# Trilogy

Written by Stefano Massini Adapted by Ben Power

The Lehman Trilogy John & segenerously underwritten by Nancy Embry

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A Canadian Stage production

# The Lehman Trilogy

Written by Stefano Massini | Adapted by Ben Power

#### Creative

**Stefano Massini** Playwright

Philip Akin Director

Jordan Laffrenier Assistant Director

Lennette Randall RBC Emerging Artist Directing Intern

Camellia Koo Set Designer

Dana Osborne
Costume Designer

Steve Lucas Lighting Designer

Miquelon Rodriguez Sound Designer

Alexis Milligan

Movement Director

Matthew MacInnis Stage Manager

Anna R. Kaltenbach Assistant Stage Manager

Jane Gooderham Dialect Coach

Diane Flacks
Cultural Consultant

Miriam Borden Cultural Consultant

#### Cast

Ben Carlson Henry Lehman

**Jordan Pettle** Mayer Lehman

Graeme Somerville Emmanuel Lehman

#### Production

Daniel Bennett
Technical Director

**Jillian Wardell**Assistant Technical
Director

Mary Spyrakis Head of Props

Chynah Philadelphia Props Assistant

Alysson Bernabe Scenic Painter

Janet Pym Head of Wardrobe

Carly Beamish
Cutter

#### Crew

Giulia D'Amanzo Head of Lighting

**Keijo Makela** Head of Audio

Jay Blencowe Head Carpenter

Wes Allen Head of Props

Justin Tucci Fluperson

Susan Batchelor Head of Wardrobe

The Lehman Trilogy is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

The Lehman Trilogy was first performed at the Royal National Theatre, London on 12th July 2018.

The original Italian text of The Lehman Trilogy by Stefano Massini was first published by Einaudi in 2014. Peter Chapman is author of THE LAST OF THE IMPERIOUS RICH: LEHMAN BROTHERS, 1844-2008, a leading reference on the history of the Lehman family.

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Stage Employees of the Bluma Appel Theatre are represented by Local 58 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees





The Lehman Trilogy is underwritten by John & Nancy Embry & by the William and Nona Heaslip Foundation.

The Lehman Trilogy is sponsored by Polar Asset Management Partners.



The November 15, 2023 performance of *The Lehman Trilogy* was supported by Performance Underwriters Julie Sutherland & Greg Lemaich.

Opening night of *The Lehman Trilogy* is sponsored by Davies.

DAVIES

This performance runs approximately 3 hours 20 minutes with two intermissions



Canadian Stage has three homes spread across our great city. The Bluma Appel and the Berkeley Street Complex bookend the vibrant St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood and run along what was once the shore of Lake Ontario. Our beautiful High Park Amphitheatre is nestled within the grassy mounds and forests of our city's most beloved park. Canadian Stage is grateful to be able to tell our stories on this bountiful land that we all share.

This sacred land has held story for thousands of years: stories that live in the fabric of who we are as a nation. Canadian Stage would like to acknowledge and thank the original caretakers and knowledge keepers of this territory: the Anishinaabe Nations (including the Mississaugas of the Credit), the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Wendat and Métis Nations. We give thanks to the Nations recorded and unrecorded, acknowledged and unacknowledged, who also share the responsibility for this territory. We honour the Dish With One Spoon Treaty and our responsibility to peaceably share and care for the resources that surround us. We are honoured to be in this meeting place called Tkaronto that many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people from across Turtle Island call home.

## Welcome to Canadian Stage



Brendan Healy Artistic Director

Welcome to *The Lehman Trilogy*! We could not be prouder to be bringing you the Canadian premiere of this multi-award-winning play.

It is wonderful to welcome Philip Akin back to Canadian Stage as the director of this production. Last season, Philip directed the last production of our subscription series, the Dora-nominated *Maanomaa*, *My Brother*.

Our 23.24 season is one of our most ambitious. Buoyed by last season's success and support from our generous and committed donors, we put together a bold program of Canadian and international work for you. Coming up next, Canadian Stage favourite Crystal Pite will return with her newest work, Assembly Hall. In the new year, Australia's Back to Back Theatre will bring us the thought-provoking The Shadow Whose Prey the Hunter Becomes, giving Canadians a rare chance to experience their internationally celebrated work.

