

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2014

For more information, Interview requests or press passes, please contact:

Opening Night: Monday, April 7 @ 7pm

Leigh Allan

773-244-8119

lallan@remybumpo.org

Remy Bumpo Presents
Our Class
By Tadeusz Słobodzianek



In no way is ***Our Class*** old school Remy Bumpo. There is not a jot of gentility to be found.

Instead, Tadeusz Słobodzianek's harrowing drama about classmates in Jedwabne, Poland, is a plunge into the darkness of the human soul, an examination of what can happen when terror is rampant and societal norms collapse.

Remy Bumpo will present the Midwest Premiere of the only play ever to win Poland's prestigious Nike Literary Award as the final production of its 17th season. **Press Opening is Monday, April 7, at 7:00 pm at the Greenhouse Theater Center.** ***Our Class*** comes to Chicago following an acclaimed English debut at London's National Theatre and sold-out runs in Philadelphia and Washington.

Why the change from Remy Bumpo's usual classical direction? Producing Artistic Director Nick Sandys, who is directing ***Our Class***, says the play is too stirring not to produce: "It's the first play that the Artistic Associates and I have read when all of us, after reading it, went 'Wow, we want to do this!' It's remarkably theatrical, beautifully written, and packs an enormous emotional punch."

That emotional punch comes from an all-too-real event. For decades, the 1941 annihilation of the Jewish population of Jedwabne was believed to be a Nazi atrocity. In 2000, Princeton historian Jan T. Gross's book *Neighbors* showed it to be something even more devastating.

Our Class is a fictional look at Jedwabne through the eyes of ten classmates, half Catholic and half Jewish. It

follows them from childhood through the devastation, then continues through their lifetimes to show the impact of the horrific event on survivors and perpetrators, as children's joyful tunes turn to lamentations.

In a very special event during the run, the playwright will attend and participate in events around the April 17 performance, courtesy of the Hejna Chair in Polish language and Literature at UIC, which is bringing Slobodzianek to Chicago from Poland.

The Remy Bumppo cast of ten includes Artistic Associates David Darlow and Linda Gillum. Others in the cast are Matthew Fahey, Dennis William Grimes, Matthew Holzfeind, Aram Monisoff, Brian Plocharczyk, Rachel Shapiro, Rebecca Sohn and Stephen Spencer.

Our Class will be performed April 2, 2014, through May 11, 2014, at the Greenhouse Theater Center at 2257 N. Lincoln in Chicago. Tickets are on sale now at www.remybumppo.org or by calling the Greenhouse at 773-404-7336.

Mara Filler is Stage Manager for **Our Class**. The set is by Joe Klug; costumes by Jeremy Floyd; lights by Mike Durst; music, music direction, and sound design by Joe Cerqua; choreography and movement by Maureen Janson; properties by Jesse Gaffney; projections by John Boesche; and dramaturgy by Skye Robinson Hillis.

Our Class is partially underwritten by Karen Randolph and Bill Linden. Remy Bumppo 2013/2014 Season Sponsors are Brenda and James Grusecki.

Special Events:

All at the Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago

Monday, April 7, 7:00 pm - *Our Class* Opening Night

Sunday, April 27, 1:30 pm - Between the Lines pre-show conversation starts at 1:30 pm. The performance starts at 2:30 pm.

Listing Information:

Our Class

By Tadeusz Slobodzianek, in a version by Ryan Craig

Directed by Producing Artistic Director Nick Sandys

April 2, 2014 - May 11, 2014

Greenhouse Theater Center, Downstairs Mainstage

2257 N. Lincoln Ave

Chicago, IL 60614

Performance Times:

Opening Night: Monday, April 7 at 7:00 pm

Previews (Apr. 2 - Apr. 6): Wednesday through Saturday at 7:30 pm, Sunday at 2:30 pm

Regular Run: Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 2:30 pm

Wednesdays, April 16 and May 7 at 7:30 pm

Matinee performances (other than Sundays): Thursday, April 24 and Saturday, May 7 at 2:30 pm.

Cast:

Artistic Associate David Darlow
Artistic Associate Linda Gillum
Matthew Fahey
Dennis Williams Grimes
Matthew Holzfeind
Aram Monisoff
Brian Plocharczyk
Rachel Shapiro
Rebecca Sohn
Stephen Spencer

Production Team:

Directed by Producing Artistic Director Nick Sandys
Scenic Design by Joe Klug
Costumes by Jeremy Floyd
Music, Music Direction and Sound by Joe Cerqua
Choreographer/Movement Coach Maureen Janson
Lighting by Mike Durst
Properties by Jesse Gaffney
Projections by John Boesche
Dramaturgy by Assistant Director Skye Robinson Hillis
Stage Management by Mara Filler

Tickets:

Greenhouse Box Office, 773-404-7336 (open at noon Wed.-Sun.)
Or online at www.remybumpo.org

Previews: \$32.50-\$37.50

Opening Night: \$57.50

Regular Run: Wed-Fri \$42.50-\$47.50, Sat-Sun \$47.50-\$52.50

Between the Lines: \$57.50

Student Tickets: \$15 all performances except Opening Night and Between the Lines

Group Discounts: Available for parties of 10 or more, call 773-244-8119 x302

Parking:

The former Children's Memorial Hospital garage, 1/2 block north of the theater on Lincoln Avenue, is making 100 parking spaces available free to the public for up to five hours, on a first-come, first-served basis. The offer is subject to change at any time.

For further information about ***Our Class***, Remy Bumpo and related matters,
visit www.remybumpo.org or call 773-244-8119.

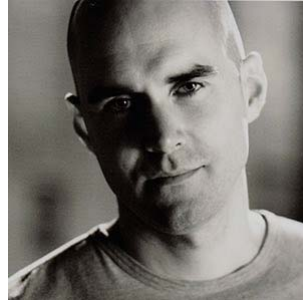
Cast:



David Darlow



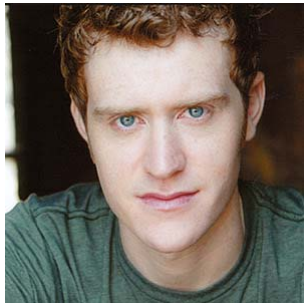
Linda Gillum



Matthew Fahey



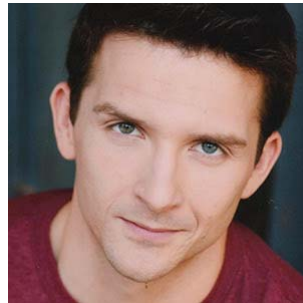
Dennis William Grimes



Matthew Holzfeind



Aram Monisoff



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Rachel Shapiro



Rebecca Sohn



Stephen Spencer