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**TOWN HALL THEATRE ANNOUNCES *IN THE WINGS* STAGED READING OF  
*INCOGNITO* BY NICK PAYNE**

JANUARY 10, 2020 –Town Hall Theatre continues the *IN THE WINGS* staged reading series with a one-night only performance of ***INCOGNITO***, a compelling brainteaser of a play by Nick Payne. ***INCOGNITO*** will have one performance on Monday, February 3, 2020, at Town Hall Theatre Company, 3535 School Street, in Lafayette, CA. Tickets are \$10 general admission and free to subscribers, and are available through the Box Office at (925) 283-1557 or online at [www.TownHallTheatre.com](http://www.TownHallTheatre.com).

“***INCOGNITO*** is likely to send you out of the theatre working out the puzzle. And keep you thinking for days after...highly recommended, thought-provoking, impressive and entertaining.” —*The Huffington Post*.

Using only four actors to portray 21 characters, Nick Payne's ***INCOGNITO*** ingeniously weaves together three stories: a pathologist steals Albert Einstein's brain; a neuropsychologist falls in love with another woman; and a amnesiac patient suffering seizures can only remember one thing, the love he has for his wife. In what the *NY Times* termed a “self-examining drama of ideas”, the playwright deftly explores the illusory and complicated nature of selfhood, of personal identity and memory. ***INCOGNITO*** is directed by Anna Smith and will features Town Hall regulars and Bay Area talents.

## **Performance History**

Originally commissioned by the UK's Nabokov Theatre and Live Theatre Newcastle, **INCOGNITO** premiered in April 2014 in a production by Nabokov, Live Theatre Newcastle and the HighTide Festival. **INCOGNITO**'s first U.S. production was in 2016 by the Manhattan Theatre Club.

## **ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT**

**Nick Payne**'s plays include *If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet* (Bush Theatre and Roundabout Theatre Company, New York), *Wanderlust* (Royal Court Theatre), *Sophocles' Electra* (Gate Theatre), *One Day When We Were Young* (Paines Plough/Sheffield Theatres and Shoreditch Town Hall), *Lay Down Your Cross* (Hampstead Theatre), *Constellations* (Royal Court Theatre and Duke of York's), and *The Same Deep Water As Me* (Donmar Warehouse). He is the recipient of the 2009 George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright, 2012 Harold Pinter Playwright's Award, and the 2012 London Evening Standard Theatre Award for Best Play for *Constellations*.

## **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

**Anna Smith** is an actor, director, and educator native to the Bay Area who recently Assistant Directed Town Hall's *CINDERELLA: A FAIRYTALE*. As an actor, Anna has been seen at Bay Area Children's Theatre (TBA Nomination, *Beautiful Oops*), Town Hall Theatre, and Ray of Light Theatre (SFBATCC Nomination, *Assassins*). More recently, Anna was fortunate enough to work with New York based director/playwright Morgan Gould on a reading of her new play *Three Fat Sisters* as part of Cutting Ball's Variety Pack reading series. Anna's directing work has been seen at Quantum Dragon Theatre, Novato Theater Company, and Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Anna is also the founding executive director of The Quinan Street Project - an organization providing accessible arts education to the West Contra Costa Unified School District. [www.QuinanStreet.org](http://www.QuinanStreet.org)

## **ABOUT TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY**

Established in 1944 as the Dramateurs, Town Hall Theatre turns 75 this year, making it the oldest continuously active theatre in Contra Costa County. THT has been awarded Best Theatre Troupe 2016 in *Diablo Magazines, Best of The East Bay*, and is also 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*. This fall Town Hall Theatre received a Special Arts Recognition Award from the Contra Costa County Arts & Culture Commission. 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](http://www.TownHallTheatre.com).

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## **CALENDAR Information on *IN THE WINGS* staged reading of *INCOGNITO*:**

**WHO: TOWN HALL THEATRE COMPANY presents**

**WHAT: *INCOGNITO*** by Nick Payne, directed by Anna Smith

**DATES:** Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 8:00 p.m.

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

**TICKETS:** \$10 General Admission

FREE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

**BOX OFFICE: (925) 283-1557; [www.townhalltheatre.com](http://www.townhalltheatre.com)**

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