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Near West Theatre Brings Myth and Meaning with Hadestown: Teen Edition
Experience the Tony Award-Musical in the heart of the Gordon Square Arts District

CLEVELAND – June 23, 2025 – Near West Theatre is proud to present “Hadestown: Teen Edition,” a powerful reimagining of the Tony Award-winning musical by Anaïs Mitchell. Running three weekends from July 18 through August 3, 2025, “Hadestown: Teen Edition,” brings together a cast of 24 passionate teen performers (ages 15–19) to tell an ancient tale that speaks directly to the world they’re inheriting today. Performances will take place at Near West Theatre’s ADA-compliant venue, located at 6702 Detroit Avenue in the heart of the Gordon Square Arts District. Tickets are \$20, with additional Pay What You Choose options available. Visit nearwesttheatre.org or call the Box Office at 216-961-6391, weekdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“Hadestown: Teen Edition” is Directed by Near West Theatre’s Artistic Director, Trinidad Snider, with Choreography by Kristy Cruz and Music Direction by Bret Tassone. The production team also features Lighting Design by Jeremy Paul, Scenic Design by Cameron Michalak, and Costume Design by Stephen Soto. The talented cast includes (in alphabetical order): Liv Arejola, Red Boose, Chelsea Boyles, Brian Currie, Livy Douglas, Jade-Marie Gantt, Chloe Hazelwood, Zoe Hinton, Ron Hubbard, Sean Jones, Eden Lake, Claire Marchant, Alonte Mason, Amaya Moore, Mya Phiri, Kaleb Pickett, Skyler Ramsey, Alex Rivera, Colin Snider, Gabrielle Tan, Adam Thompson, Jada Vu, Michael Wellendorf, & Kellen Williams

Set to one of the most captivating scores of the 21st century, “Hadestown: Teen Edition” follows the intertwined journeys of Orpheus and Eurydice, and Hades and Persephone, in a mythic underworld where love battles fear, and hope must sing louder than despair. However, this youth-led production offers more than just a retelling of a classic myth. It’s a challenge and a call to action.

“One of the reasons I fell in love with this show is because it asks us the question: What are we willing to do for those we love?” says Director, Trinidad Snider. “This story is more relevant now than it has ever been. In the current political climate, young folks are watching walls being put up to keep people out, to separate individuals based on their beliefs, who they love, or who they are. It’s important that these future young artists and leaders understand the true value of their voice and what they are willing to do for the people and communities they love.”

The show’s music, haunting and exhilarating, is under the direction of Bret Tassone, with Pit Direction by Rachel Young for Near West Theatre’s first youth orchestra pit.

“Anaïs Mitchell’s score for *Hadestown: Teen Edition* is one of the most beautifully crafted and mesmerizing pieces to be composed for the musical theatre in recent years,” Music Director, Bret Tassone said. “I’m fascinated with her ability to weave musical themes and styles seamlessly together. One minute you’re listening to a tender folk ballad, the next you’re in the middle of a raucous New Orleans jazz production number, and it never feels stilted or ill-paced.”

Near West’s production will feature Sound Design Sound by James Romeo with Technical Direction by Cameron Michalak. Sound Tech by Joshua Caraballo & Emily Ferrer and Assistant Technical Direction by Emily Hehnen. Near West’s Production Manager is Michael Stein. “Hadestown: Teen Edition” will be Stage Managed by Whitney Miller with Assistant Stage Management offered by Kenedy Brooks. Production Assistance provided by Kyle Brooks and Sophie Hull.

For additional information including box office information, please visit nearwesttheatre.org. The theatre was constructed as part of the Gordon Square Arts District capital campaign and features climate-control and is fully accessible by wheelchair.

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About Near West Theatre

Near West Theatre builds loving relationships and engages diverse people in strengthening their sense of identity, passion, and purpose, individually and in community, through accessible, affordable, and transformational theatre arts experiences. Since 1978, Near West Theatre has been shaping, changing, and saving the lives of children, teens, and adults. The community theater hosts a variety of free community events and free after-school programs to underline its commitment to accessibility for all people. The organization serves people of all ages, but a focus on youth goes back to its founding and continues to this day. www.nearwesttheatre.org. @nearwesttheatre. NWT is grateful to receive financial support from the Ohio Arts Council and Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. For more information, visit nearwesttheatre.org or follow the theatre on Facebook (facebook.com/nearwesttheatre) and Instagram (@nearwesttheatre).

[TOMBSTONE INFO]

“Hadestown: Teen Edition”

"To the world we dream about, and the one we live in now."

Teen Summer Mainstage Production

Runtime: 2 hours and 30 minutes, 15-minute intermission

Book, Music, & Lyrics by Anais Mitchell

HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Performance Dates

Fri. July 18 - 7:30 PM

Sat. July 19 - 7:30 PM

Fri. July 25 - 7:30 PM

Sat. July 26 - 7:30 PM

Sun. July 27 - 2:00 PM

Fri. August 01 - 7:30 PM

Sat. August 02 - 7:30 PM

Sun. August 03 - 2:00 PM

Suggested Performance Listing

Near West Theatre, 6702 Detroit Ave., Cleveland's Gordon Square Arts District. Box Office: 216-961-6391 or nearwesttheatre.org. "Hometown: Teen Edition" runs **July 18, 19 & July 25, 26, & August 01, 02 at 7:30 p.m.; July 27 & August 03 at 2:00 p.m.** General Admission: Tickets \$20 with Pay What You Choose options available. HOMETOWN: TEEN EDITION is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp. www.concordtheatricals.com