

For Immediate Release:

Editor's note: At the request of the artist, please use the photo in full.

**Vineyard Theatre's 2021-22
Paula Vogel Playwriting Award
will be presented to
Ryan J. Haddad**



**At The Vineyard's Emerging
Artists Celebration**

**Hosted by *Is This A Room's*
Tina Satter and Emily Davis**

on November 12 at 5:00 PM ET

(New York City - October 22) Artistic Directors **Douglas Aibel** and **Sarah Stern** announce that **Ryan J. Haddad** is the recipient of the 2021-22 Paula Vogel Playwriting Award. **Haddad** will be presented with the award at The Vineyard's Emerging Artists

Celebration on Friday, November 12 at 5:00pm at Broken Shaker Cocktail Bar at Freehand (23 Lexington Avenue). *Is This A Room's* creator and director, **Tina Satter** and **Emily Davis**, who plays Reality Winner on Broadway, are set to host the event. Following the award presentation, and continuing with the tradition of a conversation with the previous year's recipient, **John Caswell, Jr.** (2020 Paula Vogel Award recipient) will sit down with **Haddad** for a Q and A.

Ryan Haddad is the 14th recipient of Vineyard Theatre's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award, named in honor of playwright and teacher Paula Vogel, whose plays *Indecent*, *How I Learned To Drive* (Pulitzer Prize for Drama), and *The Long Christmas Ride Home* premiered at The Vineyard. The residency-based award is given each year to an emerging writer of exceptional promise, and comes with a cash prize and artistic development support.

Ryan J. Haddad is an actor, playwright, and autobiographical performer based in New York. His acclaimed solo play *Hi, Are You Single?* was presented in The Public Theater's Under the Radar Festival and subsequently produced at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in association with IAMA. His plays include *Good Time Charlie* (Berkeley Rep Ground Floor, Public Theater Emerging Writers Group), *Dark Disabled Stories* (in development with The Bushwick Starr), *Hold Me in the Water* (commissioned by Noor Theatre), and *My Straighties* (Ars Nova/ANT Fest). He recurs as Andrew on the Netflix series "The Politician." and has been seen in the cabaret show *Falling for Make Believe* at Joe's Pub/Under the Radar. He most recently wrote the libretto for an episode of Boston Lyric Opera's streaming miniseries *desert in* and contributed as a writer/performer to Signature Theatre's *The Watering Hole*, created by Lynn Nottage and Miranda Haymon. Haddad is a recipient of IAMA Theatre Company's Shonda Rhimes Unsung Voices Playwriting Commission and Rising Phoenix Repertory's Cornelia Street American Playwriting Award. His essays have been published in the *New York Times*, *Out Magazine*, and *American Theatre*. He is an alum of The Public Theater's Emerging Writers Group, a 2020 Disability Futures Fellow, and a former Queer|Art Performance and Playwriting Fellow, under the mentorship of Moe Angelos. Haddad can be found on social media @ryanjhaddad and ryanjhaddad.com.

Previous recipients of the award include **John J. Caswell Jr.**, **Charly Evon Simpson**, **Jeremy O. Harris**, **Antoinette Nwandu**, **Kate Tarker**, **Boo Killebrew**, **Clare Barron**, **Christopher Chen**, **Erika Sheffer**, **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**, **Kara Lee Corthron**, **Rajiv Joseph**, and **Tarell Alvin McCraney**.

The Vineyard's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award is made possible through the generosity of The Tournesol Project.

Paula Vogel's long and cherished relationship with The Vineyard began with the theatre's acclaimed production of *How I Learned To Drive*, directed by Mark Brokaw; the play won the Pulitzer Prize, Lucille Lortel, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk awards for Best Play; and is premiering on Broadway in 2021. Her most recent production at The Vineyard, *Indecent*, moved to Broadway in 2017, marking Vogel's Broadway debut and winning two Tony Awards. Ms. Vogel's play *The Long Christmas Ride Home*, also directed by Mark Brokaw, premiered at The Vineyard in 2001. Her other plays include *A Civil War Christmas*, *The Mineola Twins*, *Hot 'N' Throbbing*, *The Baltimore Waltz*, *Desdemona*, *Baby Makes Seven*, and *The Oldest Profession*.

The Vineyard's artistic development and education programs provide artists with support and resources to develop new plays and musicals, as well as free in-school and after school theatre arts programs for public high school students that normally culminates in the REBEL VERSES Youth Arts Festival, in collaboration with Developing Artists. The theatre awards the Paula Vogel Playwriting Award and Colman Domingo Award annually, and the Susan Stroman Directing Award biennially.

Tickets for this year's Emerging Artists Celebration are \$250 for VIP tickets, \$150 for event tickets, and \$75 for Early Bird (through 11/1/2021 only) tickets, sponsorship opportunities available at \$5,000. Capacity is limited. Tickets to the event are available at <https://www.vineyardtheatre.org/emerging-artists-celebration-2021/>. For more information about the event, please contact Onastasia Ebright at 646-931-4719 or email oebright@vineyardtheatre.org.

About **Vineyard Theatre**

Vineyard Theatre is an Off-Broadway theatre company dedicated to nurturing the voices of daring artists and developing and producing work that pushes the boundaries of what theatre can be and do. One of the country's preeminent centers for the creation of new plays and musicals, our work seeks to challenge and inspire all of us to see ourselves and our world from different perspectives.

The Vineyard's productions of Tina Satter's *Is This A Room*, named "Best Theater of 2019" by *The New York Times* and *New York Magazine* and winner of the Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience; and Lucas Hnath's *Dana H.*, chosen as *The New York Times* "Best Theatre of 2020" and as a Critic's Pick, and winner of the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Solo Show, are both currently playing on Broadway in repertory at the Lyceum Theatre. Paula Vogel's *How I Learned to Drive*, which premiered at The Vineyard 25 years ago, will open on Broadway this spring reuniting

original cast members Mary-Louise Parker, David Morse and Johanna Day with director Mark Brokaw.

Notable Vineyard Theatre premieres include Ngozi Anyanwu's *Good Grief*; Jeremy O. Harris' "*Daddy*"; Mara Nelson-Greenberg's *Do You Feel Anger?*; David Cale's *Harry Clarke* (2018 Drama Desk, Obie, Lucille Lortel Awards); Paula Vogel and Rebecca Taichman's *Indecent* (two 2017 Tony Awards); two Pulitzer Prize-winning plays, Paula Vogel's *How I Learned To Drive* and Edward Albee's *Three Tall Women*; Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Gloria*; Nicky Silver's *The Lyons*; Marx, Lopez and Whitty's *Avenue Q* (Tony Award, Best Musical); Kander, Ebb, and Thompson's *The Scottsboro Boys*; Bell and Bowen's *[title of show]*; Polly Pen's *Goblin Market*; Tarell Alvin McCraney's *Wig Out!*; Jenny Schwartz' *God's Ear*; Will Eno's *Middletown*; Becky Mode's *Fully Committed*; Colman Domingo's *Dot*, and many more.

During the pandemic shutdown, The Vineyard produced Bill Irwin's *The Busking Project* outdoors and seven digital programs, including the eight-episode series, *Lessons In Survival*, which was named "Best Theater of 2020" by *The New York Times*.

The Vineyard's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award, Susan Stroman Directing Award, and Colman Domingo Award provide residencies to early-career artists and our education programs serve over 700 NYC public high school students annually and culminate in presenting Developing Artists' REBEL VERSES Youth Arts Festival. Works developed and premiered at our home in Union Square have gone on to be seen around the world and The Vineyard is proud to be the recipient of special Drama Desk, Obie and Lucille Lortel Awards for artistic excellence.

The Vineyard's 2021-2022 Artists-in-Residence include **John J. Caswell, Jr., The Commissary, Michael R. Jackson, Tyler Thomas, Reggie D. White**, with more to be announced.

Vineyard Theatre's leadership includes Artistic Directors Douglas Aibel and Sarah Stern and Managing Director Suzanne Appel.

www.vineyardtheatre.org

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