



**MEDIA ADVISORY
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MEDIA CONTACT
Dayna Kalakau
510.843.8042 x311
dkalakau@auroratheatre.org

**AURORA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
THE BAY AREA PREMIERE OF
ANNA ZIEGLER'S
ACTUALLY
MARCH 8 - MAY 5 (OPENS: MARCH 14)
Two-Week Extension Announced**

BERKELEY, CA (Feb. 19, 2019) Aurora Theatre Company continues its dynamic 27th season with the Bay Area premiere of Anna Ziegler's **ACTUALLY**. **Tracy Ward** directs this powerful "he said/she said" that explores the intersection of race, gender, and sex on college campuses. **Michael Curry** and **Ella Dershowitz** each make their Aurora debut.

Aurora Theatre Company will add 13 performances to its Bay Area premiere of **ACTUALLY**, **extending performances through May 5. There is no show Tuesday, April 23.**

ACTUALLY runs March 8 - May 5 (**Opens: March 14**).

Investigating the hot-button topics of gender and race politics, Anna Ziegler ("newly and justly hot" -New York Times) tells a story about our crippling desire to fit in. Amber and Tom, both freshmen at Princeton, spend a drunken night together. Soon after, they find themselves testifying at a sexual misconduct hearing. As the two students, one black and one white, tell their

stories, we are left wondering how to find certainty and justice when there are three sides to every story.

TheatreMania said **ACTUALLY** is “crafted with compassion, intelligence and insight.”

Anna Ziegler is an award-winning American playwright. Her widely produced play *Photograph 51* was selected as a “Best of the Year” play by *The Washington Post* (twice) and *The Telegraph*. Her play *Boy* was nominated for the 2016 John Gassner Award by the Outer Critics Circle, and **ACTUALLY** is the winner of the Ovation Award in Los Angeles for Playwriting of an Original Play. Her work has been produced on the West End, The Old Globe, Seattle Rep, and The Ensemble Studio, The Magic, and City Theatres, and developed at the Sundance Theatre Lab, The O’Neill Playwrights Conference, NY Stage & Film, amongst others. Anna is developing a television series for HBO and a screenplay for Scott Free Productions

Director **Tracy Ward** returns to Aurora with **ACTUALLY**, where she was previously a member of Aurora’s Global Age Project Director’s Council. Other directing credits include New Conservatory Theatre, Shotgun Players, Theatre Rhinoceros, Thick House, AlterTheater, Theater Artaud, Oakland Public Theater at Mills College, Word for Word, Z Space, and the Playground and Marin Fringe Festivals. She is an adjunct professor at the Academy of Arts College, San Francisco. She is a proud company member of Playground.

Aurora has assembled a talented cast for **ACTUALLY**.

Oakland-based actor and writer **Michael Curry** makes his Aurora debut with **ACTUALLY**. He was recently seen in the 2018 re-mount of "Black Odyssey" at Cal Shakes last year and was nominated for a TBA award for his work in Ubuntu Theater Project's production of "Topdog/Underdog".

Ella Dershowitz also makes her Aurora debut. Locally, her stage credits include Capital Stage, City Lights, Marin Theatre Company. She’s performed off-Broadway at Vineyard Theater, 59E59, The New Group, Clubbed Thumb, Attic Theater, and Theater Three, and regionally at

Hudson Stage and Martha Vineyard Playhouse, among others. Her formal training is from Yale University and London Academy of Music & Art.

The creative team for **ACTUALLY** includes: **Giulio Perrone**--Set; **Ulises Alcalá** --Costumes; **Jim Cave**--Lighting; and **James Ard**--Sound.

CALENDAR EDITORS

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DATES

Previews: Friday 3/8 and Saturday 3/9 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, 3/10 at 2 p.m. only.

Tuesday, 3/12 and Wednesday, 3/13 at 7 p.m.

Open: **Thursday, March 14**

Close: **Sunday, May 5**

Shows: Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

Sunday at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

NO SHOW Tuesday, April 23

WHERE Aurora Theatre Company | 2081 Addison Street | Berkeley, CA

TICKETS For single tickets (\$35-\$70) or subscriptions (\$111-\$396), the public can call **(510) 843-4822** or visit **www.auroratheatre.org**

PRE-PRODUCTION IMAGES <http://bit.ly/ActuallyAuroraPress>

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges Season Sponsors: Ed & Liliane Schneider. Associate Sponsors:

Kitt Shute & Jeff Rowlings, Lisa & James Taylor, and Muffy Thorne. Cast & Crew Sponsor: Elizabeth Burwell.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and government agencies for their support: Actors' Equity Foundation, Alameda County Arts Commission ARTSFUND, Berkeley Civic Arts Program & Civic Arts Commission, The Bernard Osher Foundation, Fleishhacker Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, MUFG Union Bank Foundation, Sam Mazza Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Theatre Bay Area, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and Zellerbach Family Foundation.

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