

FROM PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST KRISTOFFER DIAZ

# THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY

DIRECTED BY DEXTER J. SINGLETON

**WINNER**

OBIE AWARD, BEST NEW PLAY

**WINNER**

NYTIMES OUTSTANDING PLAYWRIGHT

**LEAD SHOW SPONSORS: George & Rosemary Faucette**  
SHOW SPONSORS: Katherine & Scott Galloway, Leigh Hopkins, and John & Kitten Weiss

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Dear friends,

We're thrilled to announce TheatreSquared's 2022/23 Season, a year of remarkable live theatre filled with laughter, music, and joy.

From an out-of-this world premiere by the Jeff Award-winning writers of the hilarious hit *Murder for Two*, to a rolling-in-the-church-aisles comedy fresh off its 2021 Broadway debut, to the play *The New York Times* called the "Best Theatre of 2021," to the Critics' Pick "Best Musical" winner on the backroads of 1960s Arkansas—and so much more—it's going to be an amazing year.

Join us. Nothing will delight us more than to share these experiences with you again. As always, subscribing means you'll get the best seats at the lowest price, with plenty of other perks—but also, a sense of being part of something that matters in our lives.

We can't wait to welcome you back to the theatre all year long. For today—enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

**Martin Miller**, *Executive Director*

**Robert Ford**, *Artistic Director*

# THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY

FROM PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST KRISTOFFER DIAZ

## CREATIVE

DEXTER J. SINGLETON  
BARON PUGH  
RUBY KEMPH  
JOHN D. ALEXANDER  
BETH LAKE  
CJ BARNWELL  
SCOTT RUSSELL  
EMELY ZEPEDA\*  
ALEXANDER GOLD

Director  
Scenic Designer  
Costume Designer  
Lighting Designer  
Sound Designer  
Projection Designer  
Fight Choreographer  
Production Stage Manager  
Wrestling Coach

## CAST

ALEXANDER "XANDER" GOLD  
RUCHIR KHAZANCHI  
CEDRIC LEIBA JR\*  
SHON MIDDLEBROOKS  
VINCENT TENINTY\*

Joe Jabroni/Bill Heartland/Old Glory  
Vigneshwar Paduar  
Macedonio Guerra  
Chad Deity  
Everett K. Olson/Ring Announcer

## UNDERSTUDIES

DAMIAN DENA  
JORDAN WILLIAMS  
JOHN T. SMITH

Macedonio Guerra  
Chad Deity  
Everett K. Olson/Ring Announcer

## ADDITIONAL CREATIVES

ANA MUÑOZ  
CODA BOYCE  
EMILY DAVIS

1st Assistant Stage Manager  
2nd Assistant Stage Manager  
Props Lead



\* Member, Actors' Equity Association  
^ Member, United Scenic Artists, Local 829  
# Member, Stage Directors and  
Choreographers Society

## TIME PERIOD

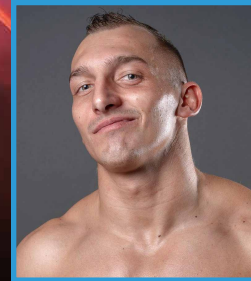
Present

## SETTING

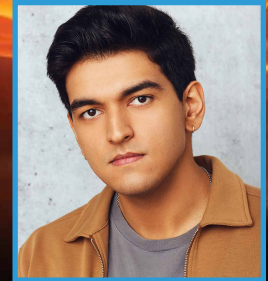
A Wrestling Ring

**RUN TIME:** 2 hours, including one 15 minute intermission.

*The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity was first produced by Victory Gardens in Chicago, IL on September 25, 2009. The performance was directed by Edward Torres.*



