

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ACT CONTEMPORARY THEATRE ANNOUNCES CAST &  
CREATIVE TEAM FOR THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED PLAY  
**THE LEHMAN TRILOGY**

Three actors tell the 163-year story of an American Dream  
that ended with the largest financial crash in history -  
**extended by popular demand to May 19**

*Directed by ACT Artistic Director John Langs and playing in ACT's  
Falls Theatre, Beginning April 27 and playing through May 19. Single  
tickets on sale now at [acttheatre.org](http://acttheatre.org).*



**SEATTLE, WA (April 2, 2024) — ACT Contemporary Theatre** announced the cast and creative team for ***The Lehman Trilogy*** by **Stefano Massini** and adapted by **Ben Power**, starting April 27 and extended by popular demand to May 19. Directed by ACT Artistic Director **John Langs**, this intimate, wide-ranging story follows the lives of three immigrant brothers, beginning with their 1884 arrival in America and culminating in the collapse of The Lehman Brothers corporation in 2008, triggering the largest financial crisis in US history.

The powerhouse cast of three actors play not only the three Lehman brothers who founded the business but all other roles, including their children, grandchildren, and many roles in between. Told over the course of 3 acts and 163 years, *The Lehman Trilogy* invites us to

question what success is worth, how legacy is defined, and what we value in the wake of devastating collapse.

The original production of this adaptation made its Broadway debut in 2021 and opened to universal critical acclaim and 8 Tony Award nominations, including Best Play.

"I am thrilled to share this quintessential American story with Seattle, continuing ACT's commitment to produce some of the theatre world's best new work in a powerful way," says Langs. "This play also comes at a pivotal time in our country, telling an important story of the history that has shaped the way we live today for better and worse."

The Tony Award-winning Best Play *The Lehman Trilogy* plays in ACT's Falls Theatre April 27 – May 19, 2024, with an opening night celebration on Thursday, May 2. The festivities include a pre-show party in collaboration with [Northwest Folklife](#), with entertainment from **Brivele**. Other special events throughout the run include Tix for Teachers, Community Day, Industry Night, an ASL performance, and an audio-described performance. A full list of events can be found below and at [ACTtheatre.org](#).

## MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM



The three-person cast of *The Lehman Trilogy* (pictured left to right above) features **Bradford Farwell** (ACT: *Daisy*; *A Christmas Carol*) as Mayer Lehman; **Robert Pescovitz** (L.A. Theatre Works: *The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial*) as Henry Lehman; and **Brandon J. Simmons** (ACT: *The Three Sisters*; Director of *The Thin Place*) as Emanuel Lehman.

The creative team includes **John Langs** (Director); **Kate Myre** (Dialect Coach); **Julia Hayes Welch** (Scenic Designer); **An-Lin Dauber** (Costume Designer); **Andrew D.**

**Smith** (Lighting Designer); **Meghan Roche** (Sound Designer); **Mike Tutaj** (Projection Design); **Ruth Eitemiller** (Stage Manager); and **Elizabeth Stasio** (Production Assistant).

### **ABOUT JOHN LANGS (Director)**



John Langs has served as ACT Contemporary Theatre's Artistic Director since 2016. He joined ACT in 2013 as Associate Artistic Director. Langs's 16-year freelance career afforded him the opportunity to work with many prestigious theatre companies across the country. He has directed productions at Playwrights Horizons NY, Ensemble Studio Theater NY, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Lookingglass Theater Company in Chicago, Circle X in Los Angeles, The Resident Ensemble, New Century Theatre Company, Washington Ensemble Theatre, and Seattle Shakespeare Company. Langs received his directing degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Some of his favorite directing credits include *The Shaggs Philosophy of the World* (Los Angeles Drama Critic Circle Award for Best Original Musical), *Brothers Karamazov* (seven LADCC Awards including Best Production of the year and Best Direction), and directing Kurt Beattie in *King Lear*. Langs received the first annual Seattle Gregory Award honoring excellence in direction for *The Adding Machine*. As a dedicated fan of original work, Langs has shepherded over a dozen projects to their premiere production.

