

Kory Kelly – Director of Marketing at Pasadena Playhouse:

PASADENA PLAYHOUSE THE STATE THEATER OF CALIFORNIA IS BACK Our 2021/22 Season

Head Over Heels – a live musical experience fueled by the music of The Go-Go's,

Teenage Dick – a modern retelling of Shakespeare's Richard III,

Ann – a powerhouse performance by Holland Taylor,

and direct from Broadway, freestyle love supreme

the Hip-Hop phenomenon from the minds of
Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale

Memberships now available at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org</u>

August 18, 2021, Pasadena, CA

"We are reemerging from lockdown and people are excited to move forward. The Playhouse is not just ready to welcome people back, but also to reinvent the way we engage with theater — and with each other. This is more than just our next season — this is our first season of a new world."

– Danny Feldman, Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director

Today, Pasadena Playhouse announces a season of four Los Angeles Premieres — an experiential reimagining of the Broadway musical *Head Over Heels* with songs by The Go-Go's, directed, choreographed, and conceived by Jenny Koons and Sam Pinkleton (the Tony-nominated choreographer of *Natasha*, *Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*); Mike Lew's *Teenage Dick*, a modern take on Shakespeare's *Richard III*, directed by Tony Award nominee Moritz von Stuelpnagel; *Ann* written by and starring Emmy Award winner and Tony Award nominee Holland Taylor and directed by Benjamin Endsley Klein; and direct from Broadway, Special Tony Award recipient *freestyle love supreme*, conceived by Anthony Veneziale and created by Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale. A fifth production will be announced at a later date.

The Playhouse will require all patrons to be vaccinated and wear masks while inside the theater. Details on our policy are below.

New Membership options are now available at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org</u>, or by calling the box office at 626-356-7529.

Head Over Heels

November 9 – December 12, 2021

"We return to the stage with a party for all. There's been nothing like it in our 100 plus year history. Our historic theater will turn on its head as the audience joins in on the exuberant celebration. A live musical experience created just for this moment, this theater, and this community."

— Danny Feldman, Producing Artistic Director

Originally produced on Broadway in 2018, *Head Over Heels* has been reimagined for the Playhouse by Jenny Koons and Sam Pinkleton in an all new experiential production. The Playhouse will be transformed to accommodate the new vision for the show, putting the audience in the center of the action. This musical comedy adaptation of *The Arcadia* by Sir Philip Sidney is set to the music of the iconic 1980s all-female rock band The Go-Go's and features the hit songs, *We Got the Beat, Our Lips Are Sealed, Vacation*, Belinda Carlisle's *Heaven is a Place on Earth* and *Mad About You*. The audience will join in the journey as a royal family searches to save their kingdom and discovers the joy of each other along the way.

"Shrewd, funny, sexy, and with a glorious beat, *Head Over Heels* will have you flipping for joy." – *Village Voice*

Teenage Dick

February 1 – 27, 2022

"Mike Lew's brilliantly hilarious high-school spin on Shakespeare's classic play Richard III is at once everything you'd imagine and nothing you'd expect."

Danny Feldman, Producing Artistic Director

Originally produced at the Public Theater in 2018, *Teenage Dick* reimagines the most famous disabled character of all time, Richard III, as a modern day, 16-year-old outsider in his junior year of high school. Bullied because of his cerebral palsy, Richard is determined to have his revenge and make his name by becoming president of the senior class. This innovative, bold play by Mike Lew, directed by Tony Award nominee Moritz von Stuelpnagel, sparks new life into the classic work and reframes the story for today. It continues the Playhouse's purpose, as the State Theater of California, of using our historic stage to bring stories as diverse as our state. A co-production with Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company and Huntington Theatre Company.

