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FOR RELEASE
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Jeffrey L. Page returns to Geva with *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*

Rochester, N.Y. — Geva Theatre is delighted to announce the return of Jeffrey L. Page, who brought his re-envisioning of *Ain't Misbehavin'* to the Wilson Stage during the 50th Season, to direct the biographical Billie Holiday musical *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* this winter. *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* will replace *I Put a Spell on You*, the fifth show during the 23/24 season. Geva Theatre will welcome *I Put a Spell on You* in the 24/25 season instead.

"We are so thrilled to have Jeffrey L Page returning next season with his beautiful new production of *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*," says Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson. "As he did with *Ain't Misbehavin'*, he has gone back to the roots of this story, with a fresh new vision of what Billie Holiday was grappling with at the end of her life."

Page says, "*Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* is a final accounting of Billie Holiday's life, flashing before her eyes. As we watch her — in real-time — uncover battles with various facets of abuse, racism, sexism, self-torment, love, and loss, we also witness her gain a cathartic release." The Tony Award-winning musical depicts the final performance Billie Holiday gave of her career before her untimely passing four months later. With a live jazz band, intimate setting, you feel as though you're in Emerson's Bar and Grill in 1959.

Learn more about *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*:

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill
Directed by Jeffrey L. Page
By Lanie Robertson
Musical Arrangements by Danny Holgate
Wilson Stage
March 5 – March 31, 2024

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill recounts Holiday's life story through the songs that made her famous. In a small, intimate bar in Philadelphia, Holiday puts on a show that, unbeknownst to her audience, will leave them witnesses to one of the last performances of her lifetime. Through her poignant voice and moving songs, one of the greatest jazz singers of all-time shares her loves and her losses.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Single tickets go on sale July 19th, 2023. You can purchase tickets online at gevatheatre.org or by calling our box office at (585) 232-4382.

About Geva Theatre Center

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing singular theatre productions and programs that serve the Rochester region and beyond, by illuminating the fullness of our many human experiences.

The 516-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage is home to a wide variety of performances, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage is home to Geva's series of contemporary drama, comedy, musical theatre, and new play development programs. In addition, the Fielding Stage hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva offers a wide variety of educational, engagement, and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Geva Theatre Center sits on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Onödowá'ga, or "the people of the Great Hill." In English, they are known as the Seneca people, "the keeper of the western door." They have stewarded this land through generations, and Geva pays respect and gives thanks to their elders, past and present.

Geva is under the leadership of Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson and Executive Director Christopher Mannelli.

Find out more about Geva Theatre Center at GevaTheatre.org or by connecting with us on social media. Facebook: facebook.com/gevatheatrecenter, Twitter: [@gevatheatre](https://twitter.com/gevatheatre), Instagram: [@gevatheatre](https://instagram.com/gevatheatre), LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/geva-theatre-center.

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