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## ***Multiverse Love Story Ties Together Life’s “What if’s” at The Phoenix Theatre Company***

(Dec. 28, 2022 – PHOENIX) Have you ever wondered if there were multiple universes with other versions of ourselves? Perhaps this question is asked more simply with, “What if...?” For example, “What if I had taken a different route to work?”, “What if I had let my anger get the best of me?”, or “What if I hadn’t loved them so much?” These scenarios shed from the curious human mind, and are explored in the love story in *Constellations*, a play at The Phoenix Theatre Company, running Jan. 11-29.

Nick Payne wrote the award-winning, two-character drama that shows the difference one decision can make and the idea that even the smallest choices can alter the future. It’s a spellbinding story of fate, chance and romance, interwoven with scientific musings.

“In the quantum multiverse, every choice, every decision you’ve ever and never made exists in an unimaginably vast ensemble of parallel universes.” *Constellations* tells the story of quantum physicist Marianne, who speaks the previous quote, and beekeeper Roland, who’s not as self-assured as his love interest. After meeting at a barbecue, set across multiple universes, Marianne and Roland’s paths cross repeatedly, and their relationship takes a variety of twists and turns, dictated by their choices and the cosmos.

“This play is unusual in that it’s not told in chronological order,” says Karla Koskinen, director. “Throughout the play, conversations splinter in different directions, sometimes with only subtle changes in dialogue or tone, but the outcome becomes markedly different.”

To help the audience differentiate the changes and assist in telling various stories and path deviations, the show uses sparse scenic design along with intentional lighting and music choices.

“*Constellations* is a romantic drama about life, love and the ever-expanding universes we live in,” Koskinen added. “The audience will be intensely engaged throughout as they piece together meanings and examine non-linear timelines to anticipate the ultimate fate of this relationship. It’s a play that balances on the question of ‘what if’ and what could be. It is very intriguing.”

The Phoenix Theatre Company cast includes real-life couple Louis Farber\* as Roland and Emily Mahoney\* as Marianne. Gustavo A. Flores and Bonnie Beus Romney serve as understudies for Roland and Marianne, respectively.

Tickets for *Constellations* are on sale now. To purchase, call (602) 254-2151 or visit [www.phoenixtheatre.com](http://www.phoenixtheatre.com).

Select Mask Required Performances. A select performance has been designated "Mask Required" to ensure all audiences have an opportunity to attend a performance in an environment they are comfortable in. For *Constellations*, that performance is Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023, at 7 p.m.

ASL/Audio Describe Night. Audio Description and American Sign Language Interpretation are available for each production. ASL/Audio Describe Night is Thursday, Jan. 26 for *Constellations*.

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*\*Denotes members of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.*

## **ABOUT THE PHOENIX THEATRE COMPANY**

The Phoenix Theatre Company is the largest professional regional theatre company in the state. As the first arts organization in Arizona and a founding member of the Central Arts District, The Phoenix Theatre Company is committed to advancing performing arts in the Valley, with nearly 500 performances each year on multiple stages. Located at 1825 N. Central Ave. in Phoenix, The Phoenix Theatre Company's mission is to create exceptional theatrical experiences by using the arts to articulate messages that inspire hope and understanding. For more information, visit [www.phoenixtheatre.com](http://www.phoenixtheatre.com).