"I found the play exhilarating. It suggests how much richer the theater will be when it is truly open to artists of all kinds. Not just because those artists deserve employment but also because the canon of classics deserves reimagining to match our world." – Jesse Green, *The New York Times*

Ann

March 23 – April 24, 2022

"Not even a pandemic can stop Holland Taylor from bringing her iconic performance of Texas Governor Ann Richards, one of the most important women in American politics, to audiences in Los Angeles! We're thrilled to bring our postponed production of Ann to the stage this spring."

Written and performed by Emmy Award winner Holland Taylor, *Ann* is pure entertainment — an uplifting tribute to this courageous leader, dedicated mother, loving grandmother, and legendary personality. Texas Governor Ann Richards had a heart as big as the state from which she hailed, a wit to rival the greats, and an enduring passion for fair play. Neither partisan nor political, this richly imagined play reveals a complex, colorful, and captivating character whose capacity to inspire us all burns even brighter today. After successful runs on Broadway and across Texas, Washington D.C., and many cities across the country, Taylor finally brings this critically acclaimed, Tony-nominated performance to Los Angeles.

"Mama! Holland Taylor captures the governor's sly humor, talent for intimacy, and knack for getting her way." – Nancy Haas, *Newsweek*

freestyle love supreme

July 12 – August 7, 2022

"Joyful, wildly entertaining, and created from scratch each night with the help of the audience. As the Playhouse continues to explore the theatrical medium, freestyle love supreme redefines what theater can be and its upbeat, free-wheeling nature makes it the ultimate show for this moment in time."

— Danny Feldman, Producing Artistic Director

From the creators of *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*, and direct from Broadway comes a show unlike anything else that has been on our stage before, *freestyle love supreme*. This Special Tony Award recipient defies definition as the audience joins in the creative process for each performance. Audiences are led by a troupe of the best freestyle rappers in the business and backed by an onstage band. Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale have created a show that comes to life each night in new ways as the audience suggests ideas that are turned into rhythm and rhyme, right before their eyes. *freestyle love supreme* redefines "live theater" and explores the boundaries of what theater can be now, and into the future.

"And just as you were thinking that life has no rhyme nor reason these days, along comes *freestyle love* supreme to pump you full of hope." — The New York Times

MEMBERSHIPS

Members receive advanced access to tickets at significant discounts. This year, in addition to the existing **Dynamic Membership**, the newly revamped **Pasadena Playhouse Membership Program** also offers increased flexibility and more options, including the return of a traditional subscription with the **Classic Membership**, and a brand new \$100 PlayhousePass Membership, providing greater value to our patrons while fitting into their busy lives. More information can be found at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org/membership</u>.

PATRON SAFETY GUIDELINES

Pasadena Playhouse will follow all safety protocols put forth by Los Angeles County and the City of Pasadena. At this time, the following safety plan will be in place upon our return to stage:

- All patrons will be required to wear a mask fully covering their nose and mouth at all times while
 in the theater.
- Ticket holders will be required to be fully vaccinated and will need to provide a photo ID and proof of vaccination (physical vaccination card, a picture of vaccination card, or a digital vaccination record).
- Guests under 12 years old or those who need a reasonable accommodation for medical reasons or due to a sincerely held religious belief must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to entering the theater.
- Children under 5 will not be admitted. Children 5 years old or older must be able to wear a mask fully covering their nose and mouth at all times while in the theater.

Pasadena Playhouse will continue to address these guidelines as we approach performances. The most up-to-date requirements can be found at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org/covid-19/.</u>

ABOUT THE PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

The Pasadena Playhouse is a place where people have gathered for 100 years to experience bold and important theater. It is one of the most prolific theaters in American history with a legacy of profound theatrical impact and courageous new work. In 1937, the Playhouse was officially recognized as the State Theater of California for its contribution and commitment to the dramatic arts. Today it continues that tradition of excellence under the helm of producing artistic director Danny Feldman. Dedicated to enriching lives through theater, community programs, and learning initiatives, Pasadena Playhouse is a living force in the community.

