

Fair pay is a laughing matter



The Pajama Game

a musical comedy

6-10 November 2018 at The Bridewell Theatre, London

As the nation marks **Equal Pay Day** once again in November this year, leading London musical society **Geoids** will perform "**The Pajama Game**" - a musical comedy with a story about **workers' rights** at its heart.

This production will transport the audience to the Sleep-Tite factory in the American Midwest, where union-crossed lovers "Babe" and superintendent "Sid" battle it out for a pay rise of 7 and a half cents for the workers. In today's money, that's approximately over £1,000 a year on a salary of £15k - a cause worth fighting for! What follows is a rollercoaster ride of exuberant dance and drama, featuring songs such as Fosse classic "*Steam Heat*" and infectiously happy "*Once a Year Day*".

Co-directors Grace Iglesias Fernandez and Emma Coffey make their **directorial debut** with Geoids, having earned their stripes performing in previous Geoids productions *Sweet Charity*, *My Fair Lady* and *On the Twentieth Century*. Musical Director Paul Cozens returns to the fold following *Top Hat* last year and choreographer Cara Turtington brings a wealth of experience from her work with other London societies.

All the Pajama Game leading roles are being played by **new Geoids members**, so this is an exciting opportunity to see fresh talent on the stage at The Bridewell Theatre, London. Katherine "Babe" Williams is being played by Lois Howarth, Sid Sorokin by Will de Renzy-Martin, Hines by Nathan Pollpeter and Gladys by Gayle Bryans.

With an impeccable pedigree, *The Pajama Game* was a hit in the golden age of the musical. The show's collaborators are now renowned for their award-winning Broadway shows: George Abbott (*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*), Jerome Robbins (*West Side Story*), Hal Prince (*Fiddler on the Roof*) and Bob Fosse (*Cabaret*). It is a testament to their work that this show is as relevant today as when it first came to the stage in the 1950s.

Join Geoids this November for an uplifting story of love, laughter and playing fair.

Tickets are on sale at www.ticketsource.co.uk/geoids

Notes to the editor

Press enquiries for *The Pajama Game*

- **Performances dates and times** -
 - 7:30pm Tuesday 6th November 2018
 - 7:30pm Wednesday 7th November 2018
 - 7:30pm Thursday 8th November 2018
 - 7:30pm Friday 9th November 2018
 - 2:30pm Saturday 10th November 2018
 - 7:30pm Saturday 10th November 2018
- **Tickets** - Available to book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/geoids. Reserved seating from £16-£20. Concessions available for under 18s, students (with valid student ID) and OAPs.
- **Cast and production team** - www.geoidsmt.co.uk/shows/the-pajama-game-2018
- **Interviews** - Co-directors and principles are available for interviews.
- **Equal Pay Day** - The current gender pay gap in the UK means women effectively stop earning relative to men on a day in November. This was marked last year on 10th November with #OutofOffice
- **Promotional photography** - High resolution photos available on request.
- **Press nights** - Available 7:30pm Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th November.
- **Email** - Please contact geoidsthepajamagame@gmail.com

About Geoids Musical Theatre

- Geoids is committed to developing its members from a broad range of backgrounds and abilities and entertaining audiences in Central London.
- **Annual programme** - Geoids has a varied season, including two large productions and its famed 48hr Panto.
- **History** - Geoids was established in 1930 and became a registered charity in 2009 (registered charity number 1128763).
- **Member of NODA** - Part of the London region of the National Operatic and Dramatic Association. Recently won NODA awards for *On The Twentieth Century* (2017)
 - The Joe Putham Award for Best Musical
 - The Molly Harle Award for Best Female in a Musical
- **For more information:**
 - Email info@geoidsmt.co.uk or visit www.geoidsmt.co.uk
 - Follow Geoids at www.facebook.com/geoids, www.twitter.com/geoidsmusicalt or www.instagram.com/geoidsmusicalt

About the show *The Pajama Game*

- **Credits** - Book by George Abbott and Richard Bissell. Music and Lyrics by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross. Based on the novel "71/2 cents" by Richard Bissell
- **Original Broadway production (1954)** - The show was directed by George Abbott and Jerome Robbins and choreographed by Bob Fosse. John Raitt and Janis Paige starred as Sid Sorokin and Catherine 'Babe' Williams.
- **Tony Awards (1955)** - It won Tony awards for Best Musical, Best Actress and Best Choreography.
- **West End transfer (1955)** - the show opened at the Coliseum in London and ran for a year and a half.
- **Film (1957)** - Hollywood sweetheart Doris Day starred alongside original leads Carol Haney, Eddie Foy Jr and John Raitt, who reprised their Broadway roles.
- **Revivals** - A 2006 production starred Kelli O'Hara and Harry Connick Jr as Babe and Sid. Richard Eyre's Chichester production in 2013 earned a five-star reviews and transferred for a limited West End run at the Shaftesbury theatre in 2014.
- **Geoids** - Previous amateur productions have been performed by Geoids in 1991 and 2005.