



**AURORA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS  
THE U.S. PREMIERE OF STEVE WATERS'  
"TEMPLE"**

**April 14-May 14, 2017**

**Aurora Theatre Company presents the U.S. Premiere** of British playwright **Steve Waters'** (*World Music, The Contingency Plan*) hit play, **TEMPLE**. On October 15, 2011, Occupy London made camp outside St Paul's Cathedral, one of the most famous, beloved, and recognizable institutions in London. On October 21, a building that was kept open through floods, the Blitz, and terrorist threats closed its doors. A week later the City of London initiated legal action against Occupy protestors to begin removing them, by force if necessary. Beset by problems on all sides, the dean of St Paul's is simply anxious to resume worship, but the big issue is whether he should support the City in its plan to evict those who've set up their tents. Set in the heart of a crisis of conscience, a crisis of authority, and a crisis of faith, **TEMPLE** powerfully demonstrates how even the most liberal and enlightened can fail.

Declared by the *London Financial Times* to be "a rich, deeply thoughtful piece about contemporary values. Waters draws from recent history a history play in which flesh-and-blood individuals, caught at a pivotal moment, struggle with fundamental questions about what matters," and about which *The Telegraph (UK)* said, "Call it divine inspiration - but some rare creative power has settled on the playwright Steve Waters...[he has] gone behind the head-lines, and closed ecclesiastical doors, to produce a riveting drama that unpicks the institutional and psychological turmoil the saga caused," **TEMPLE** premiered at the Donmar Warehouse in 2015. Aurora Artistic Director **Tom Ross** (*Mud Blue Sky, A Bright New Boise, Edward Albee's A Delicate Balance*) helms this thought-provoking new play, featuring, **Paul Whitworth, Sylvia Burboeck, J. Michael Flynn, Sharon Lockwood, Leontyne Mbele-Mbong, and Mike Ryan.**

**DATES:**        Previews: April 14, 15, 19 at 8pm; April 16 at 2pm; April 18 at 7pm  
                  **Opens: April 20, 2017**  
                  Closes: May 14

**SHOWS:**        Tuesday at 7pm; Wednesday through Saturday at 8pm; Sunday at 2pm, 7pm

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

**TICKETS:**      For tickets (Previews \$36; Regular Performances \$32-56; Limited Opening Night Seating \$65) the public can call **(510) 843-4822** or visit **auroratheatre.org**. Half-off tickets for Under 35; student, and group discounts available.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges Season Restaurant Sponsor Gecko Gecko and Season Floral Sponsor Darling Flowers for their support.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges Associate Sponsors Elizabeth Burwell, Deborah and Howard Goodman, and Ellen and Barry Levine for their support.

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