It is not too late to subscribe, save, and enjoy the perks of being a subscriber. If you have already subscribed, thank you. You are the backbone of this organization, and we are so grateful for your patronage. Thank you for joining us and we look forward to seeing you again soon!

### **Director's Note**



Philip Akin Director, The Lehman Trilogy

The first line of the Lehman Trilogy is: "He had been dreaming of America." America.

A place where dreams can be achieved if you work hard.

Where opportunity is all around you if you can only see it.

Where any individual can change, start anew, and become exceptional.

This is a story of a family who found their way to heart of that dream. Who found their way to America.

#### Cast



#### Ben Carlson - Henry Lehman

Ben Carlson is a multiple award-winning actor who has performed on stage and screen across Canada and the United States. Canadian Stage credits include: *London Road* (Dora Award) and *Hay Fever*. Other theatre credits include: *Hamlet*, title role, twice, for Stratford Festival and Chicago

Shakespeare Theater (Joseph Jefferson Award); *Macbeth*, title role, twice, for Bard on the Beach and Chicago Shakespeare Theater; *John Tanner*, *Man And Superman*, Shaw Festival; 12 seasons each, Stratford and Shaw Festivals; performances for: Crow's Theatre, Grand Theatre London, MTC, Mirvish, Saydie Bronfman, Soulpepper, NAC, Neptune, Factory, Necessary Angel, PTE, DVxT (Dora Award), Theatre Calgary, Walnut St Theatre, and Theatre New Brunswick as well as many television and film credits. He is married to actor Deborah Hay.



#### Jordan Pettle - Mayer Lehman

Jordan Pettle was born and raised in Toronto, ON, and has performed regularly on stages across the country for almost 30 years. In Toronto, he has appeared in many productions with Soulpepper, most recently *King Lear/Queen Goneril* as well as frequent work with Studio 180/Mirvish;

Tarragon Theatre; Canadian Stage; Factory Theatre; Theatre Passe Muraille; YPT; Citadel; MTC; Prairie Theatre Exchange; Neptune; Winnipeg Jewish Theatre; 4 seasons at the Stratford Festival. Film & Television: Murdoch Mysteries, Time Cut, American Woman, Suits, Kim's Convenience, Titans, Saving Hope, Rookie Blue, Lost Girl. Other: He was a regular on the CBC radio drama Afghanada (Actra voice nomination); graduated from the National Theatre School in 1994.



#### Graeme Somerville - Emmanuel Lehman

Graeme Somerville is a Dora Award-winning actor who has been a member of the Shaw Festival company for the last 20 years. Recent credits there include: *The Apple Cart, A Christmas Carol, Too True to Be Good, Trouble in Mind.* and *The Devil's Disciple.* Other theatre credits include *Betraual* 

(BeMe Munich), The Beauty Queen on Leenane (Lyndesfarne), Hush (Tarragon), Death of a Salesman (Aquarius), The Turn of the Screw (Belfry), Saint Joan (Theatre Calgary), Hamlet, Twelfth Night, All's Well That Ends Well (NAC), The Forest (GCTC), Geometry in Venice (Factory). He last appeared with Canadian Stage in The Beard of Avon. For the last ten years Graeme has been a sessional instructor at the National Theatre School of Canada.

#### Creative



#### Stefano Massini - Playwright

Stefano Massini is an internationally renowned novelist, essayist and playwright. His plays, including his celebrated *The Lehman Trilogy*, have been translated into twenty-four languages and staged by such directors as Luca Ronconi and the Oscar-winning Sam Mendes. *Qualcosa sui* 

Lehman has been among the most acclaimed novels published in Italy in recent years and won the Premio Selezione Campiello, the Premio Super Mondello, the Premio De Sica, the Prix Médicis Essai and the Prix Meilleur Livre Étranger. His other works include Dizionario inesistente (2018) and Ladies Football Club (2019).



