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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE

OPENING TONIGHT!

LITTLE ISLAND RELEASES FIRST LOOK AT PRODUCTION PHOTOS OF "OPEN THROAT"

WRITTEN BY HENRY HOKE DIRECTED BY CAITLIN RYAN O'CONNELL

STARRING CHRIS PERFETTI, JO LAMPERT, & CALVIN LEON SMITH

PERFORMANCES RUN THROUGH SUNDAY, JULY 14



Photo by Julieta Cervantes.

New York, NY (July 11, 2024) – Ahead of opening night tonight, **Little Island** shared a first look at production photos of *Open Throat*, a theatrical adaptation of the acclaimed and award-winning novella of the same name by **Henry Hoke**, directed by **Caitlin Ryan O'Connell**, and starring **Chris Perfetti**, **Jo Lampert**, and **Calvin Leon Smith**. *Open Throat* will run at Little Island's The Amph through Sunday, July 14.

Praised by *The New York Times* as "what fiction should be," *Open Throat* tells the story of a queer and dangerously hungry mountain lion living in the drought-devastated land under the Hollywood sign. Feral and vulnerable, profound and playful, *Open Throat* explores identity, inequality, and our most predatory impulses.

To download production photos, click here.

At each performance, Perfetti, Lampert, and Smith split the role of the mountain lion. The trio is joined by Marinda Anderson, Alex Hernandez, Layla Khoshnoudi, Ryan King, Susannah Perkins, and Steven Wendt.

Working alongside Hoke and O'Connell on the creative team are two-time Tony-nominee **Isabella Byrd**; sound designer and composer **Michael Castogliola**; Obie Award-winning scenic, props and masks designer **Noah Mease**; choreographer **Lisa Fagan**; and shadow puppet designer **Steven Wendt**.

To download headshots, please click here.

Little Island recently announced that an annual, four-month-long summer season of world premieres, which kicked off on June 1, will feature a total of nine newly commissioned pieces. Little Island's new arts program moves towards the future with a commitment to a multi-year roster of original work, all commissioned by and developed at Little Island. Bookended by the premiere of choreographer **Twyla Tharp**'s newest work *How Long Blues* and a 90-minute remix of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* in which outré opera diva **Anthony Roth Costanzo** sings every leading role, the season will offer premieres of varying scales across all areas of performance – including music, dance, theater, opera, comedy, jazz, pop, and funk, all outdoors and directly sited on the Hudson River at 14th Street in New York City. The Amph, the park's 700-seat amphitheater, will house larger scale performances at a \$25 ticket price, while The Glade, the park's 200-seat venue, will be home to more intimate works, all of which will be completely free to the public.

KEY ART FOR SUMMER SEASON AVAILABLE HERE

IMAGE OF LITTLE ISLAND AVAILABLE HERE

Tickets to Little Island's summer season of performances are available for purchase on <u>littleislandtickets.com</u>, TodayTix.com, or by downloading the TodayTix app.

ABOUT LITTLE ISLAND

Little Island, the 2.4-acre park that sits along the Hudson River, opened in May 2021 and has since been enjoyed by 4.6 million visitors. In 2013, Barry Diller, in partnership with Hudson River Park Trust leadership, embarked on the unique opportunity to envision a solution for the repair and reactivation of Pier 54, which had been badly damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The park was designed as an entirely new type of public space for New York, one that would create an immersive experience of nature and art. Born from a collaboration of the UK-based Heatherwick Studio and the New York-based landscape architecture firm MNLA, led by Signe Nielsen, the park's imaginative design offers all New Yorkers and visitors a new public space that is dynamic, captivating, and restorative.

Little Island is operated year-round by a 50-member staff co-helmed by Producing Artistic Director **Zack Winokur** and Executive Director **Laura Clement**.

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