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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAST ANNOUNCED FOR GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE'S "SIGNIFICANT OTHER"

**MELANIE FIELD, VELLA LOVELL, PRESTON MARTIN, KEILLY McQUAIL, JOHN GARET STOKER,
CONCETTA TOMEI & WILL VON VOGT STAR IN JOSHUA HARMON'S HIT PLAY;
DIRECTED BY STEPHEN BRACKETT**

PREVIEWS BEGIN APRIL 3; OPENING NIGHT IS APRIL 11

LOS ANGELES (March 14, 2018) – The Geffen Playhouse today announced the full cast for its production of Joshua Harmon's (*Bad Jews*) critically-acclaimed hit play, *Significant Other*, directed by Stephen Brackett. The cast features Melanie Field (Paramount Network's *Heathers*) as Laura, Vella Lovell (CW's *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*) as Vanessa, Preston Martin as Zach/Evan/Roger, Keilly McQuail (Amazon's *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*) as Kiki, John Gareth Stoker (CBS's *Code Black*) as Will/Conrad/Tony, Concetta Tomei (*Deep Impact*) as Helene Berman and Will Von Vogt as Jordan Berman.

Previews for the West Coast premiere of *Significant Other* begin Tuesday, April 3 in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse with opening night on Wednesday, April 11. The production closes Sunday, May 6.

After a successful Off-Broadway and Broadway run, Joshua Harmon brings his affecting and hilarious play about finding and lacking love to the Geffen Playhouse. *Significant Other* follows Jordan, a single, young professional with a close group of female friends who slowly drift away as they each get married while he searches for his own "Mr. Right." This *New York Times* Critics' Pick revels in the paradox of feeling old when you're still young and the sometimes-crushing loneliness that comes with growing up. With humor and humanity, *Significant Other* offers a relatable portrait of twenty-something urban life and the seemingly endless string of weddings that accompany it.

Significant Other premiered Off-Broadway in 2015 at the Laura Pels Theatre in a Roundabout Theatre Company production directed by Trip Cullman. *The New York Times* declared the play "Entirely delightful... as richly funny as it is ultimately heart-stirring" and named it a Top Ten Production of 2015. It transferred to Broadway in 2017.

Harmon, writer of the runaway Geffen hit *Bad Jews*, has taken the American theater by storm in recent years. His sardonic *Bad Jews* became the third most-produced American play in the

2014-2015 season and earned Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle Awards nominations. With a remarkable ability to at once skewer and create empathy, Harmon peoples his richly funny comedies with appealing, exasperating and infinitely recognizable characters.

SIGNIFICANT OTHER

Written by **Joshua Harmon**

Directed by **Stephen Brackett**

Previews: Tuesday, April 3 - Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Opening Night: Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Closing Night: Sunday, May 6, 2018

CAST

Melanie Field as Laura

Vella Lovell as Vanessa

Preston Martin as Zach/Evan/Roger

Keilly McQuail as Kiki

John Garet Stoker as Will/Conrad/Tony

Concetta Tomei as Helene Berman

Will Von Vogt as Jordan Berman

PRODUCTION TEAM

Set Designer **Sibyl Wickersheimer**

Costume Designer **Bobby Tilley**

Sound Designer **Stowe Nelson**

Lighting Designer **Eric Southern**

Choreographer **Lili Fuller**

Production Stage Manager **Bree Sherry**

Assistant Stage Manager **Jes Aguilar**

Casting Director **Phyllis Schuringa, CSA**

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Monday No performance

Tuesday – Friday 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 3:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

The run of *Significant Other* will feature the Geffen's popular Talk Back Tuesdays, which give theater lovers a chance for a deeper conversation to discuss plot, character themes and other questions directly with the artists in a post-show Q&A from the stage. Dates: April 17, 24 and May 1, 2018.

LOCATION

Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse
10886 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets currently priced at \$32.00 - \$90.00. Available in person at the Geffen Playhouse box office, by phone at 310.208.5454 or online at www.geffenplayhouse.org. Fees may apply.

