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Regional Premiere

**SMALL MOUTH SOUNDS**

By Bess Wohl

Directed by Lauren Keating

**May 15 – June 16, 2019**

Media Night: Friday, May 17

Opening Night: Saturday, May 18

Jungle Theater

2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis

Tickets: $40-$50

Box Office: 612-822-7063 or [www.jungletheater.org](http://www.jungletheater.org)

**LAUREN KEATING TO DIRECT LUMINOUS NEW PLAY ABOUT THE POWER OF HUMAN CONNECTION**

***Bess Wohl’s “*Small Mouth Sounds”*makes regional debut at the Jungle***

“It leaves you moved, refreshed and even enlightened.” ~ *The New York Times*

(Minneapolis; April 16, 2019) – After a hit run off-Broadway and a successful national tour, **SMALL MOUTH SOUNDS,** by Drama Desk Award winner [Bess Wohl](https://www.besswohl.com/about), makes its regional debut at the Jungle Theater. The acclaimed *New York Times Critic’s Pick*, directed by [Lauren Keating](https://www.lauren-keating.com/biography/), is on stage May 15-June 16 at the Lyn-Lake neighborhood theater, located at 2951 Lyndale Ave. S. in Minneapolis.

In this enchanting, off-beat story, six runaways from city life embark on a yoga meditation retreat in the overwhelming quiet of the woods. As these strangers confront internal demons both profound and absurd, their vows of silence collide with the achingly human need to connect. With awkward humor and minimal dialogue, this imaginative and compassionate new play asks how we address life’s biggest questions when words fail us.

**Lauren Keating** (Guthrie’s *A Christmas Carol*) makes her directorial debut at the Jungle and brings together an all-local, all-star cast: **Christina Baldwin, Becca Hart, Jim Lichtscheidl,** **Eric Sharp** and Jungle newcomers **Michael Curran-Dorsano, Jay Owen Eisenberg** and **Faye M. Price**. Her creative team features the talents of Jungle veterans **Sarah Bahr** (costumes), **Mina Kinukawa** (sets), **John Novak** (properties) and **Karin Olson** (lighting), and brings **Reid Rejsa** (sound) into the fold.

“***Small Mouth Sounds*** explores a very relatable desire to find freedom and to meet our true, fully realized selves,” said Keating. “In this very personal play, the playwright asks us to meet her characters, and also to meet ourselves. She draws this world with such humor and tenderness, and I couldn't be more thrilled to be making this gorgeous play for Jungle audiences. It has been a dream of mine to direct at the Jungle, and ***Small Mouth Sounds*** is the perfect play for this intimate space.”

Jungle Artistic Director Sarah Rasmussen said, “At a time when we can all benefit from just putting down our phones and being in the moment, this play has particular resonance. We tapped Lauren to helm the show because of her clear, concise storytelling style as a director. The bonus is she has been a yoga instructor and knows that world inside and out.”

The Jungle offers engaging and intimate **Stay Late** discussions with cast and audience members after every show (with the exception of Opening Night). Performances are Tuesdays ($40), Wednesdays ($40), Thursdays ($40), Fridays ($50) and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. ($50), and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. ($45). Preview performances ($15) are May 15-17 at 7:30 p.m. Rush tickets are offered every night of the week, based on availability two hours prior to the performance, and there is special Friday night pricing for students, 55408 neighborhood residents and employees, and those under 30 years of age. Tickets and more information are available at (612) 822-7063 or online at [www.jungletheater.org](http://www.jungletheater.org).

Connect with the Jungle on [Facebook](mailto:https://www.facebook.com/JungleTheater/), [Twitter](mailto:https://twitter.com/JungleTheater) and [Instagram](mailto:https://www.instagram.com/jungletheater/): @jungletheater

Promotional photos available at [jungletheater.org/press](http://www.jungletheater.org/press) in the press room files.

**About the Jungle Theater**

A flagship example of the transformational power of the performing arts, the Jungle shares stories that entertain, enrich and delight. The Jungle’s contemporary plays and fresh interpretations of classics spark meaningful dialogue with audiences through compelling stories, masterful acting and exquisite design.

**Dates**

**Previews** Wednesday-Thursday May 15-16 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Media Night** Friday May 17 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Opening Night** Saturday May 18 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Audio-Described** Thursday June 6 @ 7:30 p.m.

**Closes** Sunday June 16 @ 7:30 p.m.