



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Round House Theatre Presents the Regional Premiere of

Matthew López's

The Inheritance

A sweeping, two-part theatrical event exploring love, legacy, and the power of storytelling

Directed by Tom Story

August 27–October 19, 2025

Round House Theatre opens its 2025–2026 Season with the regional premiere of ***The Inheritance, Parts One and Two***, a groundbreaking work by Tony Award-winning playwright Matthew López. Directed by acclaimed DC-area actor and director Tom Story, this epic two-part production, inspired by E.M. Forster's *Howards End*, will run from August 27–October 19 and will be presented in two parts as intended by the playwright. Round House will offer limited performances where audiences can experience both parts in a single day. For more information and tickets, please visit www.roundhousetheatre.org.

The Inheritance, which premiered in London in 2018, reimagines E.M. Forster's classic novel through a contemporary lens, tracing the lives of three generations of gay men in New York City in 2015 as they grapple with themes of love and legacy, and the enduring shadow of the AIDS crisis amid a turbulent and changing America. Both deeply moving and sharply funny, the play

poses powerful questions: What do we owe those who came before us, and what will we leave behind?

Round House's production of *The Inheritance* is made possible by an extraordinary gift from The Roy Cockrum Foundation, which enables theatres to reach beyond their normal scope of activities and undertake ambitious and creative productions.

"*The Inheritance* is one of the most ambitious, emotionally resonant, and awarded plays of its generation. It's a story that honors the past while urgently speaking to this very moment," **says director Tom Story**. "I am proud to direct this stunning work with this incredible cast at Round House. I invite audiences to join us for this sprawling, hilarious, and heartbreaking play. I am honored to be able to create a space where audiences can laugh and grieve together as we reflect on the legacies we inherit, the ones we choose to leave behind, and what it means to be a gay man."

The cast includes 13 actors, many are well known to DC audiences and some making their Round House debuts: **Jonathan Atkinson, Jordi Bertran Ramirez, Ben Bogen, John Floyd, Robert Gant, David Gow, Jamar Jones, Adam Poss, Hunter Ringsmith, Nancy Robinette, Robert Sella, Cole Sitalides, and Dylan Toms**. Understudies for this production are **Eric Hissom, Elizabeth Pierotti, Drew Sharpe, Theodore Sherron III, and Anthony De Souza**.

The cast is joined by a brilliant creative team, which includes Scenic Designer **Lee Savage**, Costume Designer **Frank Labovitz**, Lighting Designer **Colin K. Bills**, Sound Designer **Daniela Hart / Uptown Works**, Projection Designer **Kelly Colburn**, Fight Director **Casey Kaleba**, Movement & Intimacy Choreographer **Britta Peterson**, Dramaturg **Otis Ramsey-Zoe**, Composer **Paul Englishby**, Casting Director **Sarah Cooney**, Associate Director **Ashley Mapley-Brittle**, and Production Stage Manager **Che Wernsman**.

Tickets may be purchased by calling 240.644.1100 or ordering online at RoundHouseTheatre.org. Round House Theatre is located at 4545 East-West Highway, one block from Wisconsin Avenue and the Bethesda station on Metro's Red Line.

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The Inheritance is made possible by a generous gift from The Roy Cockrum Foundation. *The Inheritance* is sponsored by Nan Beckley, and Part One is sponsored by Rick Kasten.

ARTIST INFORMATION

Matthew López (Playwright) is a Tony-winning, Emmy-nominated playwright and filmmaker. His play *The Inheritance* is the most honored American play in a generation, sweeping the “Best Play” awards in both London and New York, including the Tony Award, Olivier Award, Drama Desk Award, and Evening Standard Award. With Amber Ruffin, Matthew co-wrote the book for the musical adaptation of *Some Like it Hot* (Drama Desk Award, Tony nomination). His other plays include *The Whipping Man*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, *Somewhere*, *Reverberation*, *The Sentinels*, and *Zoey’s Perfect Wedding*. Matthew wrote and directed the film *Red, White, and Royal Blue* (based on the bestselling novel), for which he was nominated for an Emmy Award.

