

HARRIS YULIN TO RETURN AS ROBERT LOWELL
OPPOSITE MIA KATIGBAK AS ELIZABETH BISHOP
FOR FINAL WEEK OF PERFORMANCES

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 5

IN

DEAR ELIZABETH

WRITTEN BY SARAH RUHL

DIRECTED BY KATE WHORISKEY



Harris Yulin



Mia Katigbak



Cherry Jones & David Aaron Baker in *Dear Elizabeth*
CREDIT: JOAN MARCUS

CURRENTLY STARRING:

CHERRY JONES & DAVID AARON BAKER THROUGH NOVEMBER 28

FOLLOWED BY:

ELLEN MCLAUGHLIN & RINDE ECKERT NOVEMBER 23 – 28

PRODUCTION PHOTOS: <http://bit.ly/1WXxeQE>

(New York, NY) **Women's Project Theater**, under the leadership of **Producing Artistic Director Lisa McNulty** and **Managing Director Maureen Moynihan**, announced today that Drama Desk nominee **Harris Yulin** (*Hedda Gabler*, *Diary of Anne Frank*) will return to play Robert Lowell opposite Lortel Award winner **Mia Katigbak** (*Awake and Sing!*) as Elizabeth Bishop from November 30 to December 5, 2015 in **DEAR ELIZABETH**, the inaugural production at the WP's new theatrical home the McGinn/Cazale Theatre, 2162 Broadway (at 76th Street). Written by two-time Pulitzer Nominee and Tony Nominee **Sarah Ruhl** (*The Oldest Boy*, *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play*) and directed by **Kate Whoriskey** (*Ruined*, *Sweat*), *Dear Elizabeth* tells a tale of unconventional friendship and intimacy that spanned thirty years and more than 400 letters with postmarks from Maine to Key West, from London to South America.

Hailed by *The New York Times* as "haunting and tartly funny...a rare gift," this insightful and impassioned examination of the famed correspondence between Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell – two of the twentieth century's most brilliant poets – currently stars two-time Tony Award winner and Emmy Award winner **Cherry Jones** (*Doubt*, "24") & **David Aaron Baker** (*Once Upon A Mattress*, *A Raisin in the Sun*) from November 16 – 21; followed by real-life married couple **Ellen McLaughlin** (*Angels in America*) & Grammy winner and Pulitzer finalist **Rinde Eckert** (*Slow Fire*, *And God Created Great Whales*) from November 23 – 28.

"Mr. Yulin has a gruff, weathered stage voice that hints at the rough knocks of Lowell's life — self-induced although many of them were. The only real conflict in their long friendship arrives when Lowell publishes a long poem, "The Dolphin," that includes letters from Hardwick that he has taken the liberty of editing. Mr. Yulin deftly combines the poet's fierce defense of his work with a sense of contrition and sensitivity to his friend's criticism." NEW YORK TIMES (October 31, 2015)

Previous casts include WP Theater founding artist, Tony Award nominee and Drama Desk, Obie & Outer Critics Circle Award winner **Kathleen Chalfant** (*Wit, Angels in America*) & Drama Desk nominee **Harris Yulin** (*Hedda Gabler, Diary of Anne Frank*); from November 2 – 7 by Obie Award & Drama Desk Award winner **J. Smith-Cameron** (*Juno and the Paycock, Fuddy Meers*) & Obie Award winner **John Douglas Thompson** (*Othello, Satchmo at the Waldorf*); from November 9 – 15 by “Girls” co-stars **Becky Ann Baker** (*The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*) and **Peter Scolari** (*Lucky Guy, “Bosom Buddies”*)

The *DEAR ELIZABETH* design team features Set Design by **Antje Ellermann** (*Abigail/1702, Liberty City*), Costume Design by **Anita Yavich** (*Venus in Fur, Fool for Love*), Lighting Design by **Mary Louise Geiger** (*The Constant Wife, Buffalo Gal*), Sound Design by **Jill BC Du Boff** (*Hand to God, Disgraced*) & **Emily Auciello** (Assoc., *Of Good Stock*) and casting by **Kelly Gillespie** (Assoc., Manhattan Theatre Club).

