

The New Victory Theater Presents



# OH BOY!

## Award Winning Play For Young Audiences Tells the Heartwarming Story of A Gay Man's Unexpected New Family

**New York, NY (December 6, 2016)** -- This winter *Oh Boy!* will make its U.S. premiere, presented by The New Victory Theater at The Duke on 42nd Street from January 6 to January 15, 2017. Based on Marie-Aude Murail's novel of the same name, *Oh Boy!* is the honest and heartrending story of a group of siblings that fall into the lap of their unprepared half-brother Balthazar. In 2010, *Oh Boy!* earned the Molière Award for Best Show for Young Audiences, France's highest theater honor, which led to an extended run in France of more than 650 performances.

Adapted for the stage by Olivier Letellier and Catherine Verlaquet, *Oh Boy!* is a one-man tour de force told from Balthazar's perspective as a twenty-something gay man who finds his life turned upside down when he meets Simeon, Morgan and Venice--three siblings who are alone in the world. As the orphans' older, immature, half-brother, Balthazar is their only hope of staying together. Will he give up his partying ways and come through for the family he never knew he had? With tenderness and humor, *Oh Boy!* examines some of life's most emotional events such as abandonment, illness, and the reuniting of a displaced family.

"We chose to highlight the beautiful, tender relationship between these siblings that is palpable on every page of the book, as well as the sharp humor surrounding the situations and

characters, particularly Balthazar. Despite the heavy challenges he faces, he maintains his extremely positive and joyful outlook. We wanted to bring this magnificent story to the stage to give audiences a glimpse into the life of this modern-day family,” says director Olivier Letellier. His Paris-based theater company, Théâtre du Phare (translated as “Lighthouse Theatre”) collaborates with living authors to create courageous theater for family audiences.

**Oh Boy!** began as a book by Marie-Aude Murail, winning numerous literary prizes after its debut in 2000. In 2008, the story was adapted for television audiences with the title *On choisit pas ses parents* or “We do not choose our parents.” The following year, Théâtre du Phare adapted the story for the stage and went on to tour the production throughout Europe and Québec. For its U.S. Premiere, **Oh Boy!** was translated to English by Nicholas Elliott and will be performed by Matthew Brown.

### **Performance Schedule: 10 performances**

Friday, January 6 at 7pm

Saturday, January 7 at 2pm / 7pm\*

Sunday, January 8 at 12pm / 5pm

Friday, January 13 at 7pm\*\*

Saturday, January 14 at 2pm / 7pm

Sunday, January 15 at 12pm / 5pm

\*audio-described performance

\*\*sign-interpreted performance

**Oh Boy!** has a running time of 60 minutes with no intermission, and is recommended for everyone ages 10 and up.

Learn more about **Oh Boy!** on the [New Victory Website](#) at **NewVictory.org**



This production of the English version of **Oh Boy!** was developed by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States, in partnership with Théâtre du Phare as part of Kids Trail, a cultural program dedicated to children and families initiated by the French Embassy. FACE Foundation, Institut français-Paris, and SACD (Société des auteurs et compositeurs dramatiques) provided additional support.

### **Ticket Information**

Tickets for **Oh Boy!** at The Duke on 42nd Street (229 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street) are \$13 for Members and \$20 at full price. Tickets are available online ([NewVictory.org](#)) and by telephone (646.223.3010). The New Victory Theater box office (209 West 42nd Street) is open Sunday & Monday from 11am-5pm and Tuesday through Saturday from 12pm-7pm.

Theatergoers who buy tickets for three or more New Victory shows qualify for free Membership benefits, including locked-in discount ticket prices, free unlimited exchanges (up to 48 hours in advance) and access to a first-look purchase period for newly added performances.

### **About The New Victory Theater**

The New Victory Theater brings kids to the arts and the arts to kids as New York City's premier theater devoted to the highest quality performing arts for kids and families. Serving the city in all its diversity, The New Victory Theater on 42nd Street presents theater, dance, circus, opera and music from around the world at affordable ticket prices. In addition to its public performances, the New Vic is also the largest provider of live performance to NYC school kids, serving 40,000 students in grades PreK-12 from more than 200 schools, after school programs and day camps each year. The New Victory Theater's contributions to the cultural landscape of the city have been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, a national Arts Education Award from Americans for the Arts and a Drama Desk Award for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

### **About The New 42nd Street**

Founded in 1990, The New 42nd Street is an independent nonprofit organization charged with the continuous cultural revival of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Committed to the transformational power of the arts, The New 42nd Street builds on the foundation of seven historic theaters to make extraordinary performing arts and cultural engagement part of everyone's life. The New 42nd Street fulfills this purpose by ensuring the ongoing vibrancy of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street's historic theaters; maintaining and fully using the New 42nd Street Studios and The Duke on 42nd Street to support performing artists in the creation of their work; and through The New Victory Theater, New York's premier theater for kids and families.

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