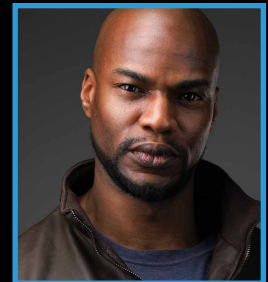
**Alexander "Xander" Gold**



**Ruchir Khazanchi**



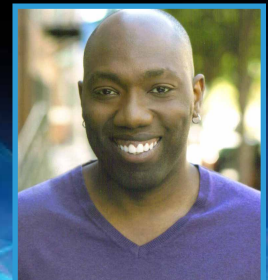
**Cedric Leiba Jr**



**Shon Middlebrooks**



**Vincent Teninty**



**Dexter J. Singleton**

**ALEXANDER "XANDER" GOLD**

(Joe Jabroni/Bill Heartland/Old Glory) is making his TheatreSquared debut. A professional wrestler based in Fayetteville, Ark., he has been featured on AEW Dark and SCW (South Central Wrestling). He is Heavyweight Champion, DCW (Downsouth Championship Wrestling) and North American Champion. He is also a fitness model, personal trainer, and bodybuilder.

**RUCHIR KHAZANCHI** (Vigneshwar Paduar) makes his TheatreSquared debut. His theatre credits include Ned/Countess/Styfflip/Mum in the world premiere of *Mister Dickens' Hat* (Northlight Theatre); Sundeep Padamadan in *Legally Blonde* (Paramount Aurora); Ensemble in *Something in the Game* (American Music Theatre Project); Youssef/Daniel (understudy) in *KISS* (Haven Chicago). His film credits include *The Becomers* (Zach Clark). He graduated in 2021 from Northwestern University with a B.A. in Theatre with modules in Creating the Musical, Screen Acting, and Musical Theatre.

**CEDRIC LEIBA JR** (Macedonio Guerra) makes his TheatreSquared debut. In Paris, he appeared as Tato in *Carmen La Cubana* (Théâtre du Châtelet). Off-Broadway credits include, Vittorio Vidal in *Sweet Charity* (HOLA Award-New Haarlem Arts), Juan in *Kingdom* (The Public), and various roles at Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater, where he is an ensemble member. Regional credits include Oscar in *SWEAT* (McCoy Rigby Entertainment), Jacob in *La Cage Aux Folles* (Goodspeed) and Jesus in *Hands on a Hardbody* (Colorados Spgs FAC). Cedric toured nationally as Angel in *Rent*, Diego in *Go Diego Go* and ensemble in *Miss Saigon*. Film credits include Manny in *Gets Good Light*, Andy in *Millie and the Lords* and singing *La Borinqueña* in Spielberg's West Side Story. Television credits include Oscar in *High Maintenance* (HBO) and John Paul in *The Switch* (Fashion One Television). He holds an MFA from The Boston Conservatory and a BM from Stetson University.

**SHON MIDDLEBROOKS** (Chad Deity) returns to TheatreSquared after previously appearing as Jay 'The Sport' Jackson in *The Royale*. Regional credits include Walter Lee in *A Raisin in the Sun*, Kevin/Albert in *Clybourne Park* (Summer Rep Theatre), Shua in *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet* (Actors Express), Paul in *Six Degrees of Separation* (Cape Cod Rep), and Sear in *Slide Glide the Slippery Slope* (Synchronicity Theatre). Television credits include Tank in *Complications* (USA) and Yves in *Fatal Attraction* (TV One). He holds a MFA in Acting from Ohio University and a MA in Classical Acting from London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA).

**VINCENT TENINTY** (Everett K. Olson/Ring Announcer) returns to TheatreSquared, where previous credits include *The Royale* and *Detroit*. Vincent has worked with several theatre companies including: Goodman Theatre - *Sweet Bird of Youth*, *Talking Pictures*, and *The Good Negro*; Steppenwolf - *Mother Courage and her Children*; American Blues - *The Rainmaker*; Steep Theatre - *The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui*; The Hypocrites - *Desire Under the Elms*, and Pine Box Theater Co. - *Life and Limb*, *Hot 'N' Throbbing* and *A Girl with Sun in her Eyes*. Regional credits include The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, where he appeared in the world premier of *Soups, Stews and Casseroles: 1976*, and *Cardinal Stage's Streetcar Named Desire* and *Hairspray*. Vincent's television credits include *Shameless* (Showtime), *Lovecraft Country* (HBO), *Chicago Justice* (NBC), *Chicago Fire* (NBC), *Chicago P.D.* (NBC), *The Beast* (A&E TV), *The Jamz* (Netflix) and *BOSS* (Starz Network). He is a graduate of the School at Steppenwolf, and has studied at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and Western Michigan University.

