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***EINSTEIN'S DREAMS*, a new musical based on Alan Lightman's novel, receives NYC premiere at 59E59 Theaters**

Novelist and MIT Professor Alan Lightman will participate in a post-show conversation on Friday, December 6

New York, New York September 5, 2019—**59E59 Theaters** (Val Day, Artistic Director; Brian Beirne, Managing Director) is thrilled to present the NYC premiere of ***EINSTEIN'S DREAMS*** book and lyrics by **Joanne Sydney Lessner**, music and lyrics by **Joshua Rosenblum**, directed by **Cara Reichel**, and based on the novel by **Alan Lightman**. **Milton Granger** is the music director; the movement director/associate director is **Dax Valdes**. Produced by **Prospect Theater Company**, ***EINSTEIN'S DREAMS*** begins performances on **November 5** for a limited engagement through **December 15**. **Press Opening is Wednesday, November 20 at 7 PM**. The performance schedule is **Tuesday – Friday at 7 PM; Saturday at 2 PM & 7 PM; and Sunday at 2 PM**. Please note the following schedule adjustments: the Sun 11/10 performance is at 7 PM (there is no matinee); there are added 2 PM matinee performances on Tue 11/26 and Thur 12/12; there are no performances on Wed 11/27 and Thur 11/28. Performances are at **59E59 Theaters** (59 East 59th Street, between Park and Madison). Single tickets are **\$25 - \$70** (\$49 for 59E59 Members). To purchase tickets, call the **59E59 Box Office** at **646-892-7999** or visit www.59e59.org. The running time is 95 minutes, including intermission.

The year is 1905. A young and uncertain Albert Einstein dares to envision new worlds beyond the limits of classical physics. Drawn deeply into his dreams, he is guided by a mysterious woman whose elusive identity awakens his full genius.

Based on the bestselling novel by Alan Lightman, this elegant new musical bridges imagined and real worlds, and unlocks the passionate intellect of one of the 20th century's greatest thinkers.

Zal Owen (*The Band's Visit* on Broadway) plays Einstein. Joining him in the cast are **Brennan Caldwell** (*Neurosis* at DR2, Chita Rivera nom), **Talia Cosentino** (*Matilda*, Broadway National Tour), **Stacia Fernandez** (*Mamma Mia*, *Drowsy Chaperone* on Broadway), **Lisa Helmi Johanson** (*Into the Woods* on Broadway), **Michael McCoy** (*Phantom of the Opera*, Broadway National Tour), **Tess Primack** (*Fiddler on the Roof* on Broadway), **Alexandra Silber** (*Fiddler on the Roof* on Broadway), and **Vishal Vaidya** (*Groundhog Day* on Broadway).

The design team is **Isabel Le** (scenic design); **Sidney Shannon** (costume design); **Herrick Goldman** (lighting design); **Kevin Heard** (sound design) and **David Bengali** (projection design). The Production Stage Manager is **Elizabeth Ann Goodman**.

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Joanne Sydney Lessner (book and lyrics) is the librettist of six musicals with music by her husband, Joshua Rosenblum, including the cult hit *Fermat's Last Tango*, which received its Off Broadway premiere at the York Theatre Company. The original cast recording became a bestseller, and the DVD has been screened at festivals from New Jersey to New Zealand. The Teatro da Trindade in Lisbon presented the European premiere, and subsequently also gave the world premiere of *Einstein's Dreams*. Their other collaborations include *The Haunted Hotel*, commissioned by the Signature Theatre; *Stage Door*, based on the play by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman, commissioned by London's Royal Central School of Speech and Drama; and *Garbo and Me*, presented in concert both at the York Theatre Company and at the historic Paramount Theatre in Rutland, Vermont. Lessner's play *Critical Mass* received its New York premiere at the Lion Theatre as winner of the 2009 Heiress Productions Playwriting Competition. She has published five novels: *Pandora's Bottle*, named one of the top five books of 2010 by Paperback Dolls, and four mysteries featuring aspiring actress and amateur sleuth Isobel Spice. Lessner is also a regular contributing writer to *Opera News* and is a graduate of Yale University.

Joshua Rosenblum (music and lyrics) wrote the book, music and lyrics for *Mark Felt, Superstar*, the musical saga of Watergate's Deep Throat, which had a critically acclaimed run at the York Theatre. Other credits include the hit Off Broadway satirical revue *Bush Is Bad*, described as "a sensation" by Variety magazine; *Fermat's Last Tango* (York Theatre); and *The Haunted Hotel*, commissioned by the Signature Theatre as part of its New American Voices Project. Rosenblum and his wife/collaborator Joanne Sydney Lessner received a commission from the Royal Central School for Speech and Drama for their musical adaptation of *Stage Door*. Rosenblum has also composed two ballet scores for the Chase Brock Experience dance company. As a music director, he has conducted fourteen Broadway and Off Broadway productions, with a specialty in flying vehicles (*Miss Saigon*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*). He has played piano with the City Center Encores Orchestra, the New York Pops, and the American Symphony. Rosenblum is the Founder/Music Director of the Pit Stop Players, a faculty member of the Yale University Department of Music, and a regular contributing writer for *Opera News*. Two collections of his instrumental and vocal music are available on the Albany Records label.

Cara Reichel (director) is a creator of new musical theater and a founding member and producing artistic director of Prospect Theater Company. She collaborates frequently with composer / lyricist Peter Mills, having brought 13 musicals from concept to full production including *The Hello Girls*, *Illyria*, *Honor*, and many more. With Mills, Susan DiLallo, and Stephen Weiner she co-created *Iron Curtain* (NYC's 2006 Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Production, NAMT Festival of New Musicals, The O'Neill Center Musical Theater Conference). She has collaborated with numerous other writers on the development of new works, including Mark St. Germain and Randy Courts; Michele Brouman, Sheilah Rae and Thomas Edward West; and Jason Ma and Christine Toy Johnson, to name a few. She directed regionally at the Goodwill Theatre, Surfflight Theatre, and the Village Theatre, and internationally with Broadway au Carré in Paris and at the Teatro Carlo Gesualdo in Italy. She has been a visiting lecturer at Princeton University's Lewis Center for the Arts, and is a recipient of the Lucille Lortel Award from the League of Professional Theatre Women. She is also the author and illustrator of a published children's book, *A Stone Promise*. www.carareichel.com ###