

# DISGRACED

by Ayad Akhtar  
directed by Don Toner



January 15 - 31, 2016

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# AUSTIN PLAYHOUSE

DON TONER PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
LARA TONER HADDOCK ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

presents

# DISGRACED

by Ayad Akhtar

DIRECTED BY DON TONER

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER ANDREW HATCHER

COSTUME DESIGNER GLENDA WOLFE

LIGHTING DESIGNER DON DAY

SET DESIGNER MIKE TONER

SOUND DESIGNER JOEL MERCADO-SEE

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This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Economic Development Department/Cultural Arts Division believing an investment in the Arts is an investment in Austin's future. Visit Austin at [NowPlayingAustin.com](http://NowPlayingAustin.com).

*DISGRACED* is presented by special arrangement with *Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York*

*Disgraced* by Ayad Akhtar

January 15 - 31, 2015

Austin Playhouse ♦ P.O. Box 50533 Austin, TX 78763

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# THE CAST

AMIR.....J. BEN WOLFE♦\*  
EMILY.....MOLLY KARRASCH♦\*  
ABE.....HAROLD FISCH  
ISAAC.....MICHAEL MILLER  
JORY.....CRYSTAL BIRD CAVIEL

\*Member Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.  
♦Austin Playhouse Acting Company

Setting: an apartment on New York's Upper East Side

Time: 2011 - 2012

*The first and second scenes take place in late summer of 2011  
The third scene takes place three months later during the fall.  
The fourth scene takes place six months later during the spring.*

**The play runs without intermission.**

This performance is a one-time-only experience for those present. Photography, recording devices, and cell phone use (including texting, tweeting, and talking) are strictly prohibited during the performance.

## STAFF AND PRODUCTION CREW

Properties Coordinator and Crew Lead.....Stephen Mercantel  
Running Crew.....Lowell Bundick  
Dresser.....Jordan Visage  
Fight choreography.....Aaron Alexander  
Development Director.....Claire Grasso  
Box Office Manager.....Cyndi Williams  
Business Associate.....Molly Karrasch  
Publicity.....Jessica Hughes  
Resident Set Designer.....Mike Toner  
Special Events Coordinator.....Kathleen Toner  
Website Design.....Laura Walberg  
Photography.....Christopher Loveless



# PRODUCTION BIOS

**Don Toner** (Producing Artistic Director) founded Austin Playhouse in 2000. Before that he was Producing Artistic Director of the State Theatre Company/Live Oak Theatre for thirteen years. Prior to coming to Austin he was Associate Producer for the inaugural season of the Los Angeles Theatre Center, Associate Producer/Director of the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park for three seasons, and he founded Theatre Center of Mississippi; the state's first Equity theatre. He has also produced and directed at New Stage Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, Theatre Midland, and Theatre Four in New York City. For Austin Playhouse he has produced and directed *The Philadelphia Story*, *The Real Thing*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Mountaintop*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Foreigner*, *The Liar*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Noises Off*, *Other Desert Cities*, *The Game's Afoot*, *Born Yesterday*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Stop the World*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *The 39 Steps*, *Jacques Brel*, *Misalliance*, *The Mousetrap*, *Frost/Nixon*, *The Fantasticks*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Amadeus*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Stones in His Pockets*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *Inherit the Wind*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Steel Magnolias*, *An Ideal Husband*, *The Night Hank Williams Died*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *The Odd Couple*, *House*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Rumors*, *Enchanted April*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Underpants*, *Kiss*

*Me Kate*, *Private Lives*, *Travesties*, *The Dead Presidents' Club*, *Damn Yankees*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Copenhagen*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Blues in the Night*, *The Seagull*, *Arcadia*, *Mahalia*, and *Light Up the Sky*. He has appeared in *And Then There Were None*, *Heroes*, *Afterplay*, and *The Threepenny Opera*.

**Lara Toner Haddock** (Artistic Director) is a member of the Austin Playhouse Acting Company. For Austin Playhouse she has directed *The Norwegians*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Roaring*, *Venus in Fur*, *And Then There Were None*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *A Room With A View* (which she also adapted for the stage), *A Christmas Carol*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Turn of the Screw*, *Age of Arousal*, *Heroes*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Dug Up*, *Women Who Steal*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Garden*, *A Texas Romance*, and co-directed *Proof*, *Speed the Plow*, and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. She also directed *Age of Arousal* at Southwestern University. Favorite roles for Austin Playhouse include Tracy Lord in *The Philadelphia Story*, Catherine in *The Foreigner*, Brooke in *Other Desert Cities*, Daria in *The Game's Afoot*, all the women in *The 39 Steps*, Hypatia in *Misalliance*, Lottie in *Enchanted April*, and Thomasina in *Arcadia*. She has appeared in productions for Hyde Park Theatre and State Theatre Company, among others.

