aeronaut Allston, 267 Western Ave., Boston

Sometimes the briefest encounters leave the longest impact—that’s what the characters in American Repertory Theater’s rom-com musical discover.

Join A.R.T., the B-Side, and Aeronaut Brewing Company as they team up again to make those brief encounters happen through speed-friending. In each round, pair up with someone you’ve never met and spend 3 minutes discussing a provided prompt or anything else you want. Grab your favorite drink from Aeronaut, pick up some B-Side swag, and enter to win free tickets to ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)***, called “funny and heartfelt” by *The Guardian*. Happy friending!

Aeronaut is a 21+ venue, and all guests will need to have an eligible and valid ID ready for review as they enter the space. If there are underage guests, they will need to be accompanied by their own parent or guardian for the duration of their visit.

RSVP at [amrep.org/2Sspeedfriending](https://amrep.org/2Sspeedfriending).

- **Two Strangers (Search for Clues): Harvard Art Museums at Night Scavenger Hunt**

Thursday, May 29 at 5PM | Harvard Art Museums, 32 Quincy St, Cambridge

Join A.R.T., Harvard Art Museums, and the B-Side for another special addition to the Harvard Art Museums at Night: a themed scavenger hunt that will take you on an evening adventure

through the galleries! You'll navigate twists, turns, and the occasional spontaneous musical number for a chance to win exclusive prizes, including free tickets to A.R.T.'s ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)***, the hit musical rom-com with a delicious twist. Whether you win or not, don't let the fun end there—head over to the 7:30PM performance of ***Two Strangers*** that night!

**Harvard Art Museums at Night** features food and drink from local vendors, music, and an opportunity to explore the galleries after hours. Advance registration is encouraged, but walk-in visitors are always welcome. Please note that space may be limited due to capacity. More info at [amrep.org/2Ssearchforclues](https://amrep.org/2Ssearchforclues).

*WBUR is the media partner for Harvard Art Museums at Night. This event is part of ArtsThursdays, a university-wide initiative supported by Harvard University Committee on the Arts (HUCA).*

- **Two Strangers (Split a Popcorn): Before Trilogy with The Brattle Theatre**  
June 2, June 9, and June 16 at 8PM | Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge

Inspired by both traditional and non-traditional rom-coms, writers Jim Barne and Kit Buchan created a “fresh, funny, ironic, and inventive” (*The Observer*) new musical that balances life's sweetness and struggle, reminding us that brief interactions can make meaningful impact on our lives. Join A.R.T. and The Brattle Theatre for screenings of some of the rom-coms that inspired Jim and Kit in writing ***Two Strangers***: Richard Linklater's *Before* trilogy, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy.

- Monday, June 2 at 8PM: *Before Sunrise*
- Monday, June 9 at 8PM: *Before Sunset*
- Monday, June 16 at 8PM: *Before Midnight*

Tickets will be available soon. More info at [amrep.org/2SBrattle](https://amrep.org/2SBrattle).

- **Two Strangers (Crash a Wedding): A Post-show Conversation with Meredith Goldstein and Rachel Raczka**  
Tuesday, June 10 following the 7:30PM show | Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge

Weddings are the best kind of mess. Big or small, they bring together unlikely friends, estranged family, an occasional ex from college, and random loved ones who try to behave, even when it's hard. Join *The Boston Globe* [Love Letters](#) advice columnist/[podcast host](#) **Meredith Goldstein** for a conversation with **Rachel Raczka**, who writes the *Globe*'s new weddings column, [The Big Day](#). They'll talk about the performance, their columns, and how weddings can change us, even before we get there.

Free with a ticket to any performance of ***Two Strangers***, which are available at [amrep.org/2Scrashawedding](https://amrep.org/2Scrashawedding).

## ACCESS PERFORMANCES

- **ASL Interpreted\***  
Wednesday, June 18 at 7:30PM and Saturday, June 21 at 2PM
- **Audio Described\***  
Wednesday, June 25 at 7:30PM and Saturday, June 28 at 2PM
- **Open Captioned\***  
Wednesday, June 25 at 7:30PM and Saturday, June 28 at 2PM
- **Sensory Inclusive\***  
Sunday, June 22 at 2PM.

Book Access seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300, or calling 617.547.8300

## TWO STRANGERS (CARRY A CAKE ACROSS NEW YORK) INFORMATION

Loeb Drama Center | May 20 – June 29, 2025

“Effervescent and uplifting!” — *British Vogue*

“Funny, heartfelt, but unsentimental. It’s a charmer.” — *The Guardian*

“★★★★★ Flawless! A pick-me-up of a show, what we need in hard times.” — *The Observer*

A naïve and impossibly upbeat Brit, Dougal, has just landed in New York for his dad’s second wedding—the dad he’s never known. Robin, the sister of the bride, is at the airport to pick him up—and she’s late for work. Hungry for an adventure in the city he’s only seen in movies, Dougal hopes native New Yorker Robin will be his guide. Taking inspiration from traditional rom-coms, this “fresh, funny, ironic, and inventive” (*The Observer*) new musical balances life’s sweetness and struggle as Dougal and Robin discover the meaningful impact on each of their lives a stranger can make.

**Tickets from \$43** (\$35 plus \$8 ticket administration fee) are available at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Two-Strangers](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Two-Strangers) and 617.547.8300. Discounts are available to students and ticket-buyers under age 25, Blue Star families, EBT cardholders, seniors, Harvard faculty and staff, groups of 10+, and others, as well as through **Take Five**.

- **Take Five** invites community members who feel attending theater is financially out of reach or want to take a chance on something new to experience the A.R.T. with a **\$5 ticket** (fees waived). Call 617.547.8300 or email [ticketsservices@amrep.org](mailto:ticketsservices@amrep.org) for **Take Five** tickets. Availability is limited; additional blocks of **Take Five** tickets will be released in the coming weeks.

More information at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit).

***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*** is a Kiln Theatre production and previously played at the West End's Criterion Theatre. The ***Two Strangers*** London cast album is currently available on [all major streaming platforms](#).

Production support of ***Two Strangers (Carry a Cake Across New York)*** is provided by **The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust** and **Katie and Paul Bittenwieser**.

A.R.T.'s 2024/25 Season support is provided by **Harvard University, The Barr Foundation, The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund, The Shubert Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Barton & Guestier, and Meyer Sound.**

## **ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

**The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University** is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus began her tenure in 2008 and leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began in 2022. A.R.T. is a creative hub, launching productions seen on Broadway, across the US, and around the world and receiving dozens of Tony, Drama Desk, Olivier and other nominations and awards throughout its 45-year history. As the professional theater on campus, A.R.T. plays a central role at Harvard University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange, and sharing University resources with the broader community. Driven by its value to lead with inquiry, A.R.T. builds community with audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. In 2026, A.R.T. will relocate from Harvard Square to its new home in Boston, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity and Performance. Currently under construction, this new, inspiring center will include flexible adaptive spaces to rehearse, create, teach, and convene in community, fueling A.R.T.'s vision and creative work for years to come.

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