



**MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ATTN: CALENDAR, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS/REPORTERS**

**AURORA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS  
THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF  
JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER'S  
EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED  
STAGE ADAPTATION BY SIMON BLOCK  
NOVEMBER 9 - DECEMBER 9 (OPENS: NOVEMBER 15)**

**BERKELEY, CA (AUG. 28, 2018)** Aurora Theatre Company continues its dynamic 27th season with **EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED**, based on the best-selling, critically acclaimed novel by **Jonathan Safran Foer**. **Tom Ross** directs the West Coast premiere that features **Adam Burch**, **Lura Dolas** (*Abigail's Party*, *The Persians*) **Jeremy Kahn** (*Dry Powder*, *Wittenberg*), **Marissa Keltie** and **Julian Lopez-Morillas** (*The Heir Apparent*, *The Homecoming*). **EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED** runs November 9 - December 9 (Opens: November 15).

The stunning stage adaptation of Jonathan Safran Foer's novel by **Simon Block** tells the story of a young Jewish-American writer (also named Jonathan Safran Foer) who sets out for Ukraine to find the woman who he believes saved his grandfather from the Nazis, and the town they wiped off the map. Jonathan's tour guides are a pair of flamboyant Ukrainians, a grandfather and grandson with limited English skills and secrets of their own. As they travel into the unknown, along with the dog Sammy Davis Jr. Jr., they meet increasingly surreal characters, both fictional and real, as the past and present merge into an unforgettable journey.

*Broadway World* called **EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED**

“RIVETING...MASTERFUL...THE JOURNEY AND THE PAYOFF ARE HUGE.”

British playwright and screenwriter **Simon Block**'s work for theatre includes *Not a Game for Boys*, *Everything is Illuminated*, and *A Place at the Table*. His television work includes *Home Fires* (ITV).

**Jonathan Safran Foer** is an American writer best known for his novels *Everything Is Illuminated*, *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*, and for his non-fiction book *Eating Animals*. His most recent novel, *Here I Am*, was published in 2016.

**Tom Ross**, Aurora's long-time artistic director, has staged 30 productions at Aurora, including Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*; *Betrayal*, and the USA premiere of *Temple*. He wrote and directed the long-running *A Karen Carpenter Christmas*, and for eight years was a producer of San Francisco's legendary Solo Mio Festival. Before coming to the Bay Area, Ross spent eight years at New York's Public Theater as executive assistant to Joseph Papp and co-director of play and musical development.

The creative team for **EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED** includes: **Kate Boyd**--Set; **Callie Floor**--Costumes; **Kurt Landisman**--Lighting; and **Matt Stines**--Sound.

## CALENDAR EDITORS

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*Broadway World* called **EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED** “Riveting...Masterful...The Journey and they Payoff are huge.”

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## PREVIEWS

Friday 11/9 and Saturday 11/10 at 8 pm; Sunday, 11/11 at 2 pm only.

Tuesday, 11/13, and Wednesday, 11/14, at 7 pm.

**OPENS Thursday, November 15**

Performances: Tuesday and Wednesday at 7pm; Thursday through Saturday at 8pm; Sunday at 2pm & 7pm

**WHERE** Aurora Theatre Company, 2081 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA

**TICKETS** For single tickets (\$35-\$70) or subscriptions (\$111-\$396), the public can call (510) 843-4822 or visit [auroratheatre.org](http://auroratheatre.org).

Associate Season Sponsors: Ed & Liliane Schneider. Sponsors: Kathleen Garrison & David Wood; Associate Sponsors: Gertrude E. Allen, Deborah & Howard Goodman, and Linda & Steve Wolan.

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