



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TOWN HALL THEATRE OPENS SEASON 2019/20 WITH FABULOUS COMEDY,
*THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE***

AUGUST 13, 2019 – Town Hall Theatre 75TH “TRANSFORMATIONS” Season 2019/20 kicks off with Matthew Lopez’s fabulously flamboyant comedy ***THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE***. ***THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE*** will have 12 performances, including two previews, September 26 through October 19, 2019, at Town Hall Theatre Company, 3535 School Street, in Lafayette, CA. Tickets are \$18 - \$30, and are available through the Box Office at (925) 283-1557 or online at www.TownHallTheatre.com.

THT will host three Special Events for ***THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE***: *Opening Night* gala on Saturday, September 28, 2019; *LIT UP at Town Hall*, a literary salon themed “Making It Up” on Wednesday, October 9, 2018; and Theatre Clubs, our post-show talk-backs with complimentary wine, on Friday, October 4, and Friday, October 18, 2018. We welcome audiences to enjoy THT’s full bar and entertainment in our lobby one hour before performances. Town Hall is thrilled to welcome Drag Queen Story Hour as a new community partner with this production.

“Stitch-in-your-side funny ... full of sass and good spirits.” – *New York Times*

THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE is a gender-defying, sweet and campy, hilarious, and heartfelt celebration of divas and difference! It’s showtime at

Cleo's Lounge, a dilapidated, small-time club in the Florida Panhandle. Casey's got to get a new act together fast – he's broke and his wife just told him there's a baby on the way. Can a young Elvis impersonator transform himself into a platform-pump-panty-hose-wearing drag queen? In a wild flurry of costume magic and lip sync coaching, "Georgia McBride" is born - a little bit country and a little bit rock and roll.

THT's production of ***THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE*** is directed by Cindy Goldfield, and showcases five stellar Bay Area performers: Andrew Mondello as Casey, April Deuschle as Jo, Greg Lynch as Miss Tracy Mills, Hector Zavala as Remy and Jason, and Tom Reilly as Eddie. THT's production also features a dynamic creative team with impressive Bay Area credits: Deanna Zibello (scenic design); Delayne Medoff (lighting design); Michael Kelly (sound design); Shelby Pujol (costume design); and Debbie Shelley (properties design).

"'Georgia McBride' is about a group of people who don't really fit in anywhere else. I call them my misfit toys, and they build a home together at the bar," playwright Lopez said, in an interview with the *LA Times*. "Drag, as it's practiced in these small Southern gay bars, enables a sense of transgression, a sense of rebellion, a sense of resistance. And it's also a hell of a lot of fun."

Performance History

THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE was originally commissioned by the Old Globe in San Diego, and developed and produced at the Denver Center Theatre Company in January 2014. The show premiered in New York at the MCC Theater in September 2015, winning Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle nominations, including Best Play. ***THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE*** had its West Coast premiere at the Geffen Playhouse in April 2017, and premiered in the Bay Area at Marin Theatre Company in June 2017.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Matthew Lopez is an award-winning American playwright and screenwriter whose plays include: *The Whipping Man*, one of the most celebrated and widely produced new American plays of the last decade (world premiere at Luna Stage, NY premiere at Manhattan Theatre Club, winner of Obie, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle and John Gassner Memorial Playwriting awards); *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (Denver Center for the Performing Arts, off-Broadway at MCC Theatre); *Somewhere* (Old Globe, world premiere); *Reverberation* (Hartford Stage, world premiere); *The Sentinels* (London's Headlong Theatre); and *Zoey's Perfect Wedding*. Lopez holds commissions from Roundabout Theatre Company, Manhattan Theatre Club, South Coast Repertory, Williamstown Theatre Festival and Hartford Stage, where he recently served as the Aetna New Voices Fellow. Lopez was a writer on the HBO series "*The Newsroom*" and recently adapted the Javier Marías book trilogy *Your Face Tomorrow* for the screen along with the biopic *Dr. Q* for Disney. Lopez' Olivier Award-winning *The Inheritance* (a two-part epic based on E.M. Forster's *Howards End*) premiered last spring at the Young Vic, transferred to London's West End, and is opening on Broadway this September.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Award-winning actor/director **Cindy Goldfield** is thrilled to be working at Town Hall Theatre for the first time. Directing and choreography credits include work with the ACT/MFA program, *42nd Street Moon* (*As Thousands Cheer*, *Once in a Blue Moon*, *Finnian's Rainbow*, *The Roar of the Greasepaint...*, *SNOOPY!!!*, *The Boyfriend*, *No, No, Nannette*, *Baker Street* and *The Most Happy Fella*), *Playground*, *Cubit Productions*, *Back It Up/Oasis* and many other regional and corporate theatrical events. Acting credits include work at: ACT, CenterRep, San Jose Rep, *Playground*, *42ndSt. Moon* (*Mack and Mabel*, *Nick & Nora*, *Peggy*