Rush tickets for each day's performance are made available to the general public 30 minutes before showtime at the box office. \$35.00 General / \$10.00 Student

COLLEGE AUDIENCES

Through a variety of events and other opportunities, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes college students to experience the live storytelling presented on our stages. We are proud of our association with UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television, and open our doors to all college students throughout Los Angeles. More information is available at www.geffenplayhouse.org/college.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Joshua Harmon (Playwright)

Joshua Harmon's plays include *Bad Jews* (Roundabout Theatre Company), *Significant Other* (Roundabout Theatre Company; Broadway/Booth Theatre), *Admissions* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Ivanka* (staged readings across the country on Election Eve, 2016) and *Skintight* (upcoming at Roundabout Theatre Company). *Bad Jews* has been one of the most produced plays in the United States of the last few years and has received international productions in Australia, Canada, Germany, Israel, South Africa and London's West End, following sold-out runs at Theatre Royal Bath and the St. James. Fellowships include the MacDowell Colony, Atlantic Center for the Arts and NNPN. Harmon is an associate artist at Roundabout Theatre Company and under commission from Manhattan Theatre Club. Education: Juilliard

Stephen Brackett (Director)

Stephen Brackett is a Brooklyn-based director specializing in the development of new plays and musicals. Credits include: Jonathan Tolins' *Buyer & Cellar* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater and Barrow Street Theaters/National Tour/London's Menier Chocolate Factory), Joe Tracz and Joe Iconis' *Be More Chill* (Two River Theater), *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* (Theaterworks USA), Kerrigan-Lowdermilk's *The Mad Ones* (Prospect Theater), Tasha Gordon-Solmon's *I Now Pronounce* (Humana Festival), Philip Dawkins' *Le Switch* (About Face Theatre), Caroline McGraw's *Ultimate Beauty Bible* (Page 73 Productions), David West Read's *The Great Pretender* (TheatreWorks Silicon Valley), Jacob Yandura and Rebekah Greer Melocik's *Wringer* (New York City Children's Theater), Bixby Elliot's *Sommerfugl* (InViolet), Anton Dudley's *City Of* (Playwrights Realm), Lucas Kavner's *Carnival Kids* (Lesser America), Ken Urban's *The Correspondent* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater), Chad Beckim's *After* (Partial Comfort), Dan Fishback's *The Material World* (Dixon Place), Bekah Brunstetter's *Be A Good Little Widow* (Ars

Nova), and *The Tenant* (Woodshed Collective). Upcoming: Michael R. Jackson's *A Strange Loop* (Playwrights Horizons).

Melanie Field (Laura)

Melanie Field will next be seen starring in Paramount Network's *Heathers*, a reboot based on the 1988 cult classic film, as the vicious leader of the Heathers, "Heather Chandler." The pitch-black comedy anthology series is set to premiere soon. A graduate of New York University and Yale School of Drama, Field started her career working on Broadway in such shows as *The Phantom of the Opera* and *Evita*, as well as the first national tour of *Wicked*. Other television credits include the USA Network's pilot *The Tap*, from executive producer Rob Reiner.

Vella Lovell (Vanessa)

Vella Lovell is thrilled to be making her Geffen Playhouse debut. She can be seen on seasons one through three of the CW hit show *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. Other television credits are HBO's *Girls* and TV Land's *Younger*. Lovell can be seen in the Academy Award-nominated film *The Big Sick* and the upcoming films *The Christmas Chronicles* and *The Speed of Life*. Theater: Amy Herzog's *Mary Jane* at Yale Repertory Theatre, *The Bacchae* at The Delacorte Theater, *Kaspar Hauser* at The Flea Theater, *Streetcar Named Desire* at Williamstown Theatre Festival. Graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and The Juilliard School.

