



HANOVER THEATRE  
& CONSERVATORY

## NEWS RELEASE

For interview requests, please contact Annie Kerins, PR Manager, at [akerins@thehanovertheatre.org](mailto:akerins@thehanovertheatre.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Full Cast announced for The Hanover Theatre Repertory's rotating productions of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and new solo show, *Judith*!



'23 - 24

THE HANOVER THEATRE  
**REPERTORY**

L-R, Meri Stypinkski\*, MaConnia Chesser\*, Livy Scanlon\*

Worcester, Mass. (March 4, 2024) [The Hanover Theatre Repertory](#) (THT Rep) unveils the dynamic creative team delivering captivating new play [Judith](#), by Katie Bender, and iconic comedy [Twelfth Night](#), by William Shakespeare. Directed by Brendon Fox (*Baskerville*, Cleveland Playhouse), both gender-bending productions will play at the BrickBox Theater in the [Jean McDonough Arts Center](#) April 11 - May 5, 2024.

[Tickets are on sale now!](#)

THT Rep's Artistic Director Livy Scanlon\* (*Poe Double Header*, THT Rep) plays Judith, the titular role in Bender's Shakespeare-inspired new solo show exploring self-worth, ambition and queer identity. First introduced to THT Rep's audience as a staged reading in 2023, the fully realized production is presented in partnership with [Urbanite Theatre](#) in Sarasota, Florida. Scanlon returns after 41 performances in the Sunshine State with a wealth of rave reviews and a polished final product.

Under Fox's clever direction, Scanlon also plays protagonist Viola in *Twelfth Night*, a beloved comedy rife with mischief, music, and mistaken identities. Separated from her twin brother after a devastating shipwreck, Viola dresses as a man to protect herself, only to fall in love with the Duke Orsino, who in turn has eyes for the Countess Olivia. Hijinks ensue until identities are revealed, the love triangle is untangled and the twins are reunited.

Joining Scanlon onstage in Fox's 1920s inspired production are Robert St. Laurence\* (*Sunday in the Park with George*, The Huntington) as Orsino, MarHadoo Effeh\*\* (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) as Olivia, Worcester favorite Meri Stypinski\* (*The Glass Menagerie*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar*, THT Rep) as Feste, MaConnia Chesser\* (Shakespeare and Company) as Sir Toby Belch, Janis Greim Hudson (*Torch Song*, Moonbox Productions) as Malvolia, Drew Cleveland (*Much Ado About Nothing*, Brown Box Theatre Project) as Sebastian, Alexa Cadete as Maria, Michael Skrzek\* (*Julius Caesar*, THT Rep) as Fabian, John Tracey as Sir Andrew, and Robert Isaacson (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) as Sea Captain.

Rounding out the *Twelfth Night* cast is THT Rep's 2024 cohort of [Worc @ Play](#) acting students, who receive tuition-free classical actor training offered in partnership with The Hanover Theatre Conservatory: Cristiano Lourenço, Jr. (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) as Antonio, Kyle Hargrove (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) as Priest, Nick Baker (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) as Curio, Sara (Penny) Penniman as Valentine, Matthew Johnson (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) and Cassie Tortorricci as Officers of Illyria, along with Karen Richards (*Macbeth*, THT Rep) and Erica Shields as Ladies in Waiting.

Joining Fox on *Twelfth Night's* creative team are Associate Director Dr. Kathryn Moncrief, Scenic Designer Baron Pugh, Costume Designer Chelsea Kerl, Lighting Designer Laura J. Eckelman, Properties Coordinator and Scenic Builder Becki Gray, Composer Mark Mummert and DEIB Counselor Valerie Zolezzi-Wyndham.

*Judith* creatives include Voice and Dialect Coach Patricia DeLorey, Lighting Designer Laura J. Eckelman, Costume Designer Alison Gensmer, Sound Designer Rew Tippin and Properties Coordinator Danielle McKay.

Production and stage management teams for both shows include Production Stage Manager Rafi Levavy\*, Assistant Stage Manager Jess Brennan\*\*, Production Manager Lisa Hackman and Wardrobe Supervisor Perri Sylvester.

[Tickets are on sale now!](#)

*Twelfth Night*

Thursday April 11th 2024, 7:30 pm Preview

Friday, April 12th 2024, 8 pm Preview

**Saturday April 13th 2024, 8 pm** Opening Night and Preshow Roaring 20s Party

Sunday, April 14th 2024, 2 pm

Thursday, April 18th 2024, 7:30 pm

Friday, April 19th 2024, 7:30 pm

Saturday, April 20th 2024, 2 pm

Sunday, April 21st 2024, 2 pm

Saturday, April 27th 2024, 8 pm

Sunday, April 28th 2024, 2 pm

Thursday, May 2nd 2024, 7:30 pm

Saturday, May 4th 2024, 8 pm

Sunday, May 5th 2024, 2 pm Closing

*Judith*

**Saturday, April 13th 2024, 2 pm** Opening Matinee and Post Show Season Announcement

Saturday, April 20th 2024, 8 pm

Sunday, April 28th 2024, 7 pm

Friday, May 3rd 2024, 8 pm Closing

THT Rep creates a diverse range of theatrical experiences, showcasing the talent of remarkable artists while making space for audiences of all ilk. Equitable ticket pricing is available on a tiered scale ranging from \$12-\$200. Audience members are trusted to use the honor system, choosing their ticket price based on their ability to give back and help sustain the future of THT Rep.

For tickets call The Hanover Theatre's box office at [877.571.7469](tel:877.571.7469) or visit [TheHanoverTheatre.org](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org).

**Student Matinees:** For information on student matinees, contact Kim Pheymannic, Student Matinee Coordinator, at [kpheymannic@thehanovertheatre.org](mailto:kpheymannic@thehanovertheatre.org) or **508.471.1765**.

\*Member, Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

\*\*Appearing Courtesy Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

**About The Hanover Theatre Repertory (THT Rep)**

The mission of THT Rep is to engage, entertain and energize audiences with dynamic theatrical events made in and for Worcester, with a focus on classics, modern classics and classic-inspired works. In short: vital cities have vital downtowns, and vital downtowns have great professional theatre. Learn more at [TheHanoverTheatre.org/THTRep](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org/THTRep).

***Judith* Project History.** Conceived by Livy Scanlon and written by Katie Bender, *Judith* was developed with the Hyde Park Theater Writers Group in 2020 and 2021. It then enjoyed a non-Equity production at Hyde Park in 2022, directed by Madge Darlington, for which it won a B. Iden Payne Award for best original script. In 2023, *Judith* received an Access Grant from the Barr Foundation for a professional staged reading, directed by Brendon Fox, presented by THT Rep. Subsequently, *Judith* was offered an Off-Broadway reading directed by Alex Keegan, presented by All For One Theatre at WP Theatre. In January 2024, *Judith*'s world premiere played at Urbanite Theatre in Sarasota, FL, again under the direction of Fox.

### **About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts**

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance and more. POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the top theatres in the world. The award-winning historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class center for the performing arts, a venue for local cultural and civic organizations and a catalyst for the revitalization of downtown Worcester. The Hanover Theatre's facilities at 551 Main Street house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts (THT) and, on behalf of the Worcester Cultural Coalition (WCC), manages Worcester's BrickBox Theater at the Jean McDonough Arts Center (JMAC). All [donations](#) are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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