**Ayad Akhtar** (playwright) was born in New York City and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is the author of *American Dervish*, published in 25 languages worldwide and a 2012 Best

Book of the Year at Kirkus Reviews, Toronto's Globe and Mail, Shelf-Awareness, and O (Oprah) Magazine. He is also a playwright and screenwriter. His play *DISGRACED* played at New York's Lincoln Center Theater in 2012 and premiered at the Bush Theater in London in May 2013. *Disgraced* won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. His play *The Invisible Hand* was nominated for the ATCA/Steinberg Award, and won Best New Work 2013 from the St. Louis Theater Critics Circle. As a screenwriter, he was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for Best Screenplay for *The War Within*. He has received commissions from Lincoln Center and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He is a graduate of Brown and Columbia Universities with degrees in Theater and Film Directing.

**Andrew Hatcher** (Stage Manager) has worked either backstage, in the booth or had a cameo appearance in Austin Playhouse productions of *The Philadelphia Story*, *Chicago*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Sherlock Holmes & the Case of the Jersey Lily*, *And Then There Were None*, *Chess* and many other shows as the box office attendant. Other credits include numerous works with Salvage Vanguard Theater, Doctuh Mistuh Productions, Fusebox Festival, Texas Performing Arts, Breaking String Theater, OUTsider Fest and Mary Moody Northen Theatre. Andrew is a graduate of the Theater Management Program at St. Edward's University.

**Don Day** (Lighting Designer) has been designing professionally for over 30 years, winning both B. Iden Payne and Austin Critics' Table awards for

his work. Don has designed lights for over 40 Austin Playhouse productions, most recently *The Philadelphia Story*, *The Norwegians*, *The Real Thing*, *Chicago*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Mountaintop*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Foreigner*, *Roaring*, *The Liar*, *Venus in Fur*, *And Then There Were None*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Noises Off*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *Other Desert Cities*, *The Game's Afoot*, *Born Yesterday*, *A Room with a View*, *Boeing-Boeing* and *The Lion in Winter*. Don holds an MFA from the University of Texas.

**Mike Toner** (Set Designer) has designed sets for the Austin Playhouse productions of *The Philadelphia Story*, *The Norwegians*, *The Real Thing*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *The Mountaintop*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Foreigner*, *Roaring*, *Born Yesterday*, *Proof*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Mike has also served as lead carpenter on over 20 Austin Playhouse productions.

**Joel Mercado-See** (Sound Designer) has designed sound for Austin Playhouse productions of *The Philadelphia Story*, *The Norwegians*, *The Real Thing*, *Chicago*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Mountaintop*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Foreigner*, *Roaring*, *The Liar*, *Venus in Fur*, *And Then There Were None*, *Chess*, and *Man of La Mancha*. He has a background performing in live music, theatre and TV/Film. His album *Hitchhiker's Paradise* was named in the Houston Chronicle's Top 10 Albums of 2006. Joel's stage credits include *The King and I*, *Hair*, *Rent*, *A Chorus Line*, and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. In re-



cent years, he has diversified into the technical world as an audio engineer with clients including ZACH Theatre, SummerStock Austin, Doctuh Mistuh Productions, Austin Theatre Project, GSD&M, Austin Shakespeare, and Tapestry Dance.

**Glenda Wolfe** (Costume Designer) Glenda graduated from Texas State University with a BFA in Costume Design and Technology. This is her seventh production for Austin Playhouse, having previously designed *The Norwegians*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *Heroes*, *Frost/Nixon*, *The 39 Steps*, *Chess*, and *Triumph of Love*. Other production companies she works with include Doctuh Mistuh, Penfold, Summer Stock Austin, Capital T and Texas State University. She received a B. Iden Payne award for her costume design of *Bloody*, *Bloody*, *Andrew Jackson* and a nomination for *Urinetown*. She also is the recipient of a Central Texas Excellence in Theatre Award for *Triumph of Love*. She teaches Costume Construction and Stage Makeup at Texas State University.