2021-2022 Slate of Offerings at Pasadena Playhouse

November 9 - December 12, 2021

Head Over Heels

Songs by The Go-Go's
Based on *The Arcadia* by Sir Philip Sidney
Conceived and Original Book by Jeff Whitty
Adapted by James Magruder
Production directed, choreographed and conceived by Jenny Koons and Sam Pinkleton

The Pasadena Playhouse will be turned upside down for this one of a kind musical experience. The music of The Go-Go's fuels this non-stop, dance-filled joyride through magic, merriment, and mischief. From the first notes of *We Got the Beat* to the final rapturous curtain call, you'll be whisked away through a world of exuberance and wit. This jubilant celebration follows a royal family in search of a purpose, lovers in search of each other, and a whole kingdom in search of a beat.

It's a party. And you're invited.

James Magruder (Adaptation): James Magruder made his Broadway debut with the book for *Triumph of Love*. His adaptations of Marivaux, Molière, Lesage, Labiche, Gozzi, Hofmannsthal, Dickens, and Giraudoux have been staged across the country in Germany and Japan, and his dissertation, *Three French Comedies*, was named an "Outstanding Literary Translation of the Year" in 1997. Also a fiction writer, he has published *Sugarless*, a Lambda Literary Award Finalist; *Let Me See It*, a story collection; *Love Slaves of Helen Hadley Hall*; and the just-released *Vamp Until Ready*. He teaches dramaturgy at Swarthmore College and French drama at the Yale School of Drama.

The Go-Go's (Music & Lyrics): The Go-Go's are band members Charlotte Caffey, Belinda Carlisle, Gina Schock, Kathy Valentine, and Jane Wiedlin and they will forever have the beat! These female pioneers formed The Go-Go's in 1978 and were an integral part of the LA punk scene. The Go-Go's made history as the first, and to date only, all-female band that both wrote their own songs and played their own instruments to ever top the Billboard charts. Their 1981 debut album, *Beauty and the Beat*, was #1 on the charts for six consecutive weeks and it remains one of the most successful debut albums of all time. Other albums include *Vacation* (1982), *Talk Show* (1984) and *God Bless The Go-Go's* (2001). With a 1982 Grammy nomination for Best New Artist, a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and a place in history that no other band can claim, it is assured that The Go-Go's will keep going with a classic catalog of songs that transcends time, trends, and genres. In 2021 The Go-Go's were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Jenny Koons (Director/Choreographer): Jenny Koons is a theater director and organizer. Theater Projects: 2021 Vision Resident (Ars Nova), Now Becomes Then (Actors Theatre of Louisville), Men on Boats (Baltimore Center Stage), Speechless (New Blue Man Group North American Tour), A Midsummer Night's Dream (The Public Theater Mobile Unit), Burn All Night (American Repertory Theatre), Gimme Shelter

(Why Not Theatre, 2015 Pan American Games commission), *A Sucker Emcee* (National Black Theatre, LAByrinth Theater Company). Jenny was the 2017 curator of the Encores! Off-Center Lobby Project, cocurator of the 2016 ThisGen Conference, and co-founder of Artists 4 Change NYC (National Black Theatre). She has been a facilitator and educator in creating anti-racist spaces and engaging in conversations around race and equity for over a decade, in both non-profit and artistic spaces. She is a steering committee member of The Ghostlight Project, founded and leads Let's Talk About Hard Stuff, an AAPI anti-racist affinity space, and is co-author of the Open letter to Biden/Harris demanding cabinet-level representation for Arts and Culture.

