



TAICHMAN'S TIME

For a followup to *Indecent*, Tony Award-winning director **Rebecca Taichman** tackles *Time and the Conways*

By Olivia Clement

PHOTO BY MARC J. FRANKLIN

Rebecca Taichman recalls sitting in the orchestra at Broadway's Cort Theatre as a child and feeling, for the first time, overwhelmed by theatre. Her parents had taken her to see the South African musical *Sarafina!*, and her mother, who was seated in a box above her, looked down at her daughter and saw "a beam of light"; a little girl "entranced and glowing." Neither of them knew then that many years later, Taichman would make her Broadway directorial debut in that very theatre—with Paula Vogel's *Indecent*—and win a Tony Award.

The idea that one can look at a present moment with knowledge of the future is at the very heart of J.B. Priestley's 1937 play *Time and the Conways*. The story begins with a lavish birthday party and its exuberant guests in 1919 Britain, then skips 19 years into the future before returning once more to that same party, now seen with entirely different eyes. Taichman, who previously directed the play at the Old Globe, is returning to Broadway with a new production for Roundabout Theatre Company, currently

playing at the American Airlines Theatre with a star-studded cast that includes *Downton Abbey*'s Elizabeth McGovern.

Taichman says that she was "blown away" by *Time and the Conways*, which she says is still deeply relevant. "He is critiquing, in a very profound way, a bourgeois class that is stuck in narcissism and greed," she says. "He's warning his audience about the dangers of living that way, and that felt relevant to our culture and society—this principle of greed overwhelming us."

As a director, Taichman refuses to be categorized; her career is marked by an eclectic range of works—from new plays to outdoor operas. After *Time and the Conways*, Taichman will helm two world premieres Off-Broadway: Jocelyn Bioh's *School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play* at MCC, and Lindsey Ferrentino's *This Flat Earth* at Playwrights Horizons.

"The end goal of it all," she says simply, "is to open people's hearts." And to hopefully impact audiences, as she was, all those years ago as a young girl in the Cort Theatre. ♦

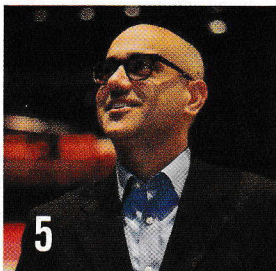
FEATURES

4 More Stars Than in Heaven

Stay informed about your favorite performers' projects with Playbill Universe

5 Greed Is Good Drama

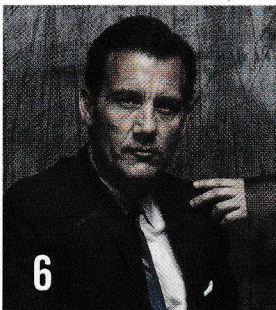
Playwright Ayad Akhtar sets his sights on Wall Street with *Junk*



MARC J. FRANKLIN

6 Substance and Spectacle

How director Julie Taymor is transforming *M. Butterfly* for its first Broadway revival, starring Clive Owen



JOSEF ASTOR

7 Taichman's Time

For a followup to *Indecent*, Tony-winning director Rebecca Taichman tackles *Time and the Conways*