**DEXTER J. SINGLETON** (Director) is from Detroit, MI. He is a director, producer, activist, and educator. He is currently the Director of New Play Development at TheatreSquared and the Executive Artistic Director

of Collective Consciousness Theatre (CCT), a multicultural theatre for social justice in New Haven, CT. Since 2007, Collective Consciousness Theatre has reached thousands of youth and adults with plays and workshops across the U.S. and Europe. They have produced the work of playwrights Dominique Morisseau, Idris Goodwin, Jackie Sibbles Drury, Katori Hall and many others. As a director, Dexter's work has been seen at TheatreSquared, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Playhouse on Park, Connecticut Repertory Theatre, University of Michigan, University of Arkansas, Long Wharf Theatre, and many others. Recent credits include *Blood At The Root*, *Kill Move Paradise*, *Sweat*, *Skeleton Crew*, *North of Forbes*, *Baton*, *The Mountaintop* and *Topdog/Underdog*. He is a member of the Artistic Ensemble at Long Wharf Theatre and a former Visiting Assistant Professor of Performance at the University of Connecticut. He was recently awarded the 2021 BroadwayWorld Regional Award for Best Director of a Streaming Production for his work on *Kill Move Paradise*. He is also the recipient of the 2019 Artistic Excellence Award from the State of Connecticut and Distinguished Director of a Play for *Black Book* from The Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival.

**BARON E. PUGH** (Scenic Design) returns to T2 after designing the scenic elements for *School Girls; or The African Mean Girls Play*. Other recent credits include: *Radio Golf* (Trinity Rep); *Passover*, *School Girls*, *Choir Boy* (SpeakEasy Stage); *Marie and Rosetta*, *The Three Musketeers* (Greater Boston Stage Company); *Breath & Imagination*, *The Wiz* (Lyric Stage Company of Boston); *tick, tick... BOOM!* (Brown/Trinity); *The Clean House* (Threshold Stage Company); *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, *The Producers*, *Driving Miss Daisy* (Barnstormers Theatre). Film credits include: *Grape*, *The Long-Term Side Effect*. Baron received his MFA in Scenic Design from Boston University.

**RUBY KEMPH** (Costume Designer) is the costume shop manager and resident designer at TheatreSquared, where she has designed costumes for 40+ T2 productions since 2008, including *Shakespeare in Love*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Amadeus*, and *All the Way*. NYC design credits include *The Rivals* (Amperand Theatre) and *Garage* (Dive Theatre). She has built costumes for many Broadway productions, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Jersey Boys*, *Elf*, and *Anything Goes*, as well as films such as *Mirror, Mirror* and *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2*. She holds an MFA in costume design and technology from the University of AR.

**JOHN D. ALEXANDER** (Lighting Design) returns to TheatreSquared after designing *The Royale* and *Skeleton Crew*. OFF-BROADWAY credits include *Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence* (New Victory Theater). Regional credits include *Paradise Blue* (Detroit Public Theater); *HERstory* (The John F. Kennedy Center); *ELECTROGYNOUS* (Columbia College Dance Center); *Airness* (1st Stage); *Fabulation or, the Re-Education of Undine* (Mosaic Theatre Co.); the national & international tour of *Anne and Emmett* (Metro Stage). Upcoming designs include *The Rover* (Georgetown University); the national & international tour of *Chameleon* (EMPAC); the national tour of Urban Bush Women's 2020-21 season and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Keegan Theater). He holds a BFA in Lighting Design from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

**BETH LAKE** (sound designer) is a freelance Sound Designer and theater practitioner based in NYC. This is her TheaterSquared debut. She is also a lecturer of Sound Design at Yale University and Hunter College. Recent credits include: Broadway Associate design: *My Fair Lady*, *The Sound Inside*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Natasha*, *Pierre* and *the Great Comet...*, *Misery*, *Velocity of Autumn*.