Sam Pinkleton (Director/Choreographer): Sam Pinkleton is a Tony Award-nominated director, choreographer, educator, and organizer based in Los Angeles. In LA his work has been seen in the Center Theater Group productions of *Soft Power*, *Amélie*, and *Kansas City Choir Boy*, starring Courtney Love. His work on Broadway includes *Natasha*, *Pierre*, and the Great Comet of 1812 - starring Josh Groban and Denée Benton - as well as *Significant Other*, *Heisenberg*, *Amélie*, and *Machinal*. Collaborations with Jenny Koons include the electropop club musical *Burn All Night* at American Repertory Theater and the youth-led civic spectacular *Runaways* at New York City Center and in Central Park. Other recent highlights of his work include *Untitled DanceShowPartyThing* (created with Ani Taj) for Virgin Voyages and new opera productions for The Dutch National Opera, Deutsche Oper Berlin, and Opéra National de Montpellier. He's a collaborating artist with The Civilians, The Dance Cartel, and Pig Iron Theater Company and a lecturer at Princeton University. *The New York Times* has described his work as "how the Ramones might have danced if Bob Fosse choreographed them." He does not own any dance shoes.

February 1 – February 27, 2022

Teenage Dick

by Mike Lew

Directed by Moritz von Stuelpnagel

Produced in association with Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company and Huntington Theatre Company

A brilliantly hilarious take on *Richard III*, Shakespeare's classic tale of power lust, *Teenage Dick* reimagines the most famous disabled character of all time as a 16-year-old outsider in the deepest winter of his discontent: his junior year at Roseland High. Bullied for his cerebral palsy, Richard plots his revenge — as well as his glorious path to senior class presidency. This sharp-witted production is at once everything you'd imagine and nothing you'd expect.

Buckle up.

Mike Lew (Playwright): Mike Lew's plays include *Teenage Dick* (Donmar Warehouse, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Ma-Yi Theater Company at the Public Theater, and Artists Repertory Theatre productions; Public Studio, The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival workshops), *Tiger Style!* (Olney Theatre Center, Huntington Theatre Company, La Jolla Playhouse, and Alliance Theatre productions; The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and Center Theatre Group workshops), *Bike America* (Ma-Yi Theater Company and Alliance Theatre productions), *microcrisis* (Ma-Yi Theater Company, InterAct Theatre Company, and Next Act productions), and *Moustache Guys*, and the book to the musical *Bhangin' It* (Kleban and Richard Rodgers Awards; upcoming La Jolla Playhouse and McCarter Theater co-production, Jerome Robbins Project Springboard and Rhinebeck Writers Retreat "Triple R" workshops). He is a Tony voter, Dramatists Guild Council member, and a resident of New Dramatists. Lew's honors include a Mellon National Playwrights Residency at Ma-Yi Theater Company and La Jolla Playhouse Artist-in-Residence, both with Rehana Lew Mirza; Lark Venturous and NYFA fellowships; and the PEN Emerging Playwright, Lanford Wilson, Helen Merrill, Heideman, and Kendeda awards. Education: Juilliard, Yale. Website: mikelew.com.

Moritz von Stuelpnagel (Director): Broadway: Theresa Rebeck's Bernhardt/Hamlet starring Janet McTeer (Roundabout Theatre Company), Noël Coward's Present Laughter starring Kevin Kline (three Tony nominations including Best Revival), Robert Askins' Hand to God (five Tony nominations including Best Play and Best Director). West End: Hand to God (Olivier nomination). Off-Broadway: Theresa Rebeck's Seared starring Raul Esparza (MCC Theater), Larissa Fasthorse's The Thanksgiving Play (Playwrights

Horizons), Mike Lew's *Teenage Dick* (Ma-Yi Theater Company/Public Theater), Nick Jones' *Important Hats of the Twentieth Century* (Manhattan Theatre Club), Nick Jones' *Verité* (Lincoln Center Theatre/LCT3), Mike Lew's *Bike America* (Ma-Yi Theater Company), Nick Jones' *Trevor* (Lesser America), Robert Askins' *Love Song of the Albanian Sous Chef* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), *Mel & El* (Ars Nova), Michael Mitnick's *Spacebar* (Studio 42), and Adam Szymkowicz's *My Base and Scurvy Heart* (Studio 42). Regional: Williamstown Theatre Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, Alliance Theatre, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, and more. Moritz is the former artistic director of Studio 42, NYC's producer of "unproducible" plays. moritzvs.com

Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company – Co-Producing Theater

Woolly Mammoth is "the hottest theater company in town" (*Washington Post*); priding itself on developing, producing, and making theater that disrupts conventional processes and stimulates transformative experiences. For almost four decades, Woolly has held a unique position at the leading edge of the American theater, earning a reputation for staying "uniquely plugged in to the mad temper of the times" (*New York Times*). The co-leadership of Maria Manuela Goyanes (Artistic Director) and Emika Abe (Managing Director) is supported by a core company of artists that holds itself to a high standard of artistic excellence. Woolly is relentless in its desire to take risks, experiment, innovate, interrogate, and create a radically inclusive community. Located in Washington, D.C., Woolly Mammoth stands upon occupied, unceded territory: the ancestral homeland of the Nacotchtank whose descendants belong to the Piscataway peoples.

Huntington Theatre Company – Co-Producing Theater

Celebrating our 40th season, The Huntington is Boston's theatrical commons and leading professional theater 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. Committed to welcoming broad and diverse audiences, The Huntington 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 its operation of The Huntington Calderwood/BCA. Under the leadership of Managing Director Michael Maso, The Huntington is currently conducting a transformational renovation of the historic Huntington Theatre, a storied venue with a bold vision for the future, which will allow us to innovatively expand our services to audiences, artists, and the community for generations to come. For more information, visit huntingtontheatre.org.

March 23 – April 24, 2022 **Ann**Written by and starring Holland Taylor
Directed by Benjamin Endsley Klein

Emmy Award winner Holland Taylor (*The Practice, Legally Blonde* and *Two and a Half Men*) brings the legendary Ann Richards to the stage in this dynamo Tony-nominated performance that captures the fire, heart, and brains of Ann herself. Ann's down home charm and passion for fair play fuel her uncanny leadership and capacity for caring. Always ready with a laugh out loud zinger or a telling observation, this superstar in Texas politics ultimately became a national figure. A vividly remembered force of nature, Ann continues to inspire us still.

Have a seat...the governor will see you now.

Holland Taylor Holland Taylor is an Emmy®-winning and Tony®-nominated actress and playwright who has been a regular fixture of stage and screen for over four decades.

In 2020 she appeared in several notable projects. She received an Emmy nomination for her work in Ryan Murphy's global hit limited series, *Hollywood*, opposite Patti LuPone, Dylan McDermott, Jim Parsons, and Darren Criss, which premiered on Netflix on May 1, 2020. Holland plays veteran studio

executive 'Ellen Kincaid', whom she imbues with the sort of charm, moxie, and quiet power necessary to combat the rigged Golden Age studio system that the series reimagines.

She also had a major supporting turn in the feature film, *Bill & Ted Face the Music*, the latest installment in the cult classic film series, in which she stars as 'The Great Leader' opposite Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter, reprising their iconic performances.

Next, in June 2020, PBS's *Great Performances* presented a filmed version of Holland's unforgettable one-woman play, *Ann*, based on the late Texas Governor Ann Richards, which Holland wrote and starred in across the country and on Broadway, receiving a 2013 Tony® Award nomination for 'Leading Actress in a Play'. *Ann* was filmed on its Broadway set at Austin's Zach Theatre in Ann's home state of Texas. It currently streams internationally on BroadwayHD as well as on PBS' Passport. For *Ann's* Broadway engagement at Lincoln Center's Beaumont Theatre, Holland also received Drama Desk and Drama League nominations, and the Outer Circle Critics Award for Best Solo Performance.

Currently, in an August 2021 release, Holland stars in *The Chair*, a Netflix series starring Sandra Oh and Jay Duplass, that tells the story of the newly appointed female Chair of the literature department in a "gray stone" university, and the various professors in her charge. Holland plays Professor Joan Hambling, a distinguished scholar putting up a fight at what seems like the end of the line. Bob Balaban, Nana Mensah, and David Morse star as fellow professors managing in the current embroiled climate of higher education.