**Crystal Bird Caviel** (Jory) was recently on stage in *The Tree Play* for Robi Polgar at Groundfloor Theatre, *Getting Out* and *Beauty is the Best Priest* for ACC's Drama department. She was also seen as Emma Goldman in *Love*, *Anarchy*, and *Other Affairs*, *Have a Nice Day*, *Why Bother?* at City Theatre, and contributed to *Man Friends* for JuaniBeGood Productions. She will graduate this Spring from Texas State with a BFA in Performance. She is a passionate death penalty abolitionist working with the Coalition to End the

Death Penalty and strives to use art as a tool for social justice.

**Harold Fisch** (Abe) is an actor, filmmaker, photographer and collaborative artist based in Austin, Texas. He has appeared in large and independent film productions, including *Greenbelt*, *Cabin Crew*, *Rearview Mirror*, and HBO's *The Leftovers*. He has also been on stage for the original works of *Tango Through the Revolution*, *Mommy*, and *The Loop*. In 2014, Harold wrote, produced, and starred in *Wartorn*, a film that is currently in consideration at film festivals across the globe. In addition to acting, Harold works as a freelance photographer, producer and editor for films, businesses, entrepreneurs and artists. He is also the owner and founder of Resaca Media, an arts and media firm. Harold is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

**Molly Karrasch** (Emily) is an Austin Playhouse Acting Company member. Austin Playhouse credits include *Chicago*, *Time Stands Still*, *Roaring*, *Venus in Fur* (Critics' Table Nomination), *The Game's Afoot*, *Proof*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *The Mousetrap*. Molly is also a company member at Hyde Park Theatre where she has appeared in *Slowgirl* (B. Iden Payne Award), *Tragedy: A Tragedy*, *Tigers Be Still* and works with Capital T Theatre as an actor (*Exit*, *Pursued by a Bear*, *Fool for Love*) and director (*DNA*). Molly has a B.F.A. in Theatre from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri.

**Michael Miller** (Isaac) This is Michael's first performance with Austin Playhouse, although Playhouse audi-

ences might remember him as Yolland (*Translations*) at Live Oak Theatre and Sandy (*Hay Fever*) and Einstein (*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*) at the State Theatre. Michael's more recent performances include: Mitch (*A Streetcar Named Desire*), Jowett & Labouchere (*The Invention of Love*), de Guiche (*Cyrano de Bergerac*), Jaques (*As You Like It*), Iago (*Othello*), Leontes (*The Winter's Tale*), Otto (*Design for Living*) and Mr. Darcy (*Pride & Prejudice*) all for Austin Shakespeare. Hubert Humphrey (*All the Way*) and Capt. Orton / Sir Edward (*The King and I*) at ZACH. The Beast (*Glassheart*) for Shrewd Productions. Captain Keller (*The Miracle Worker*) for City Theatre, and Cardinal Barberini / Sagredo (*Galileo*) as a Guest Artist at Mary Moody Northen Theatre. He received a BFA in Theatre from Texas State University and an MFA in Acting from UT Austin.

**J. Ben Wolfe** (Amir) is a member of the Austin Playhouse and Hyde Park Theatre acting companies. Directing credits include *Three Viewings*, *Heroes* (AD), *The 39 Steps* (AD), and *Bloody*, *Bloody Andrew Jackson* (AD). Stage credits include *The Norwegians*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Am I White*, *The Liar*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Mother\*\*\*\*\* With the Hat* (BIP nominee), *The Pain and The Itch* (BIP Award), *The Turn of the Screw*, *Speed the Plow*, *The Dog in the Manger* (B. Iden Payne and Critics' Table Award winner), *Romeo and Juliet* (BIP Award), and *Featuring Loretta* (BIP Award). Voice credits include *Samurai X*, *Soul Hunter*, *Wedding Peach*, *Zone of the Enders: Idolo*, *Wizard 101*, *Dishonored*, and *DC Universe Online*. Film credits include *Holy Hell*, *The Quiet Girl's Guide to Violence*, and *Projet: Rant*.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Austin Playhouse is dedicated to providing opportunities for Austin artists and audiences to celebrate the human experience. Austin Playhouse will nourish your mind, delight your spirit, and enrich your life through professional productions of classic, contemporary and musical plays.*

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