#### Philip Akin - Director

Philip Akin is an award-winning cultural leader and has been acting and directing for 42 years. He was a founding member of Obsidian Theatre and served as its Artistic Director from 2006 to 2020. Philip Akin has been the recipient of the Silver Ticket Award, the Mallory Gilbert Leadership

Award, the Playwrights Guild of Canada Bra d'Or Award, the William Kilbourn Award, the Herbert Whittaker/CTCA Award for Distinguished Contribution to Canadian Theatre, the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts, as well as the Life Membership Award from Canadian Actors' Equity Association.



#### Jordan Laffrenier – Assistant Director

Jordan is an award-winning director, producer, playwright, dramaturg and educator. Jordan is currently the Associate Artistic Director of Canadian Stage and Prime Mover Theatre Company. Jordan has held many musical theatre development roles in New York City, Los Angeles,

and Toronto. Jordan is the founding Artistic Director of Then They Fight Theatre, a dramaturgically based theatre company dedicated to developing new work from the initial spark of an idea into a fully realized production. Jordan is an advocate of theatre that supports the community on and off stage and has partnered theatre productions directly with local charities.



#### Lennette Randall - RBC Emerging Artist Directing Intern

Lennette Randall is an interdisciplinary creative – intently focused on acting, directing, producing, writing, and artistic leadership. Canadian Stage: Debut. Theatre Credits (Selected): Directing: Controlled Damage (Grand Theatre); Steel Magnolias (Theatre Calgary); Duty (A Little Tw!sted);

The Sound of Music (Kaleidoscope Theatre) Acting: Hamlet (Sainsbury Theatre LAMDA); Da Kink in My Hair (National Arts Centre/Theatre Calgary). Other: 22/23 Grand Theatre's Artistic Director Intern; Obsidian Theatre's Young, Gifted and Black Inaugural Cohort; Theatre by the Bay's Indie Producer Co-op. Lennette is a graduate of Rosebud School of the Arts, London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), and is currently doing her Master of Studies in Creative Writing at the University of Cambridge, UK.

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Our education and engagement activities are central to Canadian Stage's mission. With the Baillie's generous support, we are increasing our reach and impact.

Brendan Healy
Artistic Director





Jungle Book reimagined Education Event. Photos: Manuel Chaves



#### Camellia Koo - Set Designer

Camellia is a Toronto-based set and costume designer for theatre, opera, dance and site-specific performance installations. Recent designs for theatre include collaborations with The Electric Company, Factory Theatre, The National Arts Centre, Soulpepper Theatre, The Shaw Festival, The

Stratford Festival, Tarragon Theatre. Recent designs for opera and ballet include collaborations with Against the Grain, Banff Centre, Boston Lyric Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Edmonton Opera, Helikon Opera (Moscow), Minnesota Opera, Pacific Opera Victoria, Santa Fe Opera, and Tapestry New Opera. Camellia has received six Dora Mavor Moor Awards, a Sterling Award, a Chalmers Award Grant, 2006 Siminovitch Protégé Prize, and the 2016 Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Award for Costume Design.



#### Dana Osborne - Costume Designer

Dana is thrilled to be back at Canadian Stage after 17 years! Recent credits: Frankenstein Revived, Chicago (Stratford Festival 22nd season); Standard Deviation (New York City Ballet), Elf the Musical, Mary Poppins (Grand Theatre), Skyward (National Ballet/Alberta Ballet); Bernhardt/

Hamlet (Goodman, Chicago); 9 to 5 the Musical, Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Citadel); The Hound of the Baskervilles, Androcles and the Lion (Shaw); Flight, The Barber of Seville (Pacific Opera/Opéra de Québec); Art, Picture This, Father Comes Home From the Wars Parts 1, 2, 3 (Soulpepper). Awards: Two Dora Awards, one Sterling Award for Costume Design; 2012 recipient of the Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Award in Costume Design. For Z.



