

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kevin Kopjak | Prismatic Communications | [kevin@prismaticcommunications.com](mailto:kevin@prismaticcommunications.com)**BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR THE DAZZLING WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL, *GALILEO: A ROCK MUSICAL***

Directed by Tony Award winner Michael Mayer, *Galileo* propels audiences through the tumultuous life and trials of the audacious inventor and scientific luminary whose groundbreaking discoveries revolutionized our understanding of the universe

Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre  
May 5 – June 16, 2024

BERKELEY, CA (March 21, 2024)—Today, **Berkeley Repertory Theatre Artistic Director Johanna Pfaelzer** and **Managing Director Tom Parrish** announced the full cast and creative team for the dazzling world-premiere musical *Galileo: A Rock Musical*, performing at Berkeley Rep's **Roda Theatre** (2015 Addison St., Berkeley) **May 5–June 16, 2024**. Press night will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024. Single tickets (starting at \$22.50, plus a \$9 order fee) are on sale now and can be purchased online at [berkeleyrep.org/shows/galileo/](https://berkeleyrep.org/shows/galileo/) or by phone at **510-647-2949** (Tue–Sun, 12–7 p.m.). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

"I am so thrilled to welcome this extraordinary cast and creative team to Berkeley Rep," said **Pfaelzer**. "The Bay Area has always been a place for radical visionaries and dreamers—where better to bring to life this world premiere story of a maverick who forever changed the way we understand our place in the world?"

When maverick scientist Galileo Galilei makes celestial observations that challenge humanity's understanding of its place in the universe, he's summoned to Rome to defend his discoveries before the most powerful religious institution in the world, which is facing a rebellion of its own. *Galileo* is an explosive collision of science and faith, truth and power.

Helmed by Tony Award winner **Michael Mayer**, *Galileo* is written by two-time Emmy winner **Danny Strong** and features an original rock score and lyrics by **Michael Weiner** and **Zoe Sarnak**, with choreography by **David Neumann**.

Joining the previously announced four-time Tony Award nominee **Raúl Esparza** as 'Galileo Galilei' are **Jeremy Kushnier** as 'Cardinal Maffeo Barberini,' **Madalynn Mathews** as 'Virginia,' **Christian Magby** as 'Alessandro Tarantola,' **Javier Muñoz** as 'Cardinal Morosini,' and **Bradley Dean** as 'Cardinal Grasso.'

Rounding out the cast are (*in alphabetical order*): **Gabrielle Elisabeth**, **Adam Halpin**, **Michal Kolaczowski**, **Claire Kwon**, **Nicole Kyoung-Mi Lambert**, **Michael J. Mainwaring**, **Alexander Mendoza**, **Brian Ray Norris**, **Chase Peacock**, **Noah Plomgren**, **David Rowen**, **DeMone Seraphin**, **Madeleine Spacapan**, **Erica Sweany**, **Zalah Brenae Vallien**, and **Adrian Villegas**.

The creative team for *Galileo* includes **Brian Usifer** (Music Supervisor and Orchestrator), **Roberto Sinha** (Music Director), **Rachel Hauck** (Scenic Design), **Anita Yavich** (Costume Design), **Kevin Adams** (Lighting Design), **John Shivers** (Sound Design), **Jason Thompson and Kaitlyn Pietras** (Projections), **Tom Watson** (Wig, Hair, & Makeup), **Ben Villegas Randle** (Associate Director), **T. Oliver Reid** (Associate Choreographer), **Jonathan Bauerfeld** (Associate Music Director & Score Associate), **Anna Grigo** (Associate Scenic Design), **Sarah Smith** (Associate Costume Design), **Vicki Bain** (Associate Lighting Design), **Kevin Kennedy** (Associate Sound Design), **Rick Steiger** (Production Stage Manager), **Amy Marsico** (Stage Manager), **Karen Evanouskas** (Assistant Stage Manager), and **Jim Carnahan, CSA and Jason Thinger, CSA** (Casting).

*Galileo* is presented by special arrangement with **Jordan Roth and Key to the City Productions**

*Galileo* is made possible by Berkeley Rep's **Musical Theatre Development Fund** with leadership support from **Yogen and Peggy Dalal**, by Lead Sponsor **The Bernard Osher Foundation**, and by Sponsors **Jill & Steve Fugaro, Jack Klingelhofer, Erin McCune, Steve & Linda Wolan, and Mechanics Bank Wealth Management.**

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART and Peet's Coffee**, Berkeley Rep's official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to recognize the support at the season sponsor level from **Stephen & Susan Chamberlin, Yogen & Peggy Dalal, Bruce Golden & Michelle Mercer, Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau, Wayne Jordan & Quinn Delaney, Jonathan Logan, Gisele & Kenneth F. Miller, Jack & Betty Schafer, The Strauch Kulhanjian Family, Kelli & Steffan Tomlinson, and Gail & Arne Wagner.**

###

## **ABOUT BERKELEY REP**

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 6 million people have enjoyed more than 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, including 85 world premieres. Berkeley Rep shows have gone on to win 8 Tony Awards, 9 Obie Awards, 11 Drama Desk Awards, 1 Grammy Award, 1 Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Through its annual seven-play season, together with up to four special event presentations, Berkeley Rep invites audiences to enjoy an eclectic range of theatrical experiences featuring diverse artistic voices, themes, and perspectives. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. Serving some 20,000 people a year, Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre ensures broad access to dynamic arts educational activities, especially for Bay Area youth, and provides immersive training for current and future theatre makers. In 2021, Berkeley Rep launched In Dialogue, a program that places its theatre-making skills and resources in service of the community. Using storytelling as an anchor, In Dialogue is developing long-term collaborations with local, socially centered organizations, as well as educating and activating our audiences around organizations whose work aligns with the themes of our productions. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities—which include the 600-seat Roda Theatre, 400-seat Peet's Theatre, Medak Center, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley—are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at [berkeleyrep.org](http://berkeleyrep.org).