Design Credits: *Selling Kabul* (Williamstown), *American Girl, Live!* (Mattel), *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Mischief theater, NYC), *The Revolutionists, The Price, An Iliad* (Gulfshore Playhouse), *This is Our Youth* (Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theater), *Sex With Strangers* (Westport Country Playhouse). Education: M.F.A. UC-Irvine; [www.bethlakesounddesign.com](http://www.bethlakesounddesign.com)

### CJ BARNWELL

(Projection Design) designs lighting and visual media for theatre and corporate events around the southeast. He worked with TheatreSquared in designing *The Mountaintop* earlier this season. Currently Head of Lighting and Visual Media at *Flat Rock Playhouse*, CJ has designed a number of shows there including, *Amadeus*, *Always Patsy Cline*, and *Million Dollar Quartet*. Graduating from the College of Charleston with a Bachelor in Theatre Technology, CJ went on to pursue various technical and design positions around the country.

**BRODIE JASCH** (*Props Manager*) is the resident props master at T2, where his previous credits include *Shakespeare in Love*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, *Every Brilliant Thing*, *The Wolves*, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*, *Vietgone*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, and 20+ other productions. His regional credits include *An Evening with Groucho* (Heritage Theater Festival); *Big Maybelle: Soul of the Blues* (Bay Street Theater); and *Unto These Hills* (Cherokee Historical Association). He holds a BA in theatrical design and technology from Castleton University.

**SCOTT RUSSELL** (Fight Choreographer) is a Fight Director, actor, and educator based out of Northwest Arkansas. Previous work at T2 includes *My Father's War*, *Vietgone*, *The Humans*, *The Champion*, *Detroit*, *The Dingdong*, and *Great Expectations*. Scott received his MFA from the

University of Arkansas, and is a Full Instructor with Dueling Arts International, an Advanced Actor/Combatant, having worked with and holding certification through Dueling Arts, the Society of American Fight Directors, the Nordic Stage Fight Society, the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat, Fight Directors of Canada, and the Society of Australian Fight Directors, Inc.

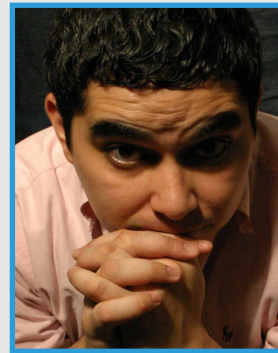
**EMELY ZEPEDA** (Production Stage Manager) is the resident production stage manager at TheatreSquared where she has stage managed *The Mountaintop*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Designing Women*, and *American Mariachi*. She previously was the resident production stage manager with Brave New World Repertory Theatre in Brooklyn, New York where she stage managed *Shakespeare on Stratford* in 2021 and 2019, *The Hook*, *A View from the Bridge*, *The Plantation*, and *Ms. Julie*, *Asian Equities*. Other select works as production stage manager include: *I Am My Own Wife* (Long Wharf Theatre), *Only Human* (St. Clement's), *Tech Support* (59E59 Theaters), *Till* (New York Musical Festival), *Zen AM* and *I Am Antigone* (Theater for the New City), *Hatefuck* (WP Theater), *Soft Butter* (Ars Nova), *Melt* (High Line), *Thunderbodies* (Soho Rep), *Ann and Skeleton Crew* (Dorset Theatre), *Yellow Card Red Card* (New Ohio Theatre), *Chix 6* (La MaMa), and *Cymbeline* (Yale Repertory Theatre). Emely has an MFA in stage management from the Yale School of Drama and a BA in Theatre Technical Design from Binghamton University.

