

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (401) 484.0355, jeff.church.jr@gmail.com

Burbage Theatre Co concludes their 13th Season with the Rhode Island premiere of The Legend of Georgia McBride directed by Gia Yarn

PAWTUCKET, RI May 6, 2025 —

Following their critically acclaimed production of Simon Stephens' *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, based on the novel by Mark Haddon, **Burbage Theatre Co concludes their 13th Season with the Rhode Island premiere of Matthew López's** *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, directed by Gia Yarn.

The Legend of Georgia McBride will be presented for a limited engagement of 12 performances from May 22 through June 8 at Burbage Theatre Co's Wendy Overly Studio Theatre.

"The Legend of Georgia McBride is an absolute delight from start to finish, that is at once a heartfelt, feel-good comedy and a spirited defense and glimpse into the world of drag as a way of life and form of cultural protest. Georgia McBride is of Matthew López's first major works, preceding his American epic The Inheritance. Casey, the play's protagonist, is thrown into a whole new world when faced with extraordinary and dire circumstances – forced to consider a new form of expression when his prospects dry up. His plight, grounded in responsibility to his wife and unborn child at odds with his need for creative expression in the Florida panhandle, is one with which many of us – especially lovers and practitioners of the arts – can easily identify.

I confess when selecting this production for our 13th Season, I was excited to present a fun, frothy comedy centering drag culture and performers that would overlap with Pride month. It is noteworthy that this play and production have, in recent months, become – rather unfortunately – more **timely, poignant, and relevant to our current national discourse** than originally anticipated. In a time where the LGBTQ+ community and the drag community are under fire from an intolerant and large subset of the American population, *The Legend of Georgia McBride* is a call to action in ways we couldn't have anticipated over a year ago.

We've assembled an incredible team of creative minds to bring this play into full and vibrant life. We are very excited to welcome Gia Yarn to the helm as director. We promise this play will be a source of joy, pride, and laughter, but also a thought-provoking and life-affirming challenge to our Burbage audience. Don't miss it!"

— **Jeff Church**, Artistic Director, Burbage Theatre Co

Burbage Theatre Co's production of *The Legend of Georgia McBride* begins previews on May 22 and closes on June 8 after 12 performances.

All performances will take place at Burbage Theatre Co's Wendy Overly Studio Theatre 59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

Critics and members of the press are invited to join us on our Sunday Matinee performance (Sunday, May 25 at 2:00pm). You can reply to this email or contact boxoffice@burbagetheatre.org for more information.

If you are a member of the press and are unable to attend our Press Matinee, just let us know!

Whether you want to/have to cover the show on another evening, or if you can't cover the show but would still like to see the production – your two press tickets are still guaranteed, just let us know in an email at boxoffice@burbagetheatre.org.

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Rhode Island Premiere

THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA McBRIDE

by Matthew López directed by Gia Yarn (May 22 - June 8)

He's young, he's broke, his landlord's knocking at the door, and he's just found out his wife is going to have a baby. To make matters even more desperate, Casey is fired from his gig as an Elvis impersonator in a run-down, small-town Florida bar. When the bar owner brings in a B-level drag show to replace his act, Casey finds that he has a whole lot to learn about show business—and himself.

"Stitch-in-your-side funny...full of sass and good spirits." — The New York Times

"López demonstrates a...stellar gift for amusing dialogue and farcical humor...highly entertaining."

- The Hollywood Reporter

"...a delightful, genderbending farce...a funny and often glorious tribute to the art of drag...López delivers a strong message on tolerance for the entire spectrum of human sexuality, while creating a barrelful of fun in the process."

- Variety

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

ENSEMBLE

Casey Michael Yussef Greene
Miss Tracy Mills Anthony DeRose
Eddie Brien Lang

Rexy/Jason Omar Laguerre-Lewis

Jo Sabrina Youn

PRODUCTION CREW

Gia Yarn Director

Devra Levy Stage Manager

Sonny Wong Assistant Stage Manager
EJ Caraveo Assistant Stage Manager

Grey Rung Set Design
Trevor Elliott Lighting Design

Aaron Blanck Costume Design/Choreography

Stephen Millis Makeup Design
Jenna Benzinger Intimacy Coordinator

Andrew Iacovelli TD

Brittany Costello ATD/Props Jeff Church Producer

The Legend of Georgia McBride CALENDAR OF PERFORMANCES

Thursday May 22 at 7:30pm *Preview*Friday May 23 at 7:30pm *Preview*Saturday May 24 at 7:30pm OPENING/Pay-What-You-Will
Sunday March 25 at 2:00pm *Press matinee*

Thursday May 29 at 7:30pm Friday May 30 at 7:30pm Saturday May 31 at 7:30pm Sunday June 1 at 2:00pm

Thursday June 5 at 7:30pm Friday June 6 at 7:30pm Saturday June 7 at 7:30pm **Sunday June 8 at 2:00pm Closing**



59 Blackstone Avenue, Pawtucket RI 02860 | (401) 484-0355 | www.burbagetheatre.org Jeff Church, Artistic Director | Allison Crews, Executive Director

TICKET POLICY —

"The best bang for your theatrical buck in the Ocean State." — Warwick Beacon

Preview Performances — \$15

General Admission — \$30

Students — \$15

High School Students — Any and all rush tickets are available to High School students for FREE

COVID-19 PREVENTION POLICY —

Burbage has implemented an optional masking policy for our patrons.

While masks are no longer required, you are encouraged to mask if you like. Burbage will continue to make masks available to our patrons.

We do ask that you remain mindful of your own health and wellness before attending the theatre.

If you begin exhibiting new symptoms of Covid-19 that cannot be explained by regular seasonal allergies were

If you begin exhibiting new symptoms of Covid-19 that cannot be explained by regular seasonal allergies, we ask that you reconsider attending the theatre.

There is nothing more important to us than your health and safety.

If you must cancel or change your reservation with us, just contact the box office and we'll be happy to exchange your tickets for another performance.

Email us at boxoffice@burbagetheatre.org or give us a call at (401) 484.0355