



1972



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**AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES
CREATIVE TEAM AND ASSOCIATED PROGRAMMING
FOR WORLD-PREMIERE ROCK OPERA
*1972***

**TICKETS GO ON SALE TODAY FOR PERFORMANCES
OCT. 27 – NOV. 22, 2026**

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University announced today the creative team for its world-premiere production of ***1972*** by musician-activist Chadwick Stokes of the Boston-based indie bands DISPATCH and State Radio and Jessie Nelson (*Waitress*, *I Am Sam*). The rock opera will be performed as a heightened concert at Harvard’s Farkas Hall Tuesday, October 27 through Sunday, November 22, 2026.

1972 will celebrate its opening on Sunday, November 1, welcome press on Wednesday, November 4, and run through Sunday, November 22, 2026. Special guests will be in conversation following select performances, and a special exhibition will be on view on select dates. See more information below.

1972 will feature scenic design by Drama Desk nominee **Amy Rubin** (*Romeo and Juliet*, *Gloria: A Life* at A.R.T.); costume design by Drama Desk Award winner **Nicole Jescinth Smith** (“Ramy” and “Up Here” on Hulu); lighting design by Tony Award nominee **Ben Stanton** (*Marjorie Prime*, *Maybe Happy Ending* on Broadway); sound design by Tony Award nominee **Justin Stasiw** (*Night Side Songs* at A.R.T.; *Lempicka* on Broadway). **Jacob Yates** is the music director. **Sarah Ford** is the Production Stage Manager. Casting is by **The Telsey Company**. **Claire Chrzan** is the associate lighting designer.

“I am so happy to be back at A.R.T. exploring a story that lets us look at the extraordinary courage of people often overlooked and deemed ordinary,” said director and playwright **Jessie Nelson**. “It’s a story that shines a light on an untold moment in history and helps us see the world through someone else’s eyes; it shifts our perspectives and pushes back against the things that tear us apart. We all look for theater that meets the moment—**1972** does.”

See creative team bios [here](#).

In **1972**, a pregnant Hannah flees an abusive relationship and finds unexpected camaraderie with three outcasts riding the rails of America, outrunning ghosts of their own. After barely escaping an illegal abortion, she meets the Janes, an underground network of courageous women who risk everything to provide a choice to women with nowhere to turn. Inspired by true stories of these hidden heroes, this world-premiere rock opera fuels the ongoing fight for personal freedom.

Tickets are available to the public for purchase starting at noon on Thursday, September 17, at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org and by calling 617.547.8300.

Production support of **1972** is provided by **The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund** and by **Regina K. Scully and Artemis Rising Foundation**.

ACT II

Select performances of **1972** will culminate in **Act II** events including talking circles and facilitated conversations with local civic leaders, scholars, and activists. **Act II** events invite audience members to move into dialogue with one another and to deepen their engagement with A.R.T. productions and themes. Admission to **Act II** events is included with a ticket to **1972**. Guests are subject to change.

1972 Act II guests will include:

- Saturday, October 31, 7:30PM performance: Jeanne Galatzer-Levy, Abby Pariser, and Sheila Avruch, members of the Jane Collective.
- Tuesday, November 3, 7:30PM performance: Director Jessie Nelson and Composer and Lyricist Chadwick Stokes, co-writers of **1972**.

- Friday, November 6, 7:30PM performance: Claire Teylouni, Interim Executive Director / Senior Director of Policy & Programs from Reproductive Equity Now.
- Tuesday, November 10, 7:30PM performance: Kate Hamill, playwright and actor (***The Odyssey*** and ***Sense and Sensibility*** at A.R.T.).
- Wednesday, November 11, 7:30PM performance: David Jones, Professor of the Culture of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, and Louise King, Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School.
- Friday, November 13, 7:30PM performance: Heather Booth, founding member of the Jane Collective.
- Tuesday, November 17, 7:30PM performance: Talking circle launched by Lisa Wong, Associate Co-Director and Co-Founder of the Arts and Humanities Initiative at Harvard Medical School.

POP-UP EXHIBITIONS

The Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at the Harvard-Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study will curate a series of pop-up exhibitions to enhance audiences' understanding and connection to the production. Archived writings, literature, posters, and news articles from early 1970s will be on view at 3 James St, Cambridge, MA. Admission to the pop-up exhibitions is free and open to the public.

- Friday, October 30, 3PM - 5PM
- Tuesday, November 3, 1PM - 3PM
- Tuesday, November 10, 3PM - 5PM

A.R.T. 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.**

A.R.T. TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets from \$45 (including fees) are available at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/1972. Discounts are available to full-time K-12, college, and university students and anyone under age 25; Blue Star families; Massachusetts SNAP/EBT, WIC, and ConnectorCare cardholders; seniors, Harvard faculty and staff; and others. More information at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Plan-Your-Visit/.

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER (A.R.T.) AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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. Led

by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus, A.R.T. is a Tony Award-winning creative hub, launching productions seen on Broadway, across the US, and around the world 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. The A.R.T.'s new home in Boston, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity & Performance is currently under construction and will welcome its first audiences in May 2027. The new 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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