



**MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AURORA THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS
THE WORLD PREMIERE OF
CHRISTOPHER CHEN'S *THE RULER*
AN ORIGINATE + GENERATE COMMISSION
MAY 8 - JULY 5 (OPENS: MAY 14)
Two-Week Extension Announced**

BERKELEY, CA (March 10, 2020) Aurora Theatre Company continues its dynamic 28th season with the World Premiere of Christopher Chen's **THE RULER, an Aurora Originate + Generate commission. Becca Wolf** makes her Aurora debut directing this new political drama.

The cast features **Julia Brothers** (*The First Grade, Salome*), **Anthony Fusco**, and **Joseph Patrick O'Malley** (*Creditors, A Number*).

Aurora Theatre will add 13 performances to its World Premiere of THE RULER, extending performances through July 5. There is no show Saturday, July 4.

THE RULER runs May 8 - July 5 (**Opens: May 14**).

A ruler, a rebel, and a stranger play a three-way game of cat and mouse in a mythical province reminiscent of our own world. In a rapidly changing political landscape, are these players engaged in a friendly chat or a dangerous power struggle? Are they sliding down a slippery slope

into fascism, or is this all a game? Who is telling the truth? Known for his plays that probe the layers of reality, Obie Award-winning local playwright Christopher Chen (*Caught*, Shotgun Players; *You Mean To Do Me Harm*; SF Playhouse) asks us to question our beliefs about power and authority in this new play specially commissioned by Aurora.

The Independent called **THE CHILDREN** “a richly suggestive and beautifully written piece of work...Kirkwood is the most rewarding dramatist of her generation.”

"Local playwright Chen is a talent to keep an eye on." — *SF Chronicle*

DATES

Previews: Friday 5/8 and Saturday 5/9 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, 5/10 at 2 p.m. only.

Tuesday, 5/12 and Wednesday, 5/13 at 7 p.m.

Open: **Thursday, May 14**

Close: **Sunday, July 5**

Shows: Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

Sunday at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

NO SHOW Saturday, July 4

WHERE Aurora Theatre Company | 2081 Addison Street | Berkeley, CA

TICKETS For single tickets (\$35-\$70) or subscriptions (\$111-\$396), the public can call (510) 843-4822 or visit www.auroratheatre.org.

PRESS **Please do not reply to this media advisory for review tickets. Press review invites will be sent to selected media.**

ABOUT AURORA THEATRE COMPANY

Aurora Theatre Company is known for work that invigorates audiences and artists through a shared

experience of professional, intimate theatre. Aurora challenges itself and the broader community to do better, think deeper, laugh louder and cast wider nets of empathy toward the world. Through its productions of both classic and new works, it supports the Bay Area community by hiring local artists and artisans. It has an operating budget of \$2.2 million.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges Season Sponsors: Craig & Kathy Moody. Ed & Liliane Schneider. Sponsors: Gary & Trudy Moore. Associate Sponsors: Deborah & Howard Goodman. Muffy Thorne.

Aurora Theatre Company gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and government agencies for their support: Actors' Equity Foundation, Alameda County Arts Commission ARTSFUND, City of Berkeley Civic Arts Program, The Bernard Osher Foundation, California Arts Council, Fleishhacker Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Kenneth Rainin Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Theatre Bay Area, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Union Pacific Foundation, and Zellerbach Family Foundation.

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