Holland won the Emmy® Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Drama Series in 1999 for her groundbreaking performance as 'Judge Roberta Kittleson' on ABC's legal drama *The Practice*. She has received a grand total of eight Emmy® nominations during her career, including a second for *The Practice*, one for her guest appearance on the comedy series *The Lot*, and her most recent nod for *Hollywood*. She received an incredible four nominations for her inspired work on CBS's #1 sitcom, *Two and a Half Men* on which she starred as 'Evelyn Harper' for its entire twelve-season run. Her countless television credits also include the classic comedy *Bosom Buddies* starring Tom Hanks, the landmark series *The L Word*, NBC's sitcom *The Naked Truth*, and most recently David E. Kelley's *Mr. Mercedes*, starring Brendan Gleeson and based on a series of novels by Stephen King. She also starred in two auspicious Norman Lear projects: *The Powers That Be*, a short-lived but highly acclaimed political satire; as well as the NBC pilot, *Guess Who Died*, opposite Hector Elizondo.

Her memorable film roles include *Legally Blonde* opposite Reese Witherspoon, Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* starring Jim Carrey, *One Fine Day* with George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer, *George of the Jungle, Baby Mama*, starring Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, the classics *Romancing The Stone* and *Jewel of the Nile, To Die For*, starring Nicole Kidman, *Next Stop Wonderland*, *Happy Accidents*, *Spy Kids* 2 & 3, *Keeping the Faith*, *Gloria Bell*, starring Julianne Moore, and Jay Roach's *Bombshell*. Most recently, she co-starred in Netflix's hugely popular *To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You*.

A stage veteran, Holland most recently appeared on Broadway in 2016 opposite Nathan Lane and John Slattery in the Tony®-nominated revival of *The Front Page*; she made her Broadway debut in 1965 in the play *The Devils*. She also holds the distinction of having appeared in the historic Broadway flop, *Moose Murders*, having taken over for Eve Arden during previews a mere week before opening (and closing). Her New York stage performances also include David Lindsay Abaire's dark comedy *Ripcord* at Manhattan Theatre Club; 'Bess' in *Breakfast with Less and Bess*; and the original productions of *Butley*, opposite Alan Bates, and A.R. Gurney's *The Cocktail Hour*. In Los Angeles, she has performed in *Kindertransport*, and played opposite Christopher Lloyd in Yasmina Reza's *The Unexpected Man* at the Geffen Playhouse. She has also narrated for the Los Angeles Philharmonic in Stravinsky's *Persephone* for Essa-Pekka Salonen, and for John Adams in Phillip Glass' *Akhnaten*. Maestro John Williams was the conductor as she delivered the spoken word in his *Harry Potter Suite* with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Holland was a dedicated student of Stella Adler, and has given talks about the work and cultural contribution of this great teacher. A proud Philadelphia native, she went to Westtown Friends School, and received her B.A. at Bennington College. In 2005, she became a student again, earning an M.A. from the University of Santa Monica.

Benjamin Endsley Klein (Director) Benjamin Endsley Klein was born in Charlotte, NC and is a proud alumnus of the University of Michigan. Director of *Ann* starring Tony Nominated actress Holland Taylor as Governor Ann Richards. Before playing Broadway's Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center, the production played Chicago and The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Selected credits as Director include *Pump Boys & Dinettes* and *First Date* at Pittsburgh CLO, *Bend in the Road* at New York Musical Theatre Festival (included in Huffington Post's "The Best Shows of 2013"), the world premiere musical *Hello Out There* at The Adirondack Theatre Festival, the East Coast Premiere of *Sick* by Zayd Dohrn at New Jersey Repertory, *Hairspray* at Charlottetown Festival (Prince Edward Island, Canada), *Notes to MariAnne* at the Eugene O'Neill Musical Theatre Conference, and *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* at The Old Globe in San Diego, CA. As Resident or Associate Director credits include *The Ferryman* (Tony Award Best Play), *Carousel, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Tony Award Best Play), *War Horse* at Lincoln Center Theater (Tony Award Best Play), *Love Never Dies* in the West End, *Hairspray* in the West End (Olivier Award for Best Musical), UK tour of *Hairspray*, Lincoln Center Theater's *The Coast of Utopia* (Tony Award Best Play), and Broadway, 1st National U.S. Tour, and regional productions of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. SDC Member.

