

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE TO PRESENT THE WEST COAST
PREMIERE OF JEZ BUTTERWORTH'S EPIC DRAMA,
*THE HILLS OF CALIFORNIA***

A co-production with The Huntington, *The Hills of California* is a sweeping family saga that traces the hopes, secrets, and survival of four sisters in 1970s England

Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre
October 31–December 7, 2025

BERKELEY, CA (September 17, 2025)—Following acclaimed West End and Broadway productions, **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** will present the West Coast premiere of ***The Hills of California*** — the soaring new drama from internationally acclaimed Olivier and Tony Award–winning playwright **Jez Butterworth** (*The Ferryman*, *Jerusalem*) — performing at **Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre** from **Friday, October 31 through Sunday, December 7, 2025**. Press night will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Single tickets (\$25–\$135) are available online at berkeleyrep.org or by phone at 510 647-2949 (Tue–Sun, 12–7pm). *Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.*

A co-production with **The Huntington**, *The Hills of California* weaves the compelling, tender, and savagely funny tale of the Webb sisters' return to their childhood home in an English seaside town. As girls, their fierce and ambitious mother trained them for a singing career à la The Andrews Sisters. Now, past and present collide within the once-vibrant guesthouse as memories resurface with haunting clarity. *The Hills of California* explores how sibling bonds both sustain and suffocate, and how songs of youth echo through life. **Loretta Greco**, former Artistic Director of San Francisco's Magic Theatre, returns to the Bay Area to direct the West Coast debut of this masterwork.

"When I first encountered Jez Butterworth's gorgeous play, it immediately felt like something that Berkeley Rep and Bay Area audiences would love," said Berkeley Rep Artistic Director **Johanna Pfaelzer**. "I'm thrilled to be bringing this story of a family full of deep yearning, large scale ambitions, profound secrets (and some beautiful songs!) to our stage. I can't wait to see these complicated multi-faceted women through the eyes of longtime friend and colleague, Loretta Greco."

"As the eldest of five sisters, this intense, mysterious and often hilarious homecoming story resonates deeply for me as the slippery layers of a complicated past collide with the equally messy present," adds **Greco**. "I'm thrilled to create the first American production of this big-minded West End hit in

partnership with Berkeley Rep—and especially over-the-moon to return home to the actual hills of California to share this beauty—with all my friends in the Bay.”

The cast of *The Hills of California* includes (in alphabetical order): **Kyle Cameron** (Dennis, Jack Larkin), **Meghan Carey** (Young Gloria), **Aimee Doherty** (Ruby, Mrs. Smith), **Kate Fitzgerald** (Young Joan), **Jack Greenberg** (Tony, Mr. Smith, Mr. Halliwell), **Patrice Jean-Baptiste** (Penny, Biddy), **Karen Killeen** (Jillian), **Chloé Kolbenheyer** (Young Ruby, Patty), **Mike Masters** (Bill, Joe Fogg), **Nicole Mulready** (Young Jill), **Amanda Kristin Nichols** (Gloria), **Lewis D. Wheeler** (Mr. Potts, Luther St. John), and **Allison Jean White** (Joan, Veronica). Understudies for *The Hills of California* include (in alphabetical order): **Annika Bolton**, **Lila Grace English**, **Bridgette Hayes**, **Zachary Kautter**, **Yewande Odeyotinbo**, **Michael Poignand**, and **Ruth Sullivan**.

Directed by **Loretta Greco**, the creative team of *The Hills of California* includes **Misha Shields** (Choreographer), **Andrew Boyce** (Co-Scenic Design), **Se Hyun Oh** (Co-Scenic Design), **Jennifer von Mayrhauser** (Costume Design), **Russell H. Champa** (Lighting Design), **David Van Tieghem** (Sound Design), **Janet Foster** (Casting), **Daniel Rodriguez** (Music Director), **Ashleigh Reade** (Dialect & Vocal Coach), **Jesse Hinson** (Fight/Intimacy Coach), **Kevin Schlagle** (Stage Manager), **Ashley Pitchford** (Assistant Stage Manager), and **Sofie Miller** (Assistant Stage Manager).

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**, **Marcia Grand**, **Bruce Golden & Michelle Mercer**, **Jonathan Logan & John Piane**, **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**, **Gisele & Kenneth F. Miller**, and **Jack & Betty Schafer**.

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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.

ABOUT THE HUNTINGTON

Celebrating over 40 years of outstanding theatre, The Huntington is Boston's leading professional theatre company. On our stages and throughout our city, we share enduring and untold stories that spark the imagination of audiences and artists and amplify the wide range of voices in our community.

Under the leadership of Norma Jean Calderwood Artistic Director Loretta Greco and Executive Director Christopher Mannelli, The Huntington is committed to welcoming broad and diverse audiences, provides life-changing opportunities for students through its robust education and community programs, is a national leader in the development of playwrights and new plays, and serves the local arts community through our operation of The Huntington Calderwood/BCA.

The Huntington reopened the historic Huntington Theatre in fall of 2022 after its transformational renovation, and is currently in phase two of the project; the renovation and building project of this storied venue with a bold vision for the future will allow us to innovatively expand our services to audiences, artists, and the community for generations to come. For more information, visit huntingtontheatre.org.