Tom Story (Director) is an actor, director and teacher living in Washington, DC. He has appeared in over 80 plays in Washington, DC; New York; and around the country. He has directed at Studio Theatre, Round House Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Group, Imagination Stage, Adventure Theatre MTC, Solas Nua, and American University. Tom has been nominated for eight Helen Hayes Awards and is a Fox Foundation Fellow, a Cabinet member of Studio Theatre, and a graduate of Duke University and The Juilliard School. He studied acting with Michael Kahn and directing with Joy Zinoman.

ABOUT THE CAST (ALPHABETICAL)

Jonathan Atkinson (Jason #2) está muy emocionado de hacer su debut con Round House Theatre en *The Inheritance*. DC credits include *At The Wedding* at Studio Theatre; *Daphne’s Dive* at Signature Theatre; *The Mortification of Fovea Munson* at The Kennedy Center; *Evita* and *The Crucible* at Olney Theatre Center; and *Ragtime* and *A Christmas Carol* at Ford’s Theatre. Jonathan is co-host of *¡UY QUE HORROR! A Latinx Horror Movie Podcast*. Instagram: @jonnyeliot / @uyquehorror. (He/Him)

Jordi Bertrán Ramírez (Adam/Leo) is grateful to be a part of Round House Theatre’s production of *The Inheritance*. Select regional credits include *Cabaret* (Virginia Theater Festival), and *The Winter’s Tale* (The Old Globe). Jordi graduated from Yale last year with a double major in History of Science, Medicine, & Public Health, and in Theater Studies, where his credits include *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* (Prior); *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?* (Billy); *Spring Awakening* (Melchior); *Cabaret* (Emcee); and *Sanctuary City* (B). For his

accomplishments in theatrical performance at Yale, Jordi was awarded the Louis Sudler Prize for Excellence in the Performing and Creative Arts. @jordibertranramirez

Ben Bogen (Charles Wilcox/Toby's Agent) is honored to be making his DC theatre debut in *The Inheritance*. Broadway credits: *Frozen* (U/S Weselton, Olaf). Off Broadway credits: *Jersey Boys* (New World Stages), *Only Human* (Theatre St Clements). Broadway national tours: *Jersey Boys* (Frankie Valli alternate), *Wicked*, and *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*. Regional credits include *Rent* (ACT of CT); *The Flamingo Kid* (Hartford Stage); *Sousatzka* (The Elgin Theatre in Toronto); and *Damn Yankees* (Pittsburgh CLO). Television credits: *Pose* series finale. Ben is also a proud choreographer/movement creator, having recently choreographed *Spring Awakening* at Clear Space Theatre Company and associate directed/choreographed *Jersey Boys* at Sierra REP. Training: BFA, University of Michigan. Instagram: @benmbogen

Anthony De Souza (Understudy, Jason #2 and Charles/Agent) is excited to be making their Round House Theatre debut with *The Inheritance*. Previous DC credits: José in *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* at Maryland Ensemble Theatre; Ignatius in *Green Machine* in the Capital Fringe Festival. Workshops/Readings: *Walter Mercado presents: a queer Puerto Rican (not just) Christmas Spectacular!* at Avant Bard Theatre; and *House of Desires* at We Happy Few. Anthony is also a director, with previous credits including *Ride the Cyclone* and *Ordinary Days* at CenterStage Theatre Company (Catholic University). Anthony is a graduate of the Catholic University of America with a B.M. in Musical Theatre. You can follow their work on their website: www.anthonysouzaactor.com