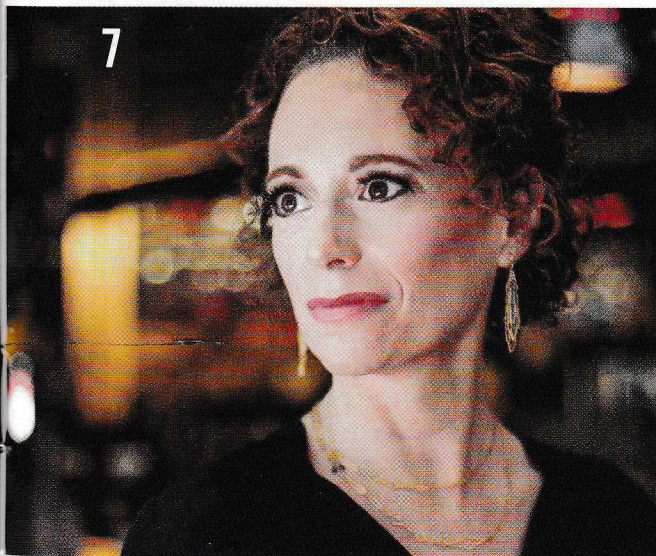
DEPARTMENTS

2 Theatre Quiz: Where There's a *Will and Grace*, There's Broadway

29 How Many Have You Seen?

33 On the Town: Dining, Drinks, and Entertainment

35 Celebrity Choice



MARC J. FRANKLIN

CEO & President: Philip S. Birsh
Chief Financial Officer: Shamindra Jagnanan
Vice President: Alex Birsh
Chief Digital Officer: Rachel Glickman
Senior Vice President: Clifford S. Tinder
Director of Manufacturing: Robert Cusanelli
Production Director: Patrick Cusanelli
Executive Assistant to President & Publisher: Perpetua Michel
Communications: Yajaira Marrero

Editor in Chief: Mark Peikert
Senior Production Manager: Maude Popkin
Production Manager: Alex Near
Program Editors: Scott Hale, Jenna Perrino
Associate Editor: Brian Libfeld
Art Director: Kessler Thibert
Graphic Designer: Dean Greer
Deputy Editorial Director, Digital Media: Adam Hetrick

Managing News Editor: Ryan McPhee
Senior News Editor: Andrew Gans
Senior Features Editor: Ruthie Fierberg
Staff Writer: Olivia Clement
Video Content Manager: Tyler Mount
Photo Editor: Hannah Vine
Principal Photographer: Joseph Marzullo
Staff Photographer: Marc J. Franklin
Special Features Editor: Robert Viagas
Playbill Vault Manager: Logan Culwell-Block
Social Media Manager: Felicia Fitzpatrick
Subscription Manager: Marie Amsterdam
Playbill Store Manager: Max Merchandising

Publisher & Chief Revenue Officer: Glenn Shaevitz
Associate Publisher: Jolie Schaffzin
Mid Atlantic Director & National Sales: Michel Manzo
Director, Regional Sales: Brantley Manderson
Senior Director, New York Sales: James C. Sammartino
Director, West Coast Sales: Jacqui Dziak
Senior Account Director: Corrie Katcher
Director, Restaurant Advertising: Clara Barragán
Director, Theatrical Sales: Nicholas Foster
Director, Online Advertising and Operations: Jim Cairl
Digital Marketing Manager: Adrienne Scott
Business Manager, Educational Programs: Sarah Jane Arnegger
Ticket Manager: Yadira Mitchell
Sales Assistants: Talaura Harns, Leonard Rodino

Digital Media Assistant: Miranda Palumbo
Director of Digital Operations: Andrew Ku
Director of Technology: Jon Goldman
Special Projects: David Gewirtzman

Chairman Emeritus: Arthur T. Birsh
Editor in Chief Emeritus: Joan Alleman
Secretary/Treasurer: Shamindra Jagnanan

PLAYBILL® is a registered trademark of Playbill Incorporated. © 2017 Playbill Incorporated. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Executive and editorial offices at 729 Seventh Avenue, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10019-6827, 212-557-5757. PLAYBILL®—THE NATIONAL THEATRE MAGAZINE (ISSN 0745-9076) is published monthly by Playbill Incorporated. Subscriptions \$24/year (US); \$31/yr (outside US). Periodical postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Playbill, 729 Seventh Ave., Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10019-6827. USA newsstand distribution by CMG, 2020 Superior St., Sandusky, OH 44870. Inquiries call 1-800-437-7456 or email subscriptions@playbill.com. Printed in USA.



LEXUS
EXPERIENCE AMAZING

hybrid #LexusHybrid