



Geva
Theatre
Center

The World Premiere of



Splitting Infinity

By Jamie Pachino
Directed by Mark Cuddy

April 18 - May 14, 2006

Produced with support from:



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Geva
Theatre
Center

Artistic Director
MARK CUDDY

Managing Director
JOHN QUINLIVAN

Executive Director
NAN HILDEBRANDT

presents

The World Premiere of

SPLITTING INFINITY

Written by
JAMIE PACHINO

Directed by
MARK CUDDY

Scenic & Costume Design
G.W. MERCIER

Lighting Design
ANN G. WRIGHTSON

Sound Design
LINDSAY JONES

Dramaturg
MARGE BETLEY

Stage Manager
FRANK CAVALLO

Assistant Stage Manager
KIRSTEN BRANNEN

Apprentice Stage Manager
CHERYL CARROLL

Production Manager
JOEL MARKUS

Casting
**ELISSA MYERS &
PAUL FOUQUET, CSA**

*This play was originally commissioned and developed through the
New Plays Initiative by Steppenwolf Theater Company, Chicago, IL,
Martha Lavey, Artistic Director, David Hawkanson, Executive Director.*

Special thanks to The Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation Theatre Visions Program

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CAST
(in order of appearance)

Morgan Hallett	Young Leigh
Paul Kropfl	Young Saul
Elizabeth Hess	Leigh Sangold
Michael Zlabinger	Robbie March
Michael Rupert	Saul Lieberman
Deborah Leydig	Mrs. March

SETTING & TIME:

The play takes place in both 1979 and the present.

1979: The prime focus cage of a large astronomical telescope;
and the park below it.

2006: Leigh Sangold's university office/lab; a hospital room; a synagogue.

The action in 2006 takes place in the 10 days between the Jewish New Year,
Rosh Hashana, and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

There will be one 20-minute intermission.



ssdc



The Actors and Stage Managers in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association,
the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

The Director is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc.,
an independent national labor union.

The Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Designers in LORT Theatres are represented
by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829, IATSE.

Please note that the taking of photographs or use of recording devices during the performance is not permitted. Cell phones and all other electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the theatre.

This theatre operates under agreements between the League of Resident Theatres (LORT),
a consortium of regional theatres throughout the nation, and Actors' Equity Association, the union of
professional actors and stage managers in the United States, and the Society of Stage Directors &
Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.

Geva Theatre Center is a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG),
the national service organization for non-profit, professional theatres.

JUDAISM & RITUAL: THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

Splitting Infinity takes place during the Jewish High Holidays, the period beginning with Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, and ending with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. The High Holidays are also called "Days of Awe." According to the Talmud, all of man's actions over the course of the year are judged by God, and on Yom Kippur, judgment is passed. The time in between is known as the Ten Days of Repentance or Ten Days of Penitence. They are "regarded as man's last chance, through his actions, to influence God to reconsider an unfavorable decision." As Leigh explains in the play, for the sins that are committed against God, one must seek forgiveness from God, but for the sins that are committed against another person, one must atone and ask forgiveness of that person directly. There are specific services and rituals that are performed during the High Holidays, including fasting from Yom Kippur eve (sunset of the day preceding Yom Kippur) until sunset on Yom Kippur itself. Yom Kippur is generally considered to be the most sacred day of the Jewish religious year.

**The conflict between science and religion
is in reality a misunderstanding of both.**

C A R L J U N G

*Special thanks to Adam Frank, Professor of Physics & Astronomy,
Theoretical Astrophysics and Plasma Physics at the University of Rochester,
for his contributions to this production.*

*Thanks to Carol Latta, Teaching Assistant, Physics & Astronomy,
University of Rochester, for research support.*

Dramaturgical research support provided by Amy Jensen and Jean Gordon Ryon.

The Artistic Company

MORGAN HALLETT (*Young Leigh*) is proud to make her Geva Theatre Center debut in



Splitting Infinity. Ms. Hallett made her Broadway debut in Robert Falls' Tony award-winning production of *Long Day's Journey into Night* (Cathleen). Her most recent regional cred-

its include *Love, Janis* at Actors Theatre of Louisville and Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, *Vincent in Brixton* at Virginia Stage Company, *Worksong* at City Theatre, *A Death in the House* . . . at Alliance Theatre Company and *Frame 312* at Actor's Theatre of Phoenix. Ms. Hallett spent five seasons at the Denver Center Theatre Company where her credits included *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Helen), *Hamlet* (Ophelia), *Much Ado about Nothing* (Hero), *Pierre* (world premiere by Jeffrey Hatcher), *Love's Labor's Lost* (Rosaline) and *Tantalus* (directed by Sir Peter Hall). Film and television credits include "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," award winning short film *The Reader* and *Population 436*. She holds an MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory.

ELIZABETH HESS (*Leigh Sangold*) is thrilled to return to Geva after appearing in *Italian-*



American Reconciliation here 17 years ago. Ms. Hess has starred Off Broadway, regionally and internationally in her solo trilogy *Living Openly & Notoriously*. She has worked at such Broadway and

Off-Broadway theatres as The New Group, Women's Project and Prods., Irish Arts Center, Manhattan Theatre Club, UBU Rep, New York Theatre Workshop and Chareeva Playhouse. Ms. Hess has also worked at

several regional theatres including ART, Cleveland Playhouse, Wilma Theater, Capitol Rep., TheaterWorks, Royal George, Royal Alexandra, Seattle Rep., StageWest, McCarter, Denver Center and Seven Angels. Television credits include "Law & Order," "Guiding Light," "All My Children," "Another World" and five seasons starring on "Clarissa Explains it All." She has also been in the films *Soldier's Heart*, *A Bedtime Story*, *Italian Lessons* and *Buddy & Grace*. Ms Hess is a graduate of The London Academy of Dramatic Art and currently teaches Undergraduate Acting at NYU and Fordham University.

PAUL KROPFL (*Young Saul*) is honored to be making his Geva debut in the world



premiere of *Splitting Infinity*. Mr. Kropfl recently appeared opposite Theodore Bikel in the critically acclaimed *The Chosen* (Reuven Malter) at both the Coconut Grove Playhouse in

Miami and the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey, his home state. Other roles include *A Brilliant Play* by John McEnroe (Vitas Gerulaitis) at Gene Frankel Theatre; the world premiere of Gerald Stern's *Father Guzman* (The Boy) at Harold Clurman Laboratory Theatre Company; *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Edmund) at TheatreWorks USA; and *The Outsiders* (Johnny) at National Theatre of the Performing Arts. As a director, he has helmed the new play *Promised Land* and the short film *The Ballad of Rosie Graves*, both for the Outlaw Project, an emerging artistic collective of which he is a co-founder. Mr. Kropfl is also a member of the National Piano Players Guild and holds a BFA in Drama from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. This performance is for his grandparents

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