



MEDIA RELEASE

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www.MilwaukeeRep.com | @MilwRep | #SongsForNobodiesMKE

songs for nobodies

Judy Garland • Patsy Cline • Edith Piaf • Billie Holiday • Maria Callas

American Premiere at Milwaukee Repertory Theater's Newly Renovated Stackner Cabaret September 7 – November 4

August 15, 2018 - [Milwaukee Repertory Theater](#)'s 65th Anniversary Season opens in the \$1.75 million newly renovated Stackner Cabaret with *Songs for Nobodies* by **Joanna Murray-Smith** (*American Song, Bombshells*) starring Milwaukee Rep favorite **Bethany Thomas** (*Ain't Misbehavin', Ragtime, Man of La Mancha*) in a one-woman tour-de-force show about legendary divas Judy Garland, Patsy Cline, Edith Piaf, Billie Holiday and Maria Callas.

Fresh off sold-out tours in Australia and the UK, **Laura Braza** (*Always...Patsy Cline, Grounded*) directs this American premiere with music direction by **Abdul Hamid Royal** (*Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*), set design by **Michelle Lilly** (*The Muni's Once On This Island*), costume design by **Alexander B. Tecoma** (*Guys and Dolls*), lighting design by **Jared Gooding** (*American Blues Theater's Buddy Holly*), sound design by **Erin Paige** (*Always...Patsy Cline*), **Clara Arena Haden** (*Guys and Dolls*) is the dialect coach, and **Rebekah Heusel** (*Holmes and Watson*) is the stage manager. The production will feature **Alicia Storin** on the cello who last graced The Rep stage in *An Iliad*.

Songs for Nobodies reminds us that everybody has a story – and a song – worth hearing. Interspersed with the songs that made Judy Garland, Patsy Cline, Edith Piaf, Billie Holiday, and Maria Callas icons of our age, this one-woman tour-de-force shows us the magical power of music. It features such favorites as "Come Rain or Come Shine," "Amazing Grace," "Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien," "Ain't Nobody's Business If I Do," and "Vissi d'arte." With this charming masterpiece, you'll fight the urge to stand up and sing along.

Bethany Thomas' Milwaukee Rep credits include *The Color Purple*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Ragtime*, *Man of La Mancha* and *A Christmas Carol*. Regionally she earned rave reviews for *A Moon For The Misbegotten* (Josie Hogan - Writer's Theatre); *Marry Me a Little* (Porchlight Music Theatre); *The Tempest* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Porgy and Bess* (Serena - Court Theatre); *Hair* (Paramount Theatre); *Iphigenia in Aulis* (Getty

Villa); and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey II - Geva Theatre). A celebrated singer/songwriter, Bethany has been touring the country as one quarter of Jon Langford's Four Lost Souls (self-titled album on Bloodshot Records) and also released her own EP called "First". Find her music on BethanyThomasMusic.com.

Songs for Nobodies runs September 7 – November 4 in the newly renovated Stackner Cabaret. The much needed renovation increases the seating capacity by over 35% to 186 seats, provides state of the art production capabilities, comfortable new seats and tables, extra bathrooms for ladies, new kitchen and bar and expanded outer patio ready to serve up the most delicious meals and best cocktails.

To purchase tickets to **Songs for Nobodies**, go to www.MilwaukeeRep.com, call 414-224-9490 or visit in person at the Ticket Office (108 E. Wells Street).

Songs for Nobodies is a John (Jack) D. Lewis New Play Development Program Production and is part of the **Camille and David Kundert Stackner Season**. The Rep is sponsored in part by **The United Performing Arts Fund**.

Songs for Nobodies Public Performance Calendar
Artists, dates and ticket prices are subject to change

Songs for Nobody		By Joanna Murray-Smith Directed by Milwaukee Native Laura Braza		in the Stackner Cabaret SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2018	
Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
• Preview Δ Opening Night EB Early Performance AD Audio Described ◇ Closing Night			9/7	9/8	ROSH HASHANAH 9/9
		8:00pm •	8:00pm •		7:00pm Δ
ROSH HASHANAH 9/11	9/12	9/13	9/14	9/15	9/16
6:30pm EB	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm AD
YOM KIPPUR 9/18	YOM KIPPUR 9/19	9/20	9/21	9/22	9/23
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
9/25	9/26	9/27	9/28	9/29	9/30
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
10/2	10/3	10/4	10/5	10/6	10/7
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
10/9	10/10	10/11	10/12	10/13	10/14
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
10/16	10/17	10/18	10/19	10/20	10/21
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm
10/30	HALLOWEEN 10/31	11/1	11/2	11/3	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS 11/4
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm	4:00pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm ◇

::Fact Sheet::

Songs for Nobodies

September 7 – November 4, 2018 (Opening Night is Sunday, September 9 at 7pm) in the Stackner Cabaret
Book by Joanna Murray-Smith | Directed by Laura Braza | Starring Bethany Thomas

Community Events:

- Thursday, August 16 hear a preview of the show at **Jazz in the Park**
- Tuesday, August 28 watch Bethany Thomas on **TMJ4 Morning Blend** at 9am.

Access Services

The Stackner Cabaret is equipped with a **T-coil Loop Hearing System**.

Audio-Described Performance: Sunday, September 16, 7pm – the show will be described for patrons who are blind or have low vision.

Information

Tickets: www.MilwaukeeRep.com, by phone at 414-224-9490, or at the Ticket Office at 108 E Wells Street, Milwaukee.

Hours: 12noon – 6pm; on performance days the Ticket Office remains open until 15 minutes past **curtain**.

Student Discounts: Students 18 and under can purchase \$20 tickets for select seating areas.

35 & Under: Select tickets available for \$20 for patrons 35 & Under. (Select 35 & Under price at checkout online)

Group Sales: Discounted tickets for parties of 10+. Call 414-290-5340.

About Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Milwaukee Rep is the largest performing arts organization in Wisconsin in terms of audiences served and one of the largest professional theaters in the country. Each year, The Rep welcomes up to 275,000 people at nearly 700 performances of 15 productions ranging from compelling dramas, powerful classics, new plays and full-scale musicals in its three unique performance venues – the Quadracci Powerhouse, Stiemke Studio and Stackner Cabaret. Now in its 65th Season, The Rep has gained a national reputation as an incubator of new work, an agent of community change and a forward-thinking provider of vital arts education programs. Under the leadership of **Artistic Director Mark Clements** and **Managing Director Chad Bauman**, Milwaukee Repertory Theater ignites positive change in the cultural, social, and economic vitality of its community by creating world-class theater experiences that entertain, provoke, and inspire meaningful dialogue among an audience representative of Milwaukee's rich diversity.

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