CONTACT: Denise Schneider and Ata Younan **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

312.443.5151 or Press@GoodmanTheatre.org **February 19, 2024**IMAGES: [Goodman Press Room](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/u35qjbsju9ipvrw9pqr1d/h?rlkey=12ysqq6zixp19mpbmc4sq5wdq&dl=0)

***THE MATCHBOX MAGIC FLUTE*, A FAMILY-FRIENDLY OPERA IN MINIATURE,OPENS TONIGHT ON THE OWEN STAGE AND EXTENDS FOR A SECOND TIME THROUGH MARCH 24**

**\*\*\***[**PHOTOS AND VIDEOS**](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kjgvvioej2swn3x/AABF9o0iTFktokh_jKINoy5Oa?dl=0) **OF MARY ZIMMERMAN’S WORLD-PREMIERE ADAPTATION ARE NOW AVAILABLE\*\*\***



(Chicago, IL) Goodman Theatre Manilow Resident Director **Mary Zimmerman**’s newest production, *The Matchbox Magic Flute*, opens tonight and extends its run a second time. The Tony Award-winning director’s world-premiere-in-miniature adaptation of Mozart’s magical family-friendly opera features a 15-member company (10 actors and five musicians) and marks Zimmerman’s 18th production over a three-decade Goodman artistic affiliation. Prince Tamino (**Billy Rude**) embarks on a journey to rescue Princess Pamina (**Marlene Fernandez**)—the daughter of the Queen of the Night (**Emily Rohm**)—all with the help of a magical flute. Audiences aged 8+ will enjoy the fantastical characters coming to life in this hero’s quest, revealing that things are not always as they seem. [Photos and broadcast-quality video](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kjgvvioej2swn3x/AABF9o0iTFktokh_jKINoy5Oa?dl=0) of the world-premiere production are now available. *The Matchbox Magic Flute* appears February 10 – March 24. Tickets ($35 - $105; subject to change) are available at GoodmanTheatre.org/Flute or by phone at 312.443.3800. Goodman Theatre is grateful for the support of Mayer Brown, LLP (Corporate Sponsor), PAXXUS Inc. (Contributing Sponsor) and Russell Reynolds Associates (Contributing Sponsor).

**EXTENSION WEEK PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, March 19 @ 7:30pm

Wednesday, March 20 @ 7:30pm

Thursday, March 21 @ 2pm and 7:30pm

Friday, March 22 @ 7:30pm

Saturday, March 23 @ 2pm and 7:30pm

Sunday, March 24 @ 2pm

**Full Company of *The Matchbox Magic Flute*** (in alphabetical order)

Adapted and Directed by **Mary Zimmerman**

**Marlene Fernandez**…..Pamina

**Keanon Kyles**……Sarastro/Second Armored Man

**Russell Mernagh**…..Monostatos/First Armored Man

**Lauren Molina**……First Lady/Papagena

**Tina Muñoz Pandya**……Third Lady

**Reese Parish**…….The Spirit

**Shawn Pfautsch**…...Papageno

**Emily Rohm**…..Queen of the Night

**Billy Rude**….Tamino

**Monica West**…..Second Lady

**Creative Team**

Music Adaptor and Arranger…**Amanda Dehnert** and **Andre Pluess**

Music Director….**Amanda Dehnert**

Sound Designer ….**Andre Pluess**

Associate Music Director/Conductor….**Paul Mutzabaugh**

Set Designer…..**Todd Rosenthal**

Costume Designer ……**Ana Kuzmanic**

Lighting Designer…..**T.J. Gerckens**

Wig & Hair Designer….**Charles “Chuck” LaPointe**

Assistant Director….**Nora Geffen**

Understudies for this production include **Dario Amador-Lage** (Tamino), **Ann Delaney** (Papagena/Lady), **Devin DeSantis** (Papageno/Monostatos), **Holly Hinchliffe** (Pamina/Spirit), **Nathan Karnik** (Sarastro) and **Emilie Lynn** (Queen of the Night/Lady). Casting is by **Lauren Port**, CSA. **Patrick Fries** is the Production Stage Manager and **Beth Koehler** is the Stage Manager.

**ENHANCED AND ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES AT GOODMAN THEATRE**

*Visit Goodman theatre.org/Access for more information about Goodman Theatre’s accessibility efforts.*

Touch Tour and Audio-Described Performance: March 3, 12:30pm Tour; 2pm performance – The action/text is audibly enhanced for patrons via headset.

ASL-Interpreted Performance: Saturday, March 9 at 2pm – Professional ASL interpreter signs the action/text as played.

Spanish-Subtitled Performance: Saturday, March 9 at 7:30pm – An LED sign presents Spanish-translated dialogue in sync with the performance.

Open-Captioned Performance: Sunday, March 10 at 2pm – An LED sign presents dialogue in sync with the performance.

**ABOUT GOODMAN THEATRE**

Chicago’s theater since 1925, **Goodman Theatre** is a not-for-profit arts and community organization in the heart of the Loop, distinguished by the excellence and scope of its artistic programming and community engagement. Led by Artistic Director **Susan V. Booth** and Executive Director/CEO **Roche Schulfer**, the theater’s artistic priorities include new play development (more than 150 world or American premieres), large scale musical theater works and reimagined classics. Artists and productions have earned two Pulitzer Prizes, 22 Tony Awards and more than 160 Jeff Awards, among other accolades.

The Goodman is the first theater in the world to produce all 10 plays in August Wilson’s “American Century Cycle.” Its longtime annual holiday tradition *A Christmas Carol*, now in its fifth decade, has created a new generation of theatergoers in Chicago. The Goodman also frequently serves as a production and program partner with national and international companies and Chicago’s Off-Loop theaters.

Using the tools of theatrical practice, the Goodman’s Education and Engagement programs aim to develop generations of citizens who understand and empathize with cultures and stories of diverse voices. The Goodman’s Alice Rapoport Center for Education and Engagement is the home of these programs, which are offered for Chicago youth—85% of whom come from underserved communities—schools and life-long learners.

Goodman Theatre was built on the traditional homelands of the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi Nations. We recognize that many other Nations consider the area we now call Chicago as their traditional homeland—including the Myaamia, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac and Fox, Peoria, Kaskaskia, Wea, Kickapoo and Mascouten—and remains home to many Native peoples today. While we believe that our city’s vast diversity should be reflected on the stages of its largest theater, we acknowledge that our efforts have largely overlooked the voices of our Native peoples. This omission has added to the isolation, erasure and harm that Indigenous communities have faced for hundreds of years. We have begun a more deliberate journey towards celebrating Native American stories and welcoming Indigenous communities.

Goodman Theatre was founded by William O. Goodman and his family in honor of their son Kenneth, an important figure in Chicago’s cultural renaissance in the early 1900s. The Goodman family’s legacy lives on through the continued work and dedication of Kenneth’s family, including Albert Ivar Goodman, who with his late mother, Edith-Marie Appleton, contributed the necessary funds for the creation on the new Goodman center in 2000.

**Julie Danis** is Chair of Goodman Theatre’s Board of Trustees, **Lorrayne Weiss** is Women’s Board President and **Kelli Garcia** is President of the Scenemakers Board for young professionals.

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