

Adkison-Nickel Stage Productions, in conjunction with the Liberty Theatre Foundation, proudly present

The Guys

Written by Anne Nelson

Introducing

Bryn McLaughlin as Joan

&

Josh Byers as Nick

The Guys was developed and first produced by The Flea Theater in December 2001 in New York City.

Jim Simpson, Artistic Director
Carol Ostrow, Producing Director

One passage of the *The Guys*, "The Science of Pain," was adapted from the book *Listening to Prozac* by Peter D. Kramer.

The penultimate image of the play was inspired by a passage from *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut.

The Guys is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Production Team

Jeanie Nickel

&

W. Bridger Adkison

with Dance Choreography
and Coaching by Robert Teets

Special Thanks

Gary & Dee Fincher

Russ, Jacky, & Cheyenne Jackson

Saajan Chauhan

Kelly Ducote

The Liberty Theatre Foundation

Directors' Notes

On September 11, 2001, I was home sick from school. My mother called for me to come to the living room. She patted the seat next to her on our couch and said, "I want you to see this." I think she knew that this event would be important, somehow, and felt I needed to witness it. And so together, all the way in Kodiak, Alaska, we watched Tower Two collapse on TV. It was the first, and last, time I had witnessed violence on such a massive scale.

Physically, I was a great distance away from the event, yet I've found myself returning to that day in my mind many times throughout the years. It's something that's stayed with me, as I'm sure it has for many of you.

A few years ago, while visiting family, I found *The Guys* at a library in Ohio. I was immediately struck by the show's humanity, its compassion. *The Guys* explores how communities come together after a tragedy and how we collectively process our grief. I knew after reading it that I wanted to direct this show someday.

By presenting this show now, on the fifteenth anniversary of the event, we hope to not only memorialize those first-responders who gave their lives to save so many others, but also to come together, ourselves, as a community, and remember the importance of compassion in the midst of turbulent times.

-Jeanie Nickel, Co-Director