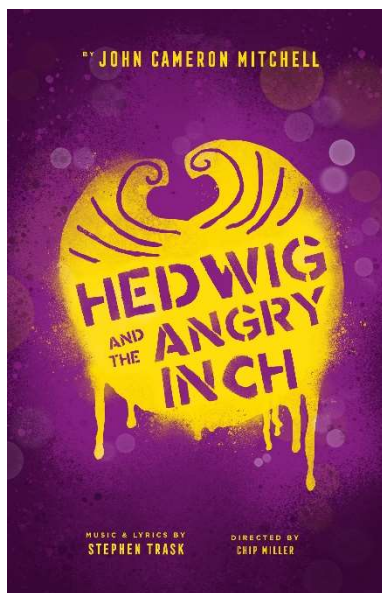


M E D I A R E L E A S E

**TONY AWARD-WINNING ROCK MUSICAL
HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH TO KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR
AT PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY
Starring Portland Favorites Delphon Curtis, Jr. and Ithica Tell
Previews Begin Dec. 28, 2019 | Opening Night is Jan. 3, 2020 | Closes Feb. 23, 2020**



Nov. 25, 2019 — PORTLAND, OR. Portland Center Stage at The Armory will kick off the new year with the Tony Award-winning rock musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, starring Delphon Curtis Jr. as Hedwig and Ithica Tell as Yitzhak. Brilliantly innovative, this genre-bending, fourth-wall-smashing musical sensation tells the story of Hedwig, a German emigrant, who is out to set the record straight about her life, her loves, and the operation that left her with that “angry inch.”

“I feel so inspired by John Cameron Mitchell’s words and Stephen Trask’s music,” said Associate Producer Chip Miller, who directs.

“The opportunity to dive in and find my way through this iconic piece with a team of awesome collaborators is a gift. Our goal is to make a *Hedwig* unlike any you’ve seen, while still staying true to the genius, the fun, and the heartbreak that have brought so much joy and meaning to so many over the past 20 years.”

Part rock concert, part cabaret, part stand-up comedy routine, John Cameron Mitchell’s *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* made its debut on the stage of SqueezeBox, a New York City rock 'n' roll drag bar. *Hedwig* opened Off-Broadway in 1998, where it won the Obie Award and Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off-Broadway Musical. The 2001 film adaptation won Best Director and Audience

Awards at the Sundance Film Festival and went on to become a cult classic. In 2014, *Hedwig* debuted on Broadway, where it won four Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Musical.

The Armory will host various community events surrounding the show, including a special *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* sing-a-long with the cast and Low Bar Chorale, a drag tribute to *Hedwig* hosted by Portland's



L-R: Ithica Tell, Delphon Curtis Jr., and Chip Miller. Photo by Kate Szrom.

premier drag clown Carla Rossi (Anthony Hudson), pre-show Happy Hours with Basic Rights Oregon, and discussions with cast, crew, and community guests. Details will be posted at www.pcs.org/hedwig closer to the show.

JOHN CAMERON MITCHELL

John Cameron Mitchell was awarded a *New York Magazine* Award and a Drama League Award for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*'s Off-Broadway premiere. Mitchell directed and starred in the film adaptation of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* received directing and acting awards at festivals such as Berlin, Deauville, Seattle International, San Francisco International, and San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The film was also honored by the National Board of Review, The L.A. Film Critics Association, and *Premiere Magazine*. For his role of Dickon in the Broadway production of *The Secret Garden*, he received a Drama Desk Award nomination. Off-Broadway, Mitchell received an Obie Award and a Drama Desk Award nomination for his role as Larry Kramer in *The Destiny of Me*. In Lincoln Center's *Hello Again*, Mitchell received a Drama Desk nomination. He also appeared in the original Broadway production of *Six Degrees of Separation* and as Huck Finn in the Broadway production of *Big River*. Mitchell adapted and directed Tennessee Williams' *Kingdom of Earth* for New York's Drama Dept. Theatre Company, of which he is a founding member.

STEPHEN TRASK

Stephen Trask is the author of the music and lyrics for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. He was the original leader of the notorious SqueezeBox house band. During his time there as music director, he performed with Debbie Harry, Lene Lovitch, Hole, Green Day, Joey Ramone, as well as New York's most popular drag queens. For five years, Trask performed with his band Cheater, which originated the "The Angry Inch" band Off-Broadway and played on the original cast recording. From 1993-1998, Trask danced with and accompanied The Corner Store Dance Company. He has scored numerous dance pieces and movies. During *Hedwig's* reign at the Jane Street Theatre, Trask received Drama Desk nominations for Outstanding Music, Outstanding Lyrics, and Outstanding New Musical, a Grammy nomination for Best Cast Album, and two GLAMA Awards: Best Cast Album and Best Score. He also composed the music for the New York Theatre Workshop production of *Cavedweller*, adapted from Dorothy Allison's novel, and he works regularly in the film world supplying the original score for *Camp*, *The Station Agent*, and *The West Memphis Three*.