John Floyd (Jason #1) is thrilled to be making his Round House Theatre debut! DC theatre credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Our Verse In Time to Come*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Macbeth*, and *Timon of Athens* at Folger Theatre; *A Christmas Carol* at Ford's Theatre; and *One in Two* at Mosaic Theatre Company. Regional credits include *What Will Happen to All That Beauty?* at Contemporary American Theatre Festival. www.johnfloydactor.com

Robert Gant (Henry Wilcox) is thrilled to be making his Round House Theatre debut. He is best known for playing Ben Bruckner on Showtime's groundbreaking series *Queer as Folk*. Theatre credits include *Working* for the L.A. Reprise. Recurring television roles include *13 Reasons Why*, *The Fosters*, *Good Trouble*, *Supergirl*, *Popular*, *Why Women Kill*, the BBC's *Personal Affairs*, *The Tomorrow People*, and *Caroline in the City*. Other television credits include

Friends, Station 19, Hawaii Five 0, All Rise, NCIS:LA, Criminal Minds, Castle, Bones, Hot in Cleveland, NCIS, Nip/Tuck, The Closer, Mike & Molly, and Shameless. Film work includes *Save Me, Milada, To Catch a Killer, Summer of Dreams, Kiss Me Deadly, The Contract, and Love Is All You Need.* As a producer and writer, Robert develops projects centered on LGBTQ+ stories. A longtime social justice advocate, he holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown Law.

David Gow (Eric Glass) is making his Round House Theatre debut! Previous NY credits include *Banya* at Theaterlab, *What I First Desired* at Soho Playhouse, *Chokehold* at 14th St Y, *Sweat* at Capital Rep, and *Bleach* at Wilson's Lounge. Regional credits include *Rust on Bone* at Denver Center; *Hamlet, Measure for Measure, The Waverly Gallery, The Winter's Tale, Mothers and Sons, and Dear Jack, Dear Louise,* at Shakespeare & Company; *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* and *Sense & Sensibility* at 4th Wall Theater; *Pirira* and *The Giant Void in my Soul* at Luna Stages; and *The Foreigner* at A.D. Players. Film/TV credits include *The Girls on the Bus* on HBO; *The Good Fight* and *Madam Secretary* on CBS; and *The Savant, The Intruder,* and *Chrissy Judy* on Apple TV. IG: @davidfgow

Eric Hissom (Understudy, Morgan/Walter) Round House credits include *The Tempest, The Great Leap, Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo,* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time.* DC credits include *Arcadia* at the Folger (Helen Hayes award); *Death on the Nile* at Arena Stage; *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Olney Theatre Center; *Born Yesterday* at Ford's Theatre; *The Vibrator Play* at Woolly Mammoth; *Body of an American* at Theatre J; *The Effect* at Studio, and many others. Regional credits include work at Seattle Rep, La Jolla Playhouse, Cleveland Playhouse, Milwaukee Rep, Asolo Rep, and many others. He did the national tour of *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, and has done a bit of TV and film, including the feature *Out of Time.*

Jamar Jones (Tristan) makes his Round House Theatre debut with *The Inheritance.* DC credits include *Akira Kurosawa Explains His Movies and Yogurt* at Woolly Mammoth. Regional credits include *Blues for an Alabama Sky* at Seattle Rep; *Fat Ham, Much Ado about Nothing, Emma, The Legend of Georgia McBride, A Wrinkle in Time, Hamlet,* and *The Christmas Case of Hezekiah Jones* at PlayMakers Repertory Company; *Black Like Me* at Chautauqua Theater Company; *Toni Stone* at Playhouse on Park; *Fires in the Mirror* (2022 RTCC Award- Best Lead Performance/Play) and *Passing Strange* at Firehouse Theater; *An Octoroon* (2019 RTCC Award- Best Actor/Play) and *Topdog/Underdog* at TheatreLab; and *Fences* at Virginia Rep.

Television credits includes *Law & Order*. UNC at Chapel Hill- M.F.A (Acting).
jamarjonesofficial.com.

