



# World Premiere of “The New Sincerity” Opens at Bay Street

May 26, 2015

by Sponsors

Bay Street Theater opens its 2015 Mainstage with the world premiere of *The New Sincerity*, a new comedy by Alena Smith. Directed by Bob Balaban, the production opens May 26 and continues through June 14, 2015.

*The New Sincerity* explores the ways balancing politics, love and the quest for success (along with one’s social media presence) in today’s world can get complicated. In this new comedy, playwright Alena Smith offers a smart and savvy portrait of a rising generation in her new comedy.

When an ambitious literary circle gets involved with a rowdy Occupy-style movement, young journalist (and member) Rose Spencer finds herself in a love triangle where it’s hard to tell the difference between sincere action and skillful self-promotion.

The cast stars Teddy Bergman (*Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Sex Lives of Our Parents*) as Benjamin, Peter Mark Kendall (*Girls*, *The Americans*) as Django, Justine Lupe (*Cristela*, *Shameless*) as Rose, and Elvy Yost (*Pocatello*, *The Belle of Belfast*) as Natasha.



Justine Lupe, Teddy Bergman, Peter Mark Kendall, Elvy Yost. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

The production team includes Tony Award winner Beowulf Boritt (Set Designer), Alex Distler (Co-Set Designer), Mike Billings (Lighting Designer), Brandon Wolcott (Sound Designer), Eliot Davoren (Associate Sound Designer), Heather Urgina (Props), and Jennifer Kahn (Production Stage Manager).

A “Pay What You Can” performance will be on May 26 at 7 p.m. “PWYC” tickets are limited and will be available at the Box Office beginning at 2 pm on May 26. Previews are sponsored by Peconic Landing.

Returning this year is Talkback Tuesdays with Bay Street’s Artistic Director, Scott Schwartz, and members of *The New Sincerity* cast following each Tuesday performance except for preview week.



Peter Mark Kendall, Justine Lupe, Teddy Bergman. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

Playwright Alena Smith was named one of Variety's 10 TV Writers To Watch in 2014. She lives in Los Angeles, where she writes for Showtime's "The Affair." Smith previously wrote for HBO's "The Newsroom" and created the Twitter character Tween Hobo (featured in Paste, The Believer, A.V. Club, and elsewhere). Her novel, "Tween Hobo: Off The Rails," was published by Gallery Books in 2014.

Alena Smith's plays have been produced internationally, including *The Bad Guys*, which was made into an independent film. She received her MFA in Playwriting from the Yale School of Drama, and studied Philosophy at Haverford College and Oxford.



Teddy Bergman, Justine Lupe. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

Bob Balaban (Director) has directed and produced the off-Broadway production of *The Exonerated* (Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Circle Award, Lortel Award, New York Times Play of The Year). Other theater directing includes the world premiere of Lucy Boyle's *The Blue Deep* starring Blythe Danner (WTF), Paul Grellong's *Manuscript (DR2)*, Sherry Glaser's *Family Secrets (37 Arts)*, and Arthur Kopit's *Y2K (MTC)*.

He produced and co-starred in the film "Gosford Park" (Academy Award, Golden Globe, SAG, New York Critics and BAFTA awards). He received Golden Globe, DGA, PGA and Emmy nominations for directing and producing the HBO film "Bernard and Doris" as well as DGA and Emmy nominations for directing "Georgia O'Keeffe." He directed the movies "The Last Good Time" and "Parents" and the TV series "Alpha House," "Nurse Jackie," and "Oz."



Peter Mark Kendall, Justine Lupe. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

The world premiere of *The New Sincerity* features Teddy Bergman as Benjamin, Peter Mark Kendall as Django, Justine Lupe as Rose and Elvy Yost as Natasha.

Teddy Bergman's theater credits include Broadway and Regional theater and television. This

includes an original Broadway cast member of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Sex Lives of Our Parents* (2nd Stage), *Hell House* (St. Ann's), *I.E. (The Flea)*, *I Was Tom Cruise* (Fringe NYC, Best Play Award).



Teddy Bergman, Justine Lupe. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

Peter Mark Kendall makes his Bay Street debut with this production. His television credits include recurring roles on "Girls," "The Americans & Eye Candy", "Law and Order: SVU" and "The Leftovers." On Broadway, Kendall appears in *The Rose Tattoo* (concert reading with Patti Lupone and Bobby Cannavale). Theater credits include productions staged by Trinity Rep, Studio Theatre (DC), Rep Stage, Kennedy Center and more.

Justine Lupe is a series regular on ABC's show "Cristela." A Julliard grad, she recently appeared in Noah Baumbach's *Frances Ha* opposite Greta Gerwig and Adam Driver. In 2013, she starred in the Philip Seymour Hoffman-directed family drama *A Family for all Occasions* at the Bank Street Theater. Television guest appearances include the shows "Shameless," "Southland," and Hulu's "Deadbeat."



Justine Lupe, Elvy Yost. Photo by Lenny Stucker/Lennystucker.com.

Elvy Yost theater credits include *Pocatello* (Playwrights Horizons), *Black Tie* (Primary Stages), *The Belle of Belfast* (Cherry Lane), *Balm in Gilead* in a warehouse, music for *Ivanov* and *The Seagull* at Lake Lucille. Her regional credits include productions stages at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Festival del Sole, Long Wharf, California Shakespeare Theater and Pear Avenue Theatre. Television appearances include the shows "Mildred Pierce," "Southland," and "The Office."

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**BASIC FACTS:** "The New Sincerity" starts on May 26 and runs through June 14, 2015. Bay Street Theater is located at 1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963. For tickets and information, visit [www.baystreet.org](http://www.baystreet.org).

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