**ROBERT FORD** (*Artistic Director*) is an award-winning playwright, novelist & musician who helped found TheatreSquared in 2005, where he has co-produced 75 plays and musicals and facilitated the development of over 55 new works. The past season features his play *My Father's War*, which premiered at T2 in 2008. With Amy Herzberg, he co-adapted two versions of *A Christmas Carol* for T2. T2 has produced

several of his plays, including *Fault*, *The Spiritualist*, *The Fall of the House* (also Alabama Shakespeare Festival—Edgar Award nominee), *Look Away*, *'Twas the Night*, and adaptations of *Great Expectations* and *It's a Wonderful Life*. His critically acclaimed first novel, *The Student Conductor*, was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers pick. He holds a M.Mus. degree from Yale and M.F.A.'s in acting from Rutgers and in playwriting & screenwriting from the University of Texas at Austin.

**MARTIN MILLER** (*Executive Director/Producer*) joined T2 in 2009, and has since produced more than 100 plays and developmental works, grown the theatre's annual budget from \$160K to 7M and

expanded its audience twentyfold. He managed the design, construction and fundraising for T2's new 50,000-square-foot theatre center. He established the National Stages Program, a consortium of theatres offering reciprocal member benefits, and has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and Theatre Communications Group. As associate producer for Chicago Shakespeare Theater, he oversaw many projects including commissioning the bilingual *Romeo y Juliet* from Karen Zacarias, as well as tours and transfers of works by the Second City and Q Brothers. He holds a B.A. from Carleton College and M.F.A. in Arts Leadership from The Theatre School, DePaul.



## KRISTOFFER DIAZ

Kristoffer Diaz is a playwright, librettist, screenwriter, and educator. His play *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Drama. His adaptation of the Disney film *Hercules* premiered in Central Park in Summer 2019 as part of the Joseph

Papp Public Theater's Public Works program with a cast of nearly 200. Other full-length titles include *Welcome to Arroyo's*, *Reggie Hoops*, and *The Unfortunates*. His work has been produced, commissioned, and developed at The Public Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Geffen Playhouse, ACT, Center Theatre Group, The Goodman, Second Stage, Victory Gardens, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival, among many others. Awards include the Guggenheim, Jerome, Van Lier, NYFA, and Gail Merrifield Papp Fellowships; New York Times Outstanding Playwright Award; Lucille Lortel, Equity Jeff, and OBIE Awards; and the Future Aesthetics Artist Regrant, among others. As a screenwriter, Kristoffer has developed original television pilots for HBO and FX, written for the first season of Netflix's *GLOW*, and adapted the musical *Rent* for FOX. Kristoffer holds a BA from New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study, an MFA from NYU's Department of Dramatic Writing, and an MFA from Brooklyn College's Performing Arts Management program. He teaches playwriting at New York University. He is an alumnus of New Dramatists and a member of its Board of Directors, a member of the Dramatists Guild Council, and a member of the Writer's Guild of America, East.



# 2022 SUMMER CAMPS AT T2!

**T2'S Camps specialize in building your creativity, confidence and collaboration through the arts.**

We are committed to training artists of tomorrow through professional classes that advance theatrical craft.

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Register for classes and camp at  
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*Artistic Director*

**Amy Herzberg**  
*Associate Artistic Director*

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Asterilla Monteiro  
Garrett Vaughan  
Josh Harpell

*Director of Operations*  
*Human Resources Director*  
*Company & Office Manager*  
*Business Assistant*  
*Company Management Intern*

## ARTISTIC

Dexter J. Singleton  
Rebecca Rivas

*Director of New Play Development*  
*Artistic Associate &*  
*LatinX Theatre Project Program Director*  
*Castling Assistant*

Samantha Shane

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Michael Bennett-Spears  
Sarah Snyder  
Kelli Humphrey  
Jasmine A. Neal  
Joe Binzer  
Jessi Ley  
Will McKinney  
Alyssa De La Rosa

*Director of Community Experience*  
*General Manager, The Commons*  
*Cafe Supervisor, The Commons*  
*Kitchen Supervisor, The Commons*  
*Audience Services Manager*  
*Assistant Audience Services Manager*  
*Lead Concierge*  
*Lead Concierge*  
*Events Manager*

