

“One of the Best New Plays of the Year”

– Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*

★★★★



Milwaukee Repertory Theater’s American Premiere of ***THINGS I KNOW TO BE TRUE*** by Andrew Bovell

March 21, 2019 [Milwaukee] The reviews are in for [Milwaukee Repertory Theater’s](#) American premiere of *Things I Know To Be True* by Australian playwright **Andrew Bovell** and directed by Artistic Director **Mark Clements** running now through March 31, 2019 in the Quadracci Powerhouse.

Chris Jones of the [Chicago Tribune](#) raves “I can’t overstate how much I admire this work, which is receiving its American premiere in Milwaukee, under the warm-centered artistic director Mark Clements, nor how much I saw it move an audience... **I think this the best new play I have seen this year:** I saw it several days ago, have seen other work since then, but still it dances in my head.”

[OnMilwaukee](#) says “ Here are a few things I know to be true: If you see this extraordinary production during its one-month run, you will be touched in a way you perhaps didn’t anticipate. You will be moved by the struggles and triumphs of the Price family. And you will be inspired to reflect on how

you relate to people that are going through something that may be personally unimaginable to you.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) reports “*Things* could affect you differently depending on where you are in the life cycle...bring tissues and a friendly shoulder with you to this production.” While [Showbiz Chicago](#) exclaims “I’ve seen many memorable plays at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, but *Things I Know To Be True*, a powerful and poignant examination of family turmoil is in a class all by itself...It is fast-paced, epic storytelling overflowing with struggle, humor, and regret – all things we know to be true. [BroadwayWorld](#) hails, “Bovell’s turbulent, poignant script – dotted with just enough laugh-aloud humor and lightness – is brilliantly served by the cast. Kudos to Milwaukee Rep for staging a show that doesn’t run from life’s uneasiness, but rather sits in grey areas for a while and forces audiences to sit there, too.” [Chicago Splash Magazine](#) states “It’s beautiful and truthful, poetic and starkly honest about human fallibility, even when (or sometimes especially when) informed by love. In short: see it with family, if you can.” And [Shepherd Express](#) declares it a “not-to-be-missed production.”

Things I Know To Be True by Andrew Bovell is an innovative and touching new play that looks at the struggles a nuclear family faces to fulfill expectations, establish one’s own identity and deal with personal crises. It had its world premiere in Adelaide, Australia in 2016 before touring the UK to critical acclaim. With the American premiere at The Rep, Bovell has rewritten parts of the play, moving the location to a Midwestern town with a typical American family.

The cast features **Jordan Baker** (*Luna Gale*, Goodman Theatre) as Fran the Mother, **Bill Geisslinger** (*Native Gardens*, Arizona Theater Co.) as Bob the father, and children **Kelley Faulkner** (*Always...Patsy Cline*, Milwaukee Rep) as Pip, **Zach Fifer** (*Twelfth Night*, Pioneer Theatre Co.) as Ben, **Aubyn Heglie** (*Love’s Labor’s Lost*, Carnegie Mellon) as Rosie, and **Kevin Kantor** (*The Legend of Georgia McBride*, B Street Theatre) as Mia.

Things I Know To Be True is directed by Rep Artistic Director **Mark Clements** with stage and movement direction by first time collaborator **Julia Rhoads**. Rhoads is the Artistic Director of Lucky Plush Productions a Chicago based dance company that is a unique hybrid of high-level dance and theater. The full creative team includes set design by **Scott Davis** (*Guards at the Taj*, Milwaukee Rep), costume design by **Rachel Laritz** (*One House Over*, Milwaukee Rep), lighting design by **Jesse Klug** (*One House Over*, Milwaukee Rep), original music and sound design by **Joe Cerqua** (*The Foreigner*, Milwaukee Rep), voice and text coaching by **Eva Breneman**, dramaturgy by Associate Artistic Director **Brent Hazelton**, and stage management by **Rebekah Heusel**.

Things I Know To Be True is a co-production with **Arizona Theatre Company** and is part of the **John D. Lewis New Play Development Program**. Executive Producers are **Judy Hansen** and **Christine and Pat Keyes**, as well as Associate Producers **Suzy B. Ettinger Foundation**, **Phoebe Lewis** and **Catherine**

and Buddy Robinson. The media sponsor is **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.** The Rep is sponsored in part by **The United Performing Arts Fund.**

Things I Know To Be True runs now through March 31, 2019 in the Quadracci Powerhouse. Purchase tickets at www.MilwaukeeRep.com, by calling the Ticket Office at **414-224-9490** or in person at **108 E. Wells Street** in downtown Milwaukee.

Download [PHOTOS](#) and [VIDEO](#) here.

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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 **Executive 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.