July 12 – August 7, 2022 freestyle love supreme
Conceived by Anthony Veneziale
Created by Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale
Directed by Thomas Kail
Produced by Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda,
Jenny and Jon Steingart, and Jill Furman

Before Hamilton, before In the Heights, there was freestyle love supreme, a 2020 Special Tony Award Recipient. Now - direct from Broadway - the hip-hop musical phenomenon from Thomas Kail, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Anthony Veneziale arrives at Pasadena Playhouse! Using cues from the audience, the cast takes you on a hip-hop comedy ride where no two performances are the same. "Just as you were thinking that life has no rhyme nor reason, along comes freestyle love supreme to pump you full of hope." – The New York Times

Feel the rhythm. Feel the love.

Thomas Kail (Co-Founder, Director, Producer) Broadway directing credits include *Hamilton, In the Heights, Lombardi*, and *Magic/Bird*. Other directing credits include the world premiere of *Hamilton, Dry Powder, Tiny Beautiful Things*, and *Kings* at The Public Theater; *The Wrong Man* at MCC Theater; the world premiere of *In the Heights; Broke-ology* and the world premiere of *When I Come to Die* at Lincoln Center Theater; and the world premiere of *Daphne's Dive* at Signature Theatre. Television directing and producing credits include *Grease Live!* on Fox and *Fosse/Verdon* on FX. He is a recipient of a Kennedy Center Honor and is a graduate of Wesleyan University.

Lin-Manuel Miranda (Co-Founder/Producer) Pulitzer Prize-, Grammy-, Emmy-, and Tony Award®-winning songwriter, actor, and director. Creator and original star of Broadway's Tony-winning Hamilton and In the Heights. Additional Broadway: freestyle love supreme, Bring It On: The Musical (co-composer/co-lyricist, Tony nomination for Best Musical) and West Side Story (2009 revival, Spanish translations). Recipient of the 2015 MacArthur Foundation Award, the 2018 Kennedy Center Honors, and the 2019 Portrait of a Nation Prize. Emmy Award winner with Tom Kitt for their song "Bigger" from the 67th Annual Tony Awards. Mr. Miranda, and the Miranda family, actively support initiatives that increase BIPOC representation in the arts and government, ensure access to women's reproductive health, and foster resilience in Puerto Rico. TV/film: In the Heights, Hamilton (2021 Golden Globe nomination, Best Actor), His Dark Materials, Fosse/Verdon, Curb Your Enthusiasm (2018 Emmy nomination), Saturday Night Live (2017 Emmy nomination), Sesame Street, The Electric Company, House, Duck Tales, 200 Cartas, The Odd Life of Timothy Green, Moana (Grammy Award for Best Original Song), and Mary Poppins Returns (2019 Golden Globe nomination, Best Actor).

Anthony Veneziale (Co-Founder/Two-Touch) Conceiver and co-creator of the Grammy-nominated freestyle love supreme and FLS Academy. Founding member of American Immigrants (San Francisco). He has used improv techniques to create endeavors with Thomas Kail & Lin-Manuel Miranda (In the Heights, Bartlett, The Electric Company), Daveed Diggs (The Freeze), numerous networks & companies (HBO, Cartoon Network, Sesame Workshop, Boardwalk Pictures, Google) and co-founded speechlessinc.com, an improv thinking company that helps humans create, collaborate and find their authentic voices. Stage: freestyle love supreme, Servicemen, The Subject Tonight Is Love. TV: Looking, Kid of the Year, freestyle love supreme.