Preston Martin (Zach/Evan/Roger)

Preston Martin is thrilled to be making his West Coast debut at the Geffen Playhouse. Martin has performed and directed in nine countries and in more than fifty venues across New York City, including the Public Theater, La MaMa and Lincoln Center Theater. Select theater credits: Miranda Priestly in *Streepshow!*, *Far From Heaven* directed by Michael Greif, Josh Conkel's *I Wanna Destroy You*, *PS Jones and the Frozen City* by Tony Award-nominee Robert Askins and *The Conspirators* opposite Kathleen Turner. Film: *The Rest of Us* (produced by Mary Stuart Masterson), *Om City* (TriBeCa Film Festival), *Better to Live* (TriBeCa Film Festival). Participant of Williamstown Theatre Festival and Old Vic New Voices US/UK Exchange. Director of *The Reality Show: NYU* (NYC, Abu Dhabi, Shanghai).

Keilly McQuail (Kiki)

Off-Broadway: *Her Requiem* (LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater), *You Got Older* (Page 73 Productions). Regional: *Bad Jews* at Long Wharf Theatre (CT Critics Circle Award). Other recent theater: *Of Government* (Clubbed Thumb), *Half Moon Bay* (Cherry Lane Theatre, Lesser America), *Heartbreak* (Bushwick Starr), Preston Sturges' *Strictly Dishonorable* (The Flea Theater). Film: *Dish*, *Like Father*, *Bear and Stella*, *That Smell*, *Tasmania*, *Not Fade Away*. Television: *Jessica Jones*, *Odd Mom Out*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Jim Gaffigan Show*, *Younger*, *The Affair*, *Are We There Yet?* Member of the Ensemble Studio Theater. Education: NYU Tisch School of the Arts and the Atlantic Theater Company.

John Gareth Stoker (Will/Conrad/Tony)

John Gareth Stoker is excited to make his West Coast stage debut at the Geffen Playhouse in Joshua Harmon's critically-acclaimed play *Significant Other*. On television, he can next be seen in the upcoming season of CBS's *Code Black*. Previously, he starred on the MTV series *Eye*

Candy. Stoker graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a B.F.A. in Acting. His college theater credits include *The Crucible* (Hale), *As You Like It* (Jacques) and *Three Sisters* (Tuzenbach).

Concetta Tomei (Helene Berman)

Concetta Tomei's Broadway credits include: *Cyrano* (opposite Kevin Kline), *The Elephant Man* (opposite David Bowie), *Noises Off* and *Goodbye Fidel*. Lincoln Center Theater: *The Clean House*. Public Theater: *The Normal Heart* (original cast, opposite Brad Davis), *Richard III* (New York Shakespeare Festival's Bayfield Award), *Fen and A Private View*. Other New York credits include: Tommy Tune's *Cloud Nine* (original cast), Nora Ephron's *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*, James Lescene's *Mother of Invention*, Naomi Wallace's *One Flea Spare*. Regional theater: Houston's Alley Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, Mark Taper Forum. Film credits include: *Deep Impact*, *Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead*, *Out To Sea*, *The Muse* and *View From the Top*. Television: *Providence*, *China Beach*, *Veep*, *The Mick*, *King of Queens*, *Weeds*, *Nip/Tuck*, *Necessary Roughness*, *Murphy Brown* and more than fifty other roles. Tomei is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin (Madison) and Chicago's Goodman School of Drama (Sarah Siddons Award).

Will Von Vogt (Jordan Berman)

Will Von Vogt is thrilled to be making his Geffen Playhouse debut. Favorite credits include Prior in *Angels in America*, Shen Te/Shui Ta in Brecht's *Good Person of Szechwan*, Rudy in *Bent* and NBC's *Chicago Fire*. He is a producer and curator of Salonathon, a weekly performance series running for more than six years. He is currently developing a musical web series, *TBD*, about the charms and quirks of being a homosexual trying their best in this world.

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ABOUT GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the not-for-profit organization continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition.

Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates and is currently helmed by Executive Director Gil Cates, Jr., Artistic Director Matt Shakman and Board Chair Howard Tenenbaum. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains extensive education and community engagement programs, designed to involve underserved young people and the community at large in the arts.

www.geffenplayhouse.org

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