



Food & drinks available for purchase from ART HAUS Cocktail Bar before & after the reading!
No intermission.

ART HAUS Menu



The Last Five Years

by Jason Robert Brown



Modern musical ingeniously chronicles the five-year life of a marriage.

Drama Desk award-winner *The Last Five Years* is Jason Robert Brown's intimate window into a couple's doomed marriage. Cathy, a struggling actress, and Jamie, a budding novelist on the brink of wild success, are 20-somethings in New York who meet, fall in love, marry, and divorce over the span of five years. Cathy tells the story from the end of their marriage; Jamie begins when they first meet. As the musical unfolds, Cathy moves backward in time to the beginning of the relationship, as Jamie moves forward from their first date to their last goodbye; they meet only once, in the middle, at their wedding. Since its Off-Broadway premiere, Brown's funny, poignant, and devastatingly honest two-person production has enraptured audiences around the world with its spellbinding and emotional score and libretto.



PHOTO: Jenny Anderson

"JASON ROBERT BROWN is the ultimate multi-hyphenate – an equally skilled composer, lyricist, conductor, arranger, orchestrator, director and performer – best known for his dazzling scores to several of the most renowned musicals of our time, including the generation-defining *The Last Five Years*, his debut song cycle *Songs for a New World*, and the seminal *Parade*, now on Broadway in a spectacular Tony Award-winning revival directed by Michael Arden, for which he won the 1999 Tony Award for Best Score."
-jasonrobertbrown.com

CAST

Tess Makena as Cathy Hiatt

Chris Carwithen as Jamie Wellerstein

With musical accompaniment by Dr. Chad Spears



Tess is delighted to perform a reading of *The Last Five Years* with BCT! She has had the pleasure of performing previously with BCT in *The Show on the Roof*, *The Storm in the Barn*, *Lewiston/Clarkston*, and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Other performances include *The Last Five Years* and

Together Again with The Liberty Theatre Company, *A Christmas Carol* and *A Comedy of Errors* with Laughing Stock, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, and *Grey Gardens* with Company of Fools, *The Golden Girls Christmas Extravaganza* with Alley Repertory Theater, *Hamlet* and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with Shakespearience / Idaho Shakespeare Festival, and numerous plays and musicals with Boise State University (BA) and The College of Southern Idaho (AA).

She has worked in all areas of theater; direction, stage management, design, and crew for various companies, including The Brooklyn Academy of Music (NY), The Public (NY), The O'Neill Theatre Center (CT), The War Horse National Tour Tech Development (ID), and now in administration as The Liberty Theatre Company's Production and Operations Manager.



Chris Carwithen (he/him) holds a BA in Theatre Performance from Southern Oregon University and has had the privilege of performing with a number of professional theatres, including the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 5th Avenue in Seattle, Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Arts West, The Shedd Institute, and Company of Fools.

A resident of Idaho since 2017, Chris is proud to be an integral part of The Liberty Theatre Company in Hailey, working as both an artist and a staff member. Notable roles include Jamie in *The Last Five Years*, Barfée in *Spelling Bee*, Snoopy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, Gould in *Grey Gardens*, Yvan in *ART*, Vanya in *Life Sucks*,

Karl/Steve in *Clybourne Park*, and Valentine in *Babes in Arms*.

Chad Spears, a native of Boise, ID, has performed across the US with additional appearances in Canada and Mexico. He has been featured with the Spokane Symphony, Washington-Idaho Symphony, Coeur d'Alene Symphony, and the University of Idaho Symphony Orchestra. Chad received his Doctor of Music Degree in Piano Performance at Florida State University under the tutelage of Dr. Read Gainsford. He currently serves as an adjunct instructor for Boise State University's Department of Music, teaching ear training and class piano. He also is the accompanist for the Opera Theatre course and serves as a freelance collaborative pianist for the department. Chad is the pianist for the Boise-based group Tree City Chamber Players and collaborates with local area school choirs, TRICA, Alley Repertory Theater, Gemma Arts, Opera Elect, Opera Idaho, and the Boise Philharmonic.



Season Sponsors



SEASON 23|24

Our annual Gala is always a lively kick-off propelling us through another season! But first- our beloved Summer Reading Series and third annual BIPOC Playwrights Festival! From a seed planted during our first BIPOC Playwrights Festival, BCT harvests a World Premiere this October about social injustice, personal sacrifice, and love of country. This Holiday season, tickle your wishbone with a roasting satire by the first female Native American playwright to open on Broadway! In 2024, we serve up another killer fresh from Broadway with a character from last season. Then, Spring brings a true tale that explores a woman's place in the world while making discoveries across the Universe. All of this, sprinkled with our 5X5 Reading Series, Children's Reading Series, Theater Lab performances, and First Thursday Happy Hours!

Summer Reading Series @ Bogus Basin August 12, 2023

AUG

3rd Annual BIPOC Playwrights Festival
August 21 - 26, 2023

Theater Lab Class

August 28 - November 4, 2023

Stage One Class

September 5 - October 12, 2023

Explorations of Acting One Class

September 25 - October 16, 2023

Annual Gala September 15, 2023

SEP

5X5 Reading Series October 16, 2023

OCT

World Premiere

Middle of the World

by Juan José Alfonso

October 11 - 28, 2023

Explorations of Acting Two Class

October 30 - November 20, 2023

Children's Reading Series October 22, 2023

NOV

Theater Lab Performance November 4, 2023

5X5 Reading Series December 4, 2023

DEC

The Thanksgiving Play

by Larissa FastHorse

November 29 - December 16, 2023

First Thursday Happy Hour December 7, 2023

Children's Reading Series December 10, 2023

JAN

Stage One Homeschool Class

January 16 - February 1, 2024

Stage Combat One: Unarmed Class

January 20 & 21, 2024

Stage Combat Two: Rapier & Dagger Class

January 27 & 28, 2024

First Thursday Happy Hour February 1, 2024

FEB

Clyde's

by Lynn Nottage

January 31 - February 17, 2024

5X5 Reading Series February 5, 2024

Children's Reading Series February 11, 2024

Theater Lab Class

February 26 - May 11, 2024

5X5 Reading Series March 11, 2024

MAR

APR

Silent Sky

by Lauren Gunderson

April 17 - May 4, 2024

5X5 Reading Series April 22, 2024

Children's Reading Series April 28, 2024

First Thursday Happy Hour May 2, 2024

MAY

Theater Lab Performance May 11, 2024

