

BERKELEY REP

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMMY AND GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD WINNER JIMMY SMITS AND ACCLAIMED ACTRESS WANDA DE JESÚS TO SHARE THE STAGE IN *ALL MY SONS* AT BERKELEY REP

Under the direction of Berkeley Rep's Associate Artistic Director David Mendizábal, Arthur Miller's searing indictment of moral compromise erupts with urgency in a groundbreaking new production

Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre
February 20–March 29, 2026

BERKELEY, CA (September 25, 2025) — **Berkeley Repertory Theatre (Berkeley Rep)** announced today that Golden Globe and Emmy Award-winner **Jimmy Smits** and acclaimed actress — and real-life partner — **Wanda De Jesús** will re-unite onstage in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*, a seminal work of American drama, performing at **Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre** from **February 20–March 29, 2026**. Tickets are currently only available as a part of subscription packages or to subscribers (Subscribe at berkeleyrep.org/tickets/subscription-and-ticket-packages/). Single tickets (\$25–\$135) will be available to the general public beginning December 3, 2025 online at berkeleyrep.org/tickets or by phone at 510 647-2949 (Tue–Sun, noon–7pm). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

The American Dream comes at a price. But who truly pays it? Arthur Miller's searing indictment of moral compromise erupts with new urgency in this groundbreaking production. Centered on a family whose hard-won success is shaken by a father's fateful decision, the story's aftershocks ripple far beyond his own home and community. Berkeley Rep's Associate Artistic Director **David Mendizábal** reexamines this American classic through a lens of race, ethnicity, and class, honoring Miller's original text while sharpening its existing themes of justice and inequity. This powerful revival reveals a tragedy where the pursuit of prosperity collides with the reality of who America was built to serve.

"It is a rare and thrilling opportunity to work with artists of this caliber," says **Mendizábal**. "Jimmy Smits and Wanda De Jesús bring an extraordinary depth, history, and authenticity to *All My Sons*. Their real-life connection infuses every moment with an intimacy that amplifies the play's emotional stakes. The doors that they have opened for Latino artists in the field have paved the way for me to be able to bring my vision of Miller's incredible play to the stage, and it's such an honor to have them leading this production. I can't wait for audiences to witness the electricity they create together on stage."

Jimmy Smits is an Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning actor whose career spans acclaimed work in theatre, film, and television. He returns to Berkeley Rep where he previously appeared alongside his trusted life partner Wanda De Jesús in *The Guys*, following their earlier collaboration in the West Coast

premiere of *Death and The Maiden* at The Mark Taper Forum. On Broadway, his credits include *Anna in The Tropics* and *God of Carnage*. His longtime association at The Public Theater in NY began when Joe Papp cast him in his first Equity role, and continued through multiple productions downtown, appearances at the Delacorte in *Twelfth Night* and *Much Ado About Nothing*, and service as a board member during George C. Wolfe's tenure. Smits has also appeared at leading theatres nationwide, including Steppenwolf in *The Motherf**ker with the Hat*, Center Stage in Baltimore, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, and The Hangar Theatre in Ithaca NY.

On screen, his film credits include *In the Heights*, *My Family/Mi Familia*, *Old Gringo*, *Price of Glory*, *Mother and Child*, *The Jane Austen Book Club*, and as Bail Organa in the *Star Wars* franchise. His groundbreaking television work includes *L.A. Law*, *NYPD Blue*, *The West Wing*, *Dexter*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, and *The Get Down*, earning multiple Emmy, Golden Globe, and SAG Awards. He has also narrated documentaries such as PBS's *Latin Music USA* and *Roberto Clemente*. Beyond his artistic achievements, Smits is a co-founder of the National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts and actively supports numerous philanthropic initiatives, including Stand Up 2 Cancer.

Wanda De Jesús is a New York-born actress whose career spans acclaimed work on stage, film, and television. A graduate of Fiorello H. La Guardia High School for the Performing Arts, she earned a BFA at City College of New York's Aaron Davis Center. She began her professional theatre career at Circle Repertory Theatre and the NYSF/Public Theater, where her early workshop performances helped shape *Cuba and His Teddy Bear*, ultimately leading to her celebrated Broadway debut opposite Robert De Niro. She went on to earn critical praise in the lead role of the West Coast premiere of *Death and The Maiden* at the Mark Taper Forum, opposite Jimmy Smits, and again with Smits in *The Guys* at Berkeley Repertory. Her stage credits also include *Summer and Smoke* with Christopher Reeve at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles and collaborations with noted directors such as George C. Wolfe and Oscar Eustis.

Her film work includes Clint Eastwood's *Blood Work*; Michael Mann's *The Insider*; John Carpenter's *Ghost of Mars*; *Flawless* co-star with De Niro and Phillip Seymour Hoffman; and the cult favorite *Illegal Tender*. On television, De Jesus has appeared in *Fatal Attraction*, *Gentefied*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *CSI: Miami*, *NYPD Blue*, and the Peabody award-winning *Almost a Woman*, for which she received an Imagen Award. Known for portraying complex, authentic characters, she continues to bring depth and power to her roles across stage and screen.

Further casting and the full creative team will be announced at a later date.

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of its Season Presenting Sponsors, including **Peet's Coffee** and **The Shubert Foundation** as well as **Stephen & Susan Chamberlin**, **Yogen & Peggy Dalal**, **Bruce Golden & Michelle Mercer**, **Marcia Grand**, **Jonathan Logan & John Piane**, **Arjay R. and Frances F. Miller Foundation**, **the Strauch Kulhanjian Family**, and **Gail & Arne Wagner**. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to acknowledge support at our season sponsor level from **The Hearst Foundations**, **The Hewlett Foundation**, and **OAK Airport** as well as **Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau**, **Wayne Jordan & Quinn Delaney**, **Jack & Betty Schafer**, and **Kelli & Steffan Tomlinson**, as well as our associate sponsor level from **Lynne Charmichael** and **Pat & Merrill Shanks**.

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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 88 world premieres. Berkeley Rep shows have gone on to win eight Tony Awards, nine Obie Awards, 11 Drama Desk Awards, a Grammy Award, a 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.