Elizabeth Pierotti (Understudy, Margaret) is pleased to be supporting this production at Round House Theatre. DC credits include *Ulysses on Bottles* at Mosaic Theater Company; *The Apple Family Plays*, *The Steward of Christendom and Silence*, *Cunning*, and *Exile* at Studio Theatre; *The Women* and *The Time of Your Life* at Arena Stage; *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Inherit the Wind* at Ford's Theatre; *Never Swim Alone* at Woolly Mammoth Theatre; *Well, The How and the Why*, and *The Glass Menagerie* at 1st Stage; *The Well of Horniness* and *The Art of Dining* at Source Theatre; *Medea* at Songs of the Goat; and *The Supper* at Scena Theatre.

Adam Poss (Toby Darling) is thrilled to make his Round House debut in *The Inheritance*. DC credits include *The History Boys* (Studio Theatre). Broadway credits include Peter Morgan's *Patriots* (Ethel Barrymore Theatre). Select regional credits include *Lady Macbeth* in Robert O'Hara's all-male *Macbeth* (Denver Center); *Oedipus* in *Oedipus el Rey* and the world premiere of Maduri Shekar's *Queen* (Victory Gardens); *Angelo* in *Measure for Measure* (Chicago Shakespeare); the world premieres of Christopher Shinn's *Teddy Ferrara* and *2666* (The Goodman Theatre); *Dracula* in the world premiere of *Dracula* and *Birthday Candles* (Cincinnati Playhouse); the world premieres of Rajiv Joseph's *The North Pool* (Theatreworks Silicon Valley) and his *The Lake Effect* (Silk Road Rising). Select television credits include *Chicago Med/Fire/PD*, *Empire*, *Shameless*, *Paper Girls*, and *The Big Leap*. Instagram: @santaposs.
www.adamposs.com

Nancy Robinette (Margaret) is always gleeful when reunited with Round House, having performed here in *Jennifer Who Is Leaving*; *Uncle Vanya*; *A Doll's House, Part 2*; *Escape from Happiness*; *Better Living*; *Love and Anger*; and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Recent performances elsewhere include roles in *Death on the Nile* and *The Heiress* at Arena, *Uncle Vanya* at Berkeley Rep and Shakespeare Theatre, *Problems Between Sisters* at Studio Theatre, *Steel Magnolias* at Gulfshore Playhouse and at Everyman, *Trip to Bountiful* at Ford's Theatre, *Nicole Clark is Having a Baby* at the Humana Festival, *Mother Courage* at Scena, and *Prayer for the French Republic* at Manhattan Theatre Club for which she received an Outer Critic's Circle nomination. For her 40+ years in the D.C. area theatre, she received a Helen Hayes Tribute. She dedicates this performance to the memory of her brother, John, for whom she and her siblings created an AIDS quilt depicting his favorite things, and who insisted

on buying her an elegant dress from Neiman Marcus when first nominated for a Helen Hayes Award.

Hunter Ringsmith (Jasper/Paul Wilcox/Young Man 7) is so thrilled to be making his Round House debut with this production. DC area credits include *King Lear* at Shakespeare Theatre; *Shear Madness* at the Kennedy Center; *Desperate Measures* at Constellation Theatre; *Major Barbara* at Washington Stage Guild; and *Twelfth Night* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Folger Theatre. Off-Broadway credits include *The Tempest* at the Public Theatre's Shakespeare in the Park. Regionally, he's been in *Clarkston* at Bridge Street Theatre; *Bad Jews*, *Ghost*, *Sister Act*, *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, and *First Date* at Lake Dillon Theatre Co; and has worked with Pennsylvania, New Swan, Colorado, Arkansas and Great River Shakespeare Fests and The Dallas Theatre Center. Film work includes Netflix's *Rustin*. MFA: University of California Irvine. BFA: Southern Methodist University. www.hunterringsmith.com