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Sarah Behrend-Wilcox

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*Production Dept. Assistant*  
*& COVID-19 Safety Coordinator*

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Alex Worthington  
Jamie Bray  
Rachel Williams  
Kyle Hoehn  
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Jerry L. Jensen

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*Associate Technical Director*  
*Scenic Charge Artist*  
*Production Coordinator*  
*Head Carpenter*  
*Scene Shop Supervisor*  
*Scenic Technician*

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Tanner McAlpin  
Jennifer McClory  
Parker Lane  
Israel Rios

*Costume Shop Manager & Resident Designer*  
*Costume Associate*  
*Wardrobe Supervisor*  
*Wardrobe Crew*  
*Costumes Apprentice*

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*Production Technician*

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*Props Assistant*  
*Props Technician*

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Amber Holley

*Production Stage Manager*  
*Stage Management Apprentice*

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*Custodian*

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Dear friends,

Over the past two years, even as we've cleared ever-higher hurdles to continue bringing the transformative power of intimate, live theatre to neighbors and students, ticket sales have only met 15% of expenses.

We're working hard to raise the remainder from the charitable giving of patrons like you. And thanks to an exciting \$100,000 giving challenge issued by our board and a circle of our most loyal friends, your gift this spring can have double the impact.

Will you help us meet their extraordinary challenge? You'll join this list of generous supporters, and enjoy thank-you benefits—signed posters, special events, chances to meet the artists, and behind-the-scenes access.

Can we count on you today? Together, we're creating a premier national theatre here in Northwest Arkansas. Please send your gift as soon as possible so we can move forward together.

It's an exciting path ahead, and we can't do it without you.

Gratefully,



**Todd Simmons, T2 Board President**



## INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

These community members have given generously to support T2's work on stage and in schools, providing the margin of excellence that sets T2's work apart. *Reflects contributions received as of April 1, 2022.*

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Just 35% of TheatreSquared's annual budget is funded by ticket sales. Your generosity allows T2 to provide:

### REMARKABLE LIVE THEATRE

In our intimate space, great theatre performances are just feet away. Each play is newly envisioned and staged for diverse audiences here in Northwest Arkansas.

### EDUCATION FOR YOUTH

More than 20,000 students experience T2's performances and residencies each year—from Fayetteville to Mena, Bentonville to Searcy, Southeast Missouri to the Arkansas Delta.

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Kathleen Trotter  
Doug Wright & Terri Trotter  
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Williams  
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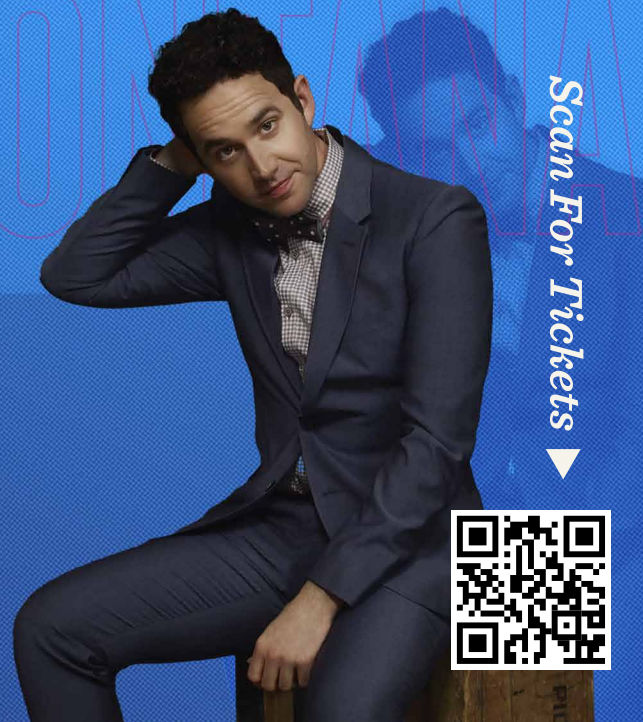
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