#### Steve Lucas – Lighting Designer

Steve Lucas is an award-winning set and lighting designer. He has designed more than 500 productions of theatre, dance, opera and performance art. His work has toured extensively and has been seen in 27 countries around the world. Steve's work in theatre has been focused

on new and original plays; he has designed the world premieres of literally hundreds of shows, including 2 Pianos 4 Hands, Never Swim Alone, The Drowsy Chaperone, The New Canadian Curling Club, 7 Important Things, The Real McCoy, and The Drawer Boy. Steve has received four Dora Awards and has been nominated for several of Canada's most prestigious awards including the Siminovitch Prize, a Sterling Award nomination and 34 Dora Award nominations.



# TD READY COMMITMENT





#### Miquelon Rodriguez - Sound Designer

Miquelon is a Dora-nominated Sound Designer/Composer and Director based in T'karonto. Canadian Stage credits include: Fairview, Dream in High Park - NoWhen. Recent theatre credits include: Dinner Is Served (Toes For Dance/The Campbell House); King Lear (Stratford Festival); Ok,

You Can Stop Now (Theatre Passe Muraille); X and Da Spirit (Theatre Passe Muraille/bCurrent); My Sister's Rage (Tarragon Theatre); and Gem of the Ocean (Shaw Festival). He is a graduate of the Artistic Leadership Residency at the National Theatre School of Canada and was a two-season Apprentice Artistic Director at Factory Theatre under Nina Lee Aquino. Miquelon is currently directing an "audio-only video game" with Frog In Hand Theatre Company and Diaspora Games.



#### Alexis Milligan - Movement Director

Alexis is a noted artistic collaborator and has created choreography and movement for many theatre companies around the world. Currently in her seventh season as Movement Director at The Shaw Festival, selected credits include: The Game of Love and Chance, Desire Under the Elms; Sex

(by Mae West), *The Glass Menagerie*, and *Saint Joan*. Alexis was also the movement and puppetry director for the sold out run of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* at The Stratford Festival, as well as *En Julefortelling* (A Christmas Carol) with the National Theatre of Norway in Bergen. She is also the host of the "Finding Creativity" Podcast. To find out more about Alexis and her work visit alexismilligan.com



#### Matthew MacInnis - Stage Manager

For Canadian Stage - Public Enemy. Other: Rock of Ages (Elgin Theatre) Bend it like Beckham (Bluma) Grease (Winter Garden), The Events (Necessary Angel); ten seasons with the Charlottetown Festival - Anne of Green Gables the musical, Evangeline, Alice Through the Looking-

Glass, Mamma Mia, Jesus Christ Superstar; five seasons with Neptune Theatre - Elf the musical, Christmas Carol, Wizard of Ox, Beauty Queen of Leenane, Intimate Apparel, La Cage Aux Folles, High School Musical; Citadel Theatre - Bittergirl the Musical, Alice Through the Looking Glass. Enjoy the Show!



#### Anna R. Kaltenbach - Assistant Stage Manager

Canadian Stage: *Topdog/Underdog*, *Maanomaa*, *My Brother*. Other: Toronto: Bustle & Beast, Culchahworks, Garner Theatre Productions, Project:Humanity. Broadway/N.Y.: *Motown*, Broadway Advocacy Coalition, Broadway Inspirational Voices. Tours: *Hamilton*, *Motown*, *Once*, *Memphis*,

Shrek, A Chorus Line, Mamma Mia!, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Joseph... (Tokyo). West End: Motown. Regional US: Marriott Lincolnshire, Chicago Shakespeare, Other Theatre Company, Western Stage, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, Colorado Ballet, and Opera Colorado.

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#### Jane Gooderham – Dialect Coach

For Canadian Stage: Maanomaa, My Brother, Fairview, Fall On Your Knees, London Road, The Syringa Tree, Rock 'n' Roll. Other: 20 seasons with The Stratford Festival; Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Cloud Nine, The Lord of the Rings, The Producers (Mirvish); Shaw Festival; War Horse, The

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Royal National Theatre/Mirvish); Matilda (Royal Shakespeare Company/Mirvish); Oroonoko, Chair (Theatre for a New Audience, New York). Television: Good Sam (CBS), Reacher (Amazon), Republic of Doyle (CBC). Teaching: Head of Voice, National Theatre School of Canada (2009-16); Centre for Indigenous Theatre; Birmingham Conservatory. Training: Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (MA Voice), Guildhall School of Music & Drama (BA Acting).



