

The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington Presents *Oh God* by Anat Gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – The Jewish Theatre of Bloomington's 2019/20 season continues with *Oh God* written by Israeli playwright Anat Gov, known as Israel's Wendy Wasserstein. Directed by Dale McFadden, Emeritus Professor in IU's Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance, the show will run for two weekends in late October and early November at the Ivy Tech John Waldron's Rose Firebay theatre. *Oh God*, a "divine" comedy, sharply deals with the mysterious nature of God and our relationship to him by altering the circumstances. Rather than portraying God as self-sufficient and fulfilled, Gov starts the play by humanizing God, allowing him to ask for help.

In this witty and touching play, a psychotherapist named Ella, single mother of a musically talented child with autism, gets a visit from a new and desperate patient, God. Ella and God must learn to help each other—after all, God is suffering from having accrued too much power, while Ella has lost whatever faith (in God) she might have had. With a clash of biblical quotes framed by a modern-day wit, Gov's funny, often brilliant text forces us to confront our own issues of faith, hubris, and the overwhelming power of humility.

Ella, the fraught psychotherapist, will be played by Equity actor Julie Dixon, last seen in JTB's *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Lior, her son, will be played by local high school student, Ron Kalinovski. Rounding out the cast is Equity actor and local favorite, Ken Farrell, in the coveted role of God. JTB is excited to bring this unique comedy to Bloomington audiences, featuring a strong cast and experienced artistic team.

Oh God has been highly acclaimed, with many positive reviews from productions in Israel and across the United States. According to *The Jerusalem Post*, *Oh God* is "A funny, witty, poignant, often brilliant text that asks intriguing questions about the nature of the Deity and our relationship to Him, all in a delightful 80 minutes. A *DC Metro Theatre Arts* review called *Oh God* "... an ingeniously moving comedy that well earns the adjective divine. What begins rib-tickling turns soul-searching and by the end gets heart-stirring."

The performance dates are October 24, 26, & November 2nd at 7:30 PM and October 27 & November 3rd at 3:00 PM. Talk backs immediately after October 26th and November 2nd performances, will be facilitated by Darrell Ann Stone. Tickets for the production, in the Ivy Tech John Waldron's Rose Firebay, are \$25 and are available through the BCT box office in person (114 E Kirkwood Avenue) or online (www.bctboxoffice.org). Groups of 5 or more receive a \$2 discount per ticket. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show. Accessible seating is available on a first come first served basis. To guarantee accessible seating, inform the BCT box office upon purchasing tickets. For more information on the Jewish Theatre or on *Oh God*, please visit jewishtheatrebloomington.com or find us on Facebook at Jewish Theatre of Bloomington.

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