### **FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS:**

#### **WHAT:**

#### ***The Lehman Trilogy***

By Stefano Massini, adapted by Ben Power

Directed by John Langs

The Tony Award®-winning Best Play comes to Seattle after a triumphant run on London's West End and Broadway. The Lehmans began as many American immigrants did in the 19th century: on a cold dock in New York City 1844 as a young Jewish man enters his new country for the first time. Joined by his two brothers, he lives the American Dream: from humble beginnings to outrageous success. 163 years later, that legacy—The Lehman Brothers—comes crashing down, triggering the largest financial crisis in history. How? Why? This extraordinary feat of storytelling invites us to question what success is worth, how legacy is defined, and what we value in the wake of devastating collapse.

[Show Details >>](#)

[Ticket info >>](#)

**WHEN:**

**April 27 – May 19, 2024**

Evening performance times are 7:30 p.m. and matinees are 2 p.m. A full performance schedule can be [found here](#).

Run time is approximately 3 hours and 20 minutes with 2 intermissions.

**Key Dates:**

- **First Performance:** Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. [Get first performance tickets here >>](#)
- **Industry Night:** Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m.
  - Theatre industry professionals receive \$25 tickets, and are invited to a pre-show reception with light bites and a cash bar. [Get your industry night tickets here >>](#)
- **Opening Night:** Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m.
  - Join us free before the show at 6:30 for our Opening Night celebration featuring music, photos, and fun. ACT Contemporary Theatre celebrates opening night, in collaboration with Northwest Folklife, with preshow entertainment from Brivele. [Get opening night tickets here >>](#)
- **Community Day: Sunday, May 5, 5:30-7pm** (in-between the 2PM matinee and 7:30pm evening performance)
  - Join us for a conversation about the Jewish journey in America and the larger lessons of the Lehman experience. Rabbi Daniel Weiner (Temple De Hirsch), who has been in the rehearsal room with us during production, leads our discussion and reflection on this cultural moment. Community Day events are free with your ticket to the current production. Tickets do not need to be for the day of the event. [More Details >>](#)
- **Tix for Teachers:** Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.
  - ACT offers K-12 educators free tickets to Tix for Teachers night. Join Artistic Associate Shana Bestock before the show for a casual reception and information about ACT's educational programs. Tix for Teachers for *The Lehman Trilogy* are sold out!
- **ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted Performance:** Saturday, May 11 at 2:00 p.m.
  - Special seating is reserved for patrons requesting live ASL interpretation of the spoken English performance. Seats are held for patrons during select performances to guarantee optimal viewing of both the interpreters and the stage. [Get ASL tickets here >>](#)

- **Audio-Described Performance:** Saturday, May 11 at 2:00 p.m.
  - Complimentary audio description is available for patrons who are blind, who have low vision, or who may benefit from having the unspoken action of a play narrated for any reason. See any front-of-house team member before the performance to receive your headset. [Get audio-described tickets here >>](#)

**WHERE:**

**ACT Contemporary Theatre's Falls Theatre**, located at 700 Union Street in Downtown Seattle.

**TICKETS:**

**Tickets start with Pay What You Choose to select performances.** We are proud to offer a range of ticket prices for all our plays in our goal to make theatre affordable for everyone.

To purchase tickets, visit <https://acttheatre.org>

**PRESS ROOM:**

For available pre-production images and headshots, [please visit our Press Room online >>](#)

**CONNECT ON SOCIAL:**

[acttheatre.org](https://acttheatre.org)

Facebook - [/ACTtheatre](#)

Instagram - [@ACTtheatre](#)

TikTok - [@actseattle](#)

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Show tags: [#ACTtheatre](#) [#ACTSeattle](#) [#LehmanTrilogy](#) [#TheLehmanTrilogy](#)  
[#LehmaninSeattle](#)

**ABOUT ACT CONTEMPORARY THEATRE**

Steadfast in its dedication to producing work that sparks an authentic curiosity about the human condition, ACT produces bold, audacious works of contemporary theatre from its home in Seattle. Over the last 58 years, ACT remains the voice of contemporary theatre in the Pacific Northwest, presenting necessary and relevant works on current themes and producing more than 300 plays and musicals, including 47 world premieres. Led by Artistic Director John Langs, ACT nurtures theatre-makers of the next generation, with a

mission to be a contemporary theatre where artistic ambition and civic engagement unite.

ACT is here to challenge how stories are told. For more information on ACT Contemporary Theatre please visit [ACTTheatre.org](http://ACTTheatre.org).

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