

LEMPICKA

A NEW MUSICAL

BOOK, LYRICS & ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY CARSON KREITZER

BOOK AND MUSIC BY MATT GOULD

CHOREOGRAPHED BY RAJA FEATHER KELLY

DIRECTED BY RACHEL CHAVKIN

THE TEAM

**BOOK AND LYRICS BY
CARSON KREITZER**

**MUSIC BY
MATT GOULD**

**CHOREOGRAPHED BY
RAJA FEATHER KELLY**

**DIRECTED BY
RACHEL CHAVKIN**

**STARRING
EDEN ESPINOSA as TAMARA DE LEMPICKA**



THE STORY

**ALL SHE
EVER WANTED
WAS
EVERYTHING.**

From the Tony Award®-winning director of *HADESTOWN* and *THE GREAT COMET* comes a sweeping musical portrait of a woman who dazzled the art world and became the “Diva of Art Deco.” Arriving on Broadway following a critically acclaimed run at the Williamstown Theatre Festival and an upcoming run at the La Jolla Playhouse, *LEMPICKA* is a gripping true story of reinvention and resilience.

Amidst the violence of the Russian Revolution, a young painter named **TAMARA DE LEMPICKA** and her aristocrat husband are forced to abandon their luxurious lifestyle and flee to the dubious safety of Paris. Relying on her raw talent and relentless ambition, Tamara claws her way from penniless refugee to in-demand portraitist, earning a place among Parisian high society. Her world is upended once again when she meets Rafaela, a free spirit from the city slums, who introduces Tamara to a new world of decadence and passion. Torn between her new muse and her husband, fighting to leave her mark on an ever-changing world, Tamara must discover the depths of her own strength to survive.

SPANNING DECADES OF POLITICAL AND PERSONAL TURMOIL AND TOLD THROUGH A THRILLING, POP-INFUSED SCORE, *LEMPICKA* BOLDLY EXPLORES THE CONTRADICTIONS OF A WORLD IN CRISIS, A WOMAN AHEAD OF HER ERA, AND AN ARTIST WHOSE TIME HAS FINALLY COME.



PRE-BROADWAY ENGAGEMENTS

WILLIAMSTOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL, SUMMER 2018

GET A SHORT GLIMPSE
INTO THE WORLD OF
LEMPICKA.



The New York Times



“LEMPICKA is a WOKE THROWBACK —
think of *EVITA* or *LES MISÉRABLES*, the **BLOCKBUSTERS** that ruled Broadway.”

“Musical theater fans who’ve been wondering why they don’t write dominating parts like this for women anymore have **REASON TO CHEER!**”

“INCANDESCENT. A surprising, intricately shaded portrait of an artist. *LEMPICKA* draws implicit parallels between the divided world of today and an earlier era of increasing intolerance.”

“The title role is **FILLED TO THE BURSTING POINT** by **EDEN ESPINOSA**, who has finally found a part to match her **HIGH-VOLTAGE TALENT**. Her Lempicka is **A LEGITIMATE SUCCESSOR** to **PATTI LUPONE’s EVA PERÓN.**”

“MATT GOULD writes duets in which voices layer against each other like lovers between the sheets.”

COMING SOON TO LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

JUNE 14 - 1ST PREVIEW | JUNE 26 - OPENING NIGHT | JULY 24 - CLOSING

PUT *LEMPICKA* ON YOUR MUST-SEE LIST.

La Jolla Playhouse presents this acclaimed 2018 musical by Carson Kreitzer and Matt Gould inspired by the story of charismatic Polish painter Tamara de Lempicka, who fled the Russian Revolution in 1917 and flourished in bohemian Paris with her sensuous paintings. Then, when the Germans entered Paris in 1940, she fled again to Los Angeles. Tony winner Rachel Chavkin (*Hadestown*) directs.

The San Diego
Union-Tribune

HADESTOWN DIRECTOR RACHEL CHAVKIN SETS BROADWAY RETURN WITH *LEMPICKA*.

Tony Award-winning *Hadestown* director Rachel Chavkin will return to Broadway with the musical *Lempicka*, with a pre-Broadway West Coast premiere at La Jolla Playhouse in California.

Based on real-life artist Tamara de Lempicka, who fled Russia after the Revolution and survived Nazi-occupied Paris, the musical features book and lyrics by Carson Kreitzer, music by Matt Gould and choreography by Raja Feather Kelly.

Lempicka had its world premiere at Williamstown Theatre Festival in 2018, where it was chosen by *The New York Times* as a Critic's Pick. The *Times* review of the Williamstown staging compared it favorably to *Evita*, saying *Lempicka* is "an exciting new work" and "delivers a surprising, intricately shaded portrait of an artist as a conflicted woman."

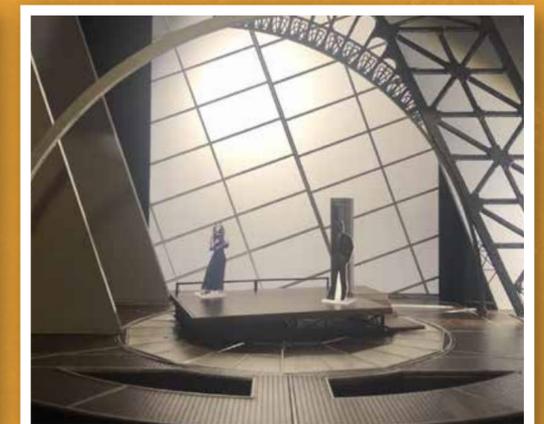