Tickets for *DEAR ELIZABETH* are now on sale via WWW.WPTHEATER.ORG / (212) 765-1706. The performance schedule is as follows: Monday – Thursday at 7:30pm, Friday at 8:00pm and Saturday at 3:00pm & 8:00pm.

CAST PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

NOVEMBER 16 – 21:	CHERRY JONES & DAVID AARON BAKER
NOVEMBER 23 – 28:	ELLEN MCLAUGHLIN & RINDE ECKERT
NOVEMBER 30 – DEC. 5:	MIA KATIGBAK & HARRIS YULIN

BIOGRAPHIES

MIA KATIGBAK (*Elizabeth*) NYC: Most recent: *Awake & Sing!* NAATCO (Obie Award); *Washeteria* (Soho Rep); *A Beautiful Day in November...Great Lakes* (New Georges/Women’s Project), *Scenes from a Marriage* (New York Theater Workshop). Other NYC: Public Theater, Foundry Theater, Civilians, Ma-Yi, Target Margin, Clubbed Thumb, Intar, Pan Asian Rep. Regional: Berkeley Repertory Theater (CA), Swine Palace (LA), Guthrie (MN). International: Manila, Philippines; Abu Dhabi, UAE. Film: *I Smile Back, Clutter, Slow Jam King*. TV: “Mysteries of Laura,” “Chicago PD,” “Conviction.” Artistic Producing Director and co-founder, NAATCO (National Asian American Theatre Company). Founding director, CAATA (Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists). Other awards: Lucille Lortel, Lee Reynolds Awards (League of Professional Theatre Women); Actors Equity’s Rosetta LeNoire Award, in recognition of her “artistic contribution to the universality of the human experience in the American theater”; New Dramatists’ Charles Bowden Actor Award. BA, Barnard College; MA, Columbia University.

HARRIS YULIN (*Robert*) has appeared on Broadway in *Hedda Gabler, The Price, The Diary of Anne Frank, The Visit, A Lesson From Aloes,* and *Watch On The Rhine*. His off-Broadway credits include *Raindance* at Signature Theatre; *Don Juan In Hell* at Symphony Space; Steve Tesich’s *Arts And Leisure* at Playwrights Horizons; Tina Howe’s *Approaching Zanzibar* at Second Stage; *Hamlet, King John, Richard III,* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* at New York Shakespeare Festival; and *Mrs. Warren’s Profession* and *Hedda Gabler* at Roundabout. Regional credits include *Finishing the Picture* at Goodman Theatre; a recent appearance in the title role of *King Lear* at New Jersey Shakespeare Festival; *The Talking Cure* at Mark Taper Forum; *Tartuffe* at the Guthrie and Arena Stage; *Henry V* at Hartford Stage; and *The Tempest* at Shakespeare & Co. Mr. Yulin’s directing credits include Horton Foote’s *The Prisoner’s Song* at Ensemble Studio Theatre; Conor McPherson’s *This Lime Tree Bower* at Primary Stages; *Don Juan In Hell* in London (Riverside Studios) and in New York (Symphony Space), Steve Tesich’s *Baba Goya* (Second Stage), Adele Shank’s *Winter Play* at Second Stage; *Candida* at the Shaw Festival; and *The Front Page* and *The Guardsman* at Long Wharf. His television credits include “Muhammad Ali’s Greatest Fight,” “Mister Sterling,” “24,” “Buffy The Vampire Slayer,” “Frasier” (Emmy Nomination), and “La Femme Nikita” (Emmy Nomination). His film credits include *Fur, The Place Beyond the Pines, The Emperor’s Club, Training Day, The Million Dollar Hotel, The Hurricane, Looking for Richard, Murder at 1600, Multiplicity, Clear and Present Danger,* and *Scarface*.