Ann, Sweet Adeline, etc.) and many other regional houses. NY credits include *Project: Lohan* and *Mr. Irresistible* at La MaMa E.T.C, with D'Arcy Drollinger's Back It Up Production, with whom she also starred locally in *Scalpel!* and the SF production of *Mr. Irresistible*. Goldfield also enjoys cabaret collaborations with David Aaron Brown (*One Night Stand/Going Back for Seconds*) and the inimitable Scrumby Koldewyn (*Goldfield & Koldewyn*.)

ABOUT TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY

Established in 1944 as the Dramateurs, Town Hall Theatre celebrates 75 years this year, making it the oldest continuously active theatre in Contra Costa County. Town Hall Theatre has been awarded Best Theatre Troupe in *Diablo Magazine's Best of The East Bay*, and is the past recipient of numerous Shellie Awards, and regional Theatre Bay Area Awards. THT is also home to an extensive children's educational program, twice voted the "Best Children's Theatre Company" by *Bay Area Parent Magazine*. THT's 105-year old historical building is managed by the Lafayette Association (LIA). Town Hall Theatre Company is located at 3535 School Street, in Lafayette, CA 94549. The Box Office is open Tuesday through Friday, 4:00 to 6:00PM, and Saturday, 2:00-4:00 pm, and can be reached at 925.283.1557. Information is also available at www.TownHallTheatre.com.

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CALENDAR Information on *THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE*

WHO: TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY presents

WHAT: *THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA MCBRIDE* by Matthew Lopez, directed by Cindy Goldfield

CAST: April Deutschle, Greg Lynch, Andrew Mondello, Tom Reilly, Hector Zavala

DATES: Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019, Preview @ 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 27, 2019, Preview @ 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019: OPENING RECEPTION
THROUGH October 19, 2019

SHOWTIMES: Sept. 26 – Oct. 19, 2019

Thursdays, Sept. 26 and Oct. 17, Fridays and Saturdays @ 8:00pm
Sundays, Oct. 6 and Oct. 13 @ 2:00 PM

CLOSES: October 19

WHERE: Town Hall Theatre Company, 3535 School Street, Lafayette, CA 94549

SPECIAL EVENTS:

September 28, 2019: *Opening Night*

October 9, 2019: *LIT UP at Town Hall*, a Literary Salon, 7:30-9:00pm

Oct. 4 & 18, 2019: *Theatre Club* 8:00pm Post-Show Talk-Backs

Oct. 26, 2019: *Town Hall Theatre 75th Anniversary Masquerade Gala*;
5:30-10:00pm; Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center, 3780 Mt. Diablo
Blvd., Lafayette, CA 94549.

TICKETS: \$18 Previews
\$27-30 Thurs. eve., Fri. eve., Sat. eve
\$25-27 Sun. matinee

Discounts available for Seniors and youth

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