THE CAST

Delphon Curtis Jr. (*A Christmas Carol* and *Crowns* at Portland Playhouse) will make his debut at The Armory as Hedwig. **Ithica Tell** (*The Color Purple, for colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf* at The Armory) will play Yitzhak. **Darian Anthony Patrick** (percussion) directs the all-local band, which includes **Maria Del Castillo** and **Jasmine Wood** (guitar), and **Nsai Matingou** (bass).

THE CREATIVE TEAM

Director **Chip Miller** (*Redwood* at Portland Center Stage at The Armory, *School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls Play* at Kansas City Repertory Theatre) leads the creative team, which includes Music Director **Amir Shirazi** (*Macbeth* at The Armory, *Twelfth Night* for Portland Actor's Ensemble), Scenic Designer **Britton Mauk** (*The Burdens* at City Theatre Company, *Old Man and the Sea* at Pittsburgh Playhouse), Costume Designer **Dominique Fawn Hill** (*One Night in Miami* for City Theatre Company, *School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls Play* at Kansas City Repertory Theatre), Lighting Designer **Avi Sheehan** (*DNA* at Oregon Children's Theatre, *Smokefall* at Defunkt Theatre), Sound Designer **Em Gustason** (*Mary's Wedding* at The Armory, *Marjorie Prime* at Artists Repertory Theatre), Video Designer **Jamie Leonard** (*Hana's Suitcase: A True Holocaust Mystery* at The

Coterie, *Yingelishi* at Opera180), Wig Designer **Jessica Miller** (*Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* at The Armory), Stage Manager **Janine Vanderhoff**, and Production Assistant **Dana Petersen**.

TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

When: Dec. 28, 2019 – Feb. 23, 2020*

*Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, Jan. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Preview Performances: Dec. 28, 29, 31, and Jan. 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: In the Ellyn Bye Studio at [The Armory](#)

128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, Ore., 97209

To Purchase: Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$85. Tickets may be purchased at www.pcs.org, 503.445.3700, or in-person from the box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). Ticket specials are listed at www.pcs.org/deals. Rush tickets are \$25. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger get 50% off tickets in seating area 1. Active duty or veteran military personnel and their families get \$15 off regular adult tickets. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. *All prices vary by date and time, and are subject to change.*

- **Online:** www.pcs.org/hedwig
- **By Phone:** 503.445.3700, 12–6 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday
- **In Person:** The box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue
12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on performance days
12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday, on non-performance days
- **Groups:** Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

More Info: www.pcs.org/hedwig

Showtimes: Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding Jan. 12, 14, 26, and Feb. 2, 4, 9, and 23), Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding Dec. 28, 29, and Jan. 4, and Feb. 15); and Thursday matinees at 11 a.m. (excluding Jan. 2).

Please Note: Recommended for ages 14 and up.

Accessibility: Learn about our accessibility options at www.pcs.org/access.

IDEA: Portland Center Stage at The Armory is committed to identifying and interrupting instances of racism and all forms of oppression, through the principles of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA). www.pcs.org/idea

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY

[Portland Center Stage at The Armory](#) is the largest theater company in Portland and among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994, and is under the leadership of Artistic Director Marissa Wolf and Managing Director Cynthia Fuhrman. Around 160,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classic, contemporary, and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. Ten productions are offered this season, in addition to hundreds of community events created to serve the diverse populations in the city. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 28 world premieres and presents an annual new works festival, JAW: A Playwrights Festival. Home to two theaters, The Armory (originally built in 1891) opened its doors in 2006 as the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue in the country, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

THE 2019-2020 SEASON

The [2019-2020 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, Mary and Don Blair, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from Season Sponsors Advance Gender Equity in the Arts (AGE); the Regional Arts and Culture Council; and the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support for *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* comes from CTA Lab; Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP + Chrys Martin and Jack Pessia; Ronni Lacroute; Kevin Hogan and Aron Larson; Kelly K. Douglas and Eric H. Schoenstein; and Tanner Creek Tavern.

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