Robert Sella (Morgan / Walter Poole) is proud to make his Round House debut with *The Inheritance*. DC credits include *Design for Living*, *Don Carlos*, and *Mourning Becomes Electra* (Helen Hayes Award) at the Shakespeare Theatre; the first national tour of *Angels in America* and *Bruinhaha!* at the Kennedy Center. Broadway appearances include *Flying Over Sunset*, *Sylvia*, *My Fair Lady*, *Cabaret*, *Sideman*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Robert played opposite Dame Maggie Smith in *The Lady from Dubuque* on the West End. Favorite off-Broadway and regional projects include *Amadeus* and *Private Lives* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *The Mystery of Irma Vep* (Red Bull/Lucille Lortel) and *Stuff Happens* (Public). Film and television include *Manchester by the Sea*, *Sleepy Hollow*, and *New Amsterdam*. Robert is a graduate of UCLA and Juilliard.

Drew Sharpe (Understudy, Young Henry & Young Walter) is a DC-based actor, musician, and songwriter making his Round House Theatre debut. His recent theatre credits include *Wipeout* at Studio Theatre; *Hand to God*, *Apropos of Nothing*, and *Merrily We Roll Along* at The Keegan Theatre; *Reefer Madness* at NextStop Theatre Company; *The Tempest*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, and *Our Town* with The Classic Theatre of Maryland; and *Amelia Earhart* with The REV on Tour. On social media @drew.sharpie21 (Instagram).

Theodore Sherron III (Understudy, Tristan/Jason #1) is thrilled to be making his Round House Theatre debut with *The Inheritance*! DC credits include *The America Play* at Perisphere Theatre. Touring credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Shakespeare Beyond. Regional credits include *Akeelah and the Bee* at Baltimore Center Stage; *Romeo and Juliet*, *Complete Works of William Shakespeare*, and *Macbeth* at Chesapeake Shakespeare Company; and *R&J* at Strand Theatre Co.

Cole Sitalides (Young Henry) is delighted to be making his Round House Theatre debut in *The Inheritance*. Previous D.C. credits include *Richard III* at Shakespeare Theatre Company; *Brighton Beach Memoirs* at Theater J; and *A Christmas Carol* at Ford's Theatre. Regional credits include *The C Word* with Los Angeles Theatre Initiative. He is a recent graduate of the UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television. Instagram: @colesitalides.

Dylan Toms (Young Walter/Tucker) is so excited to be making his Round House Theatre debut with *The Inheritance*. DC credits include *Into the Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, *She Loves Me*, and *Assassins* at Signature Theatre; *Finn* and *The Mortification of Fovea Munson* at Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences; Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man* (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Ensemble) at Olney Theatre Center; *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Helen Hayes Nomination, Outstanding Lead Performer), *Charlotte's Web*, *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* at Adventure Theatre MTC; *Finn: A Concert Reading* with Monumental Theatre Co. and Theatre Alliance. Regional credits include *Waitress* at Mill Mountain Theatre and *Cabaret* at Showtimers Theatre. @dylan_toms

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

The Inheritance

Written by Matthew Lopez

Directed by Tom Story

Dates: August 27–October 19, 2025

ABOUT THE PLAY

Round House Theatre proudly presents *The Inheritance*, the most awarded play of our generation, performed in a breathtaking two-part theatrical event. Winner of the Tony, Olivier, Drama Desk, Critics' Circle, Evening Standard, and Drama League Awards for Best Play,

Matthew López's epic masterpiece instantly became a modern classic. Hailed as "a vast, heartfelt, and hugely ambitious" (*The Guardian*) work, *The Inheritance* follows a group of young gay men in New York as they wrestle with love, legacy, and the shadow of the AIDS crisis. Deeply moving and biting funny, this unforgettable production asks: What do we owe those who came before us, and what will we leave behind? Presented in repertory, Parts One and Two create an extraordinary, once-in-a-lifetime experience. "The most important American play of the century so far best American play of the century so far" (*The Telegraph*), *The Inheritance* is more than a play—it's an event that will stay with you forever.