#### Diane Flacks – Cultural Consultant

Diane is a writer/actor. Upcoming, her 5th solo play, *Guilt*, dir by Alisa Palmer (Tarragon, Centaur, RMTC). Most recently, she acted in *Fall on Your Knees* (Canadian Stage, Neptune, NAC, Grand) and as Nathan in *Nathan the Wise* (Stratford), and wrote & starred in *Unholy*, dir Kelly Thornton

(Dora nom) and Body Politic (Dora nom). Upcoming for WJT with Richard Greenblatt, PALS. Selected playwrighting: Waiting Room, SIBS and Care with Richard Greenblatt (Tarragon). Her solo shows Myth Me, By A Thread, Random Acts and Bear With Me (adapted from her book) are internationally critically acclaimed. Diane was CBC Radio's National parenting columnist, and a columnist for the Star and The Globe among others. TV writing includes Workin' Moms, Baroness von Sketch Show, and Kids in the Hall (Emmy nom).



#### Miriam Borden - Cultural Consultant

Miriam Borden is an award-winning scholar, translator, and author pursuing her doctorate in Yiddish Studies at the University of Toronto. She is a historian of Yiddish language, literature, and culture in the post-Holocaust era. Borden's body of work is multifaceted, spanning walking tours, oral

history initiatives, podcasts, workshops, lectures, and museum exhibitions. She is
President of the Board at the Ashkenaz Foundation, the organization behind North
America's largest festival celebrating Jewish arts and culture.

#### Peter Chapman

Peter Chapman is author of *THE LAST OF THE IMPERIOUS RICH: LEHMAN BROTHERS*, 1844-2008, a leading reference on the history of the Lehman family.

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We have made every effort to ensure proper recognition. If, however, your name has been accidentally omitted, listed incorrectly, or misspelled, we apologize. Please notify us at donate@canadianstage.com with any corrections.

# A round of applause



Many thanks to The Slaight Family Foundation for your transformational theatre initiative. Your commitment of \$15 million to 22 Canadian theatre companies and training institutions is having a profound impact.



The remarkable commitment from the Slaight Family Foundation substantially strengthens Canadian Stage's resilience as we navigate the challenges and opportunities in our post-pandemic recovery. Their generous contribution supports our innovative initiatives, expanding our efforts to empower artists and engage audiences.

This extraordinary investment not only helps us overcome the challenges posed by the sector's reopening, after the extended pandemic closures, but also leaves a lasting legacy that will resonate throughout the arts community."

— Brendan Healy & Monica Esteves

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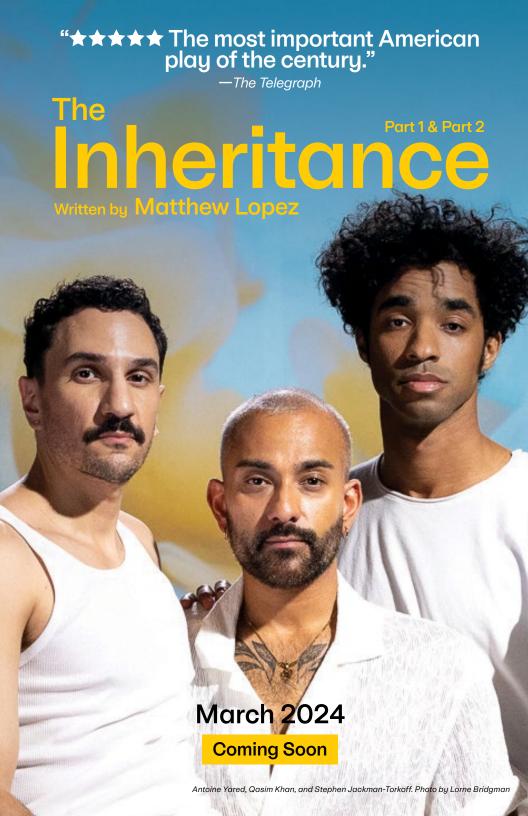
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