POLLY NOONAN (*Stage Manager*) has worked on many of Sarah Ruhl's plays, including *In the Next Room, or The Vibrator Play* (Victory Gardens Theatre, Jeff nomination), *Late, A Cowboy Song* (Piven Theatre Workshop), *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Helen Hayes nomination; Steppenwolf Theatre Company; Mosaic Theatre), *Passion Play* (Arena Stage, Helen Hayes nomination; Goodman Theatre, After Dark Award, Jeff nomination; Yale Rep Theatre, Epic Theatre Ensemble), *Eurydice* (Madison Repertory Theatre; Piven), *Melancholy Play* (Piven; Echo Theater Company), and *Orlando* (Piven; The Actors' Gang). Her other credits include *A Brief History of America* (Drama League Directors Project), *Careless Love* (Soho Rep), *Brilliant Traces, American Voices* (Piven); *Methusalem, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, The Balcony* (New Criminals); *Ajax* (Theater of War); and development of new work at Sundance, Geva Theatre Center, New Dramatists, Soho Rep, Sewanee and REDCAT. Film credits include *Welcome to Me, Novocaine, High Fidelity, Arizona Dream, and Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. Polly is on the cover of the Lemonhead's album *It's a Shame About Ray* and can be heard on track 11 of *Lovey*.

WOMEN'S PROJECT THEATER (WP) is the nation's oldest and largest theater company dedicated to developing, producing and promoting the work of female theater artists at every stage in their careers. WP Theater supports female-identified theater artists and the world-class, groundbreaking work they create, and provides a platform where their voices can be heard and celebrated on the American stage.

Founded in 1978 by visionary producer, Julia Miles, WP has been the launching pad for many of our nation's most important theater artists. Eve Ensler, María Irene Fornés, Katori Hall, Pam MacKinnon, Lynn Nottage and Leigh Silverman, among many, many others, all found early artistic homes here. Throughout its 38 year history, WP has produced over 600 main stage productions and developmental projects, and published 11 anthologies of plays. No other producing institution in the country can claim this kind of ongoing history of advocacy and support for women in the theater, and we look ahead to the next generation of artists who will also begin their careers here.

WP Theater accomplishes its mission through several fundamental programs: the WP Lab, a two-year mentorship and new play development program for women playwrights, directors, and producers; the Playwright In Residence commissioning program; the Developmental series; and the Main Stage series, which features a full season of Off-Broadway productions written and directed by extraordinary theater artists.

LISA MCNULTY (Producing Artistic Director). Lisa is in her second season as Producing Artistic Director of Women's Project Theater. Lisa comes to WP from MTC, where she served as Artistic Line Producer for eight seasons, working on more than 30 productions both on and off Broadway, including plays by Lynn Nottage, Sarah Treem, Harvey Fierstein, and Tarell Alvin McCraney, among many, many others. Lisa has a long history with WP Theater. She was originally hired by the company's founder, Julia Miles, as the Literary Manager from 1997-2000, where she dramaturged work by María Irene Fornés, Julie Hébert, and Karen Hartman, among others, and in 2004, she returned to WP as its Associate Artistic Director. From 2000-2004 she was McCarter Theater's Producing Associate, and her independent producing career includes projects with Sarah Ruhl, Todd Almond, and Lucy Thurber.

MAUREEN MOYNIHAN (Managing Director) Maureen started her career in Chicago working for the Steppenwolf Theatre Company and commercial producer Fox Theatricals. Prior to joining WP Theater, Maureen spent over a decade working for Blue Man Productions in several positions including serving as their Executive Director for five North American Productions. Since moving to New York, she has worked for several nonprofit and commercial organizations including Manhattan New Music Project, York Theatre Company and the immersive theatrical experience *Queen of the Night*.

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