The Inheritance is made possible by a generous gift from The Roy Cockrum Foundation.

Thank you to our sponsors:

The Inheritance is sponsored by Nan Beckley.

The Inheritance Part One is sponsored by Rick Kasten.

WHERE:

Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Highway in Bethesda (one block from Wisconsin Ave and Metro's Bethesda station). For directions, parking, and public transportation info, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/Visit-Us/

DATES AND TIMES

The Inheritance runs from August 27–October 19, 2025. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 7:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 pm.

Both performances may be viewed on the same day (Part 1 followed by Part 2) on September 27 and October 11.

Audio described performance: To be announced

Open captioned performance: To be announced

Mask-required performances: To be announced

TICKETS:

Tickets can be purchased by calling 240.644.1100, ordering online at RoundHouseTheatre.org or visiting the box office. Available ticket discounts include:

- **Free Play:** free tickets for students ages 13 through college: Round House Theatre's Free Play initiative ties into our greater strategy to develop theatre audiences of

tomorrow by providing rich, meaningful arts experiences. For more information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/FreePlay or email Education@RoundHouseTheatre.org.

- **On the House community ticket access program:** Round House's next step to remove barriers that can make it difficult for some members of our community to experience our work is On the House, which provides complimentary group tickets to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and community-serving organizations with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor. For more information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/On-Stage/On-TheHouse or email Community@RoundHouseTheatre.org.
- **Pay-What-You-Can performances:** PWYC tickets go on sale online or by phone only (no walk-up sales) beginning three weeks before the first performance of each show. The patron decides the admission price. Limit of two tickets per order. PWYC tickets are subject to availability.
- **Blue Star Theatre Program:** Active-duty military personnel, veterans, and their immediate family qualify for a \$10 discount off the single ticket price. Learn more at RoundHouseTheatre.org/On-Stage/Tickets.
- **2-For-1 Tuesday:** For all Tuesday performances of *The Inheritance*, all seats are buy one, get one free. 2-for-1 Tuesday tickets are available online or by phone (240.644.1100) with promo code TWOFORONE. Discounts may not be combined. Not valid on previously purchased tickets.
- **Group Sales:** Groups of 10 or more can save 10% off the single ticket price and are exempt from single ticket fees. These tickets must be reserved and purchased in advance by calling 240.644.1100 or emailing GroupSales@RoundHouseTheatre.org

ABOUT ROUND HOUSE THEATRE

Round House Theatre is one of the leading professional theatres in the Washington, D.C. area, producing a season of new plays, modern classics, and musicals for more than 50,000 patrons each year at our theatre in Bethesda. Round House has been nominated for 235 Helen Hayes Awards and has won 54, including four Outstanding Resident Play Awards and the Charles MacArthur Award for Original New Play in 2016. Round House's lifelong learning and education programs serve more than 5,000 students each year at its Education Center in Silver Spring, in schools throughout Montgomery County, and at our Bethesda theatre. Cornerstone programs include Free Play, which provides free tickets for students age 13-college, the Teen Performance Company, which culminates in the student-produced Sarah Metzger Memorial Play, Summer Camp for students in grades K-12, and a full slate of classes for adults and youth.

ABOUT THE ROY COCKRUM FOUNDATION

Founded in 2014 by Roy Cockrum and Benita Hofstetter Koman with winnings from Mr. Cockrum's Powerball lottery jackpot, the Foundation's mission is to award grants to support world-class performing arts projects in not-for-profit professional theatres throughout America. Since 2014, the Foundation has awarded 51 grants to 42 American theatres. Inspiration for its mission derives from a Camus quote: "Without culture, and the relative freedom it implies, society, even when perfect, is but a jungle. This is why any authentic creation is a gift to the future." — Albert Camus, *The Myth of Sisyphus and Other Essays*.