

**productions  
absolute**

in association with Concordance presents the London Premiere of

## The Destiny of Me

By Larry Kramer. Directed by Drew Ackroyd. Designed by Rebecca Bevan. Lighting by Tom Cousins.

Cast includes: Chris Andrew Mellon. Iyabo Amoke. Daniel Hart. Kevin Colson. Amanda Boxer. Russell Bentley. Kevin Drury.

### AFTER A 10 YEAR WAIT, LONDON FINALLY HAS THE CHANCE TO SEE LARRY KRAMER'S *THE DESTINY OF ME*

*The Destiny of Me* is the companion play to Kramer's critically acclaimed *The Normal Heart*, a massive hit at the Royal Court and the Albery Theatre in 1986. The two plays are an autobiographical account of one man's campaign to get AIDS taken seriously. Ned Weeks, now HIV positive, checks into an experimental treatment programme run by the very doctor that his militant protest organisation has been criticising most. Faced with his own mortality, Ned finds himself swept back into memories of childhood, trying to understand how he got to be who he is now. . .

Larry Kramer is the world's best known gay playwright and activist. In 1981, with five friends, he founded Gay Men's Health Crisis, now the world's largest AIDS service establishment, and in 1987 he founded ACT UP, the AIDS advocacy and protest organisation. He was nominated for an Oscar for his screenplay of D H Lawrence's *Women In Love* starring Glenda Jackson. His play, *The Normal Heart*, holds the record for the longest running production at Joseph Papp's Public Theater in New York. The British premiere at The Royal Court in 1986 starring Martin Sheen broke all box office records before transferring to the West End.

For the past decade, Larry Kramer has refused the performance rights for *The Destiny of Me* in London . . . *The Destiny of Me* is directed by the exciting young director **Drew Ackroyd** and produced by **Elizabeth Freestone** who formed Productions Absolute in 2001 in order to support new directors working on contemporary plays.

### PRESS ACCLAIM FOR *THE DESTINY OF ME*

"Overwhelmingly powerful...scaldingly honest... A juicy three-act memory play in the mode of Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams....A seismic jolt of theatricality" Frank Rich, *New York Times*

"What Kramer captures expertly is family relations in their ambiguities, hostilities and reconciliations.... A kind of - and this is meant as praise - Jewish-homosexual *Long Day's Journey into Night*." John Simon, *New York*

*The Destiny of Me* was the runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, won an OBIE, the Lucille Lortel Award for Best Play and the Hull-Warriner Award of the Dramatists Guild.

**PRESS NIGHT: THURSDAY, JULY 25TH 2002 AT 7.30PM**  
**PHOTOCALL: TUESDAY, JULY 23RD 2002 AT 1.00PM-1.30PM**

LARRY KRAMER will be in London for the opening week of *The Destiny of Me*. The New York Times recently ran a profile of Kramer and he has agreed to give a limited number of interviews to the British press to coincide with this production. To request an interview or for more information and images please call **Elizabeth Freestone** on **020 77652107**.

### LISTINGS INFORMATION

Finborough Theatre, Finborough Arms, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Box Office 020 7373 3842

Tuesday, July 23rd-Saturday, August 17th 2002 Tuesday to Saturday Evenings at 7.30pm. Sunday Matinee at 3.30pm.

Tickets £10, £8 concessions. Tuesday Evenings and Previews – £8 all seats.

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439 Fax 020 7835 1853 Box Office 020 7373 3842  
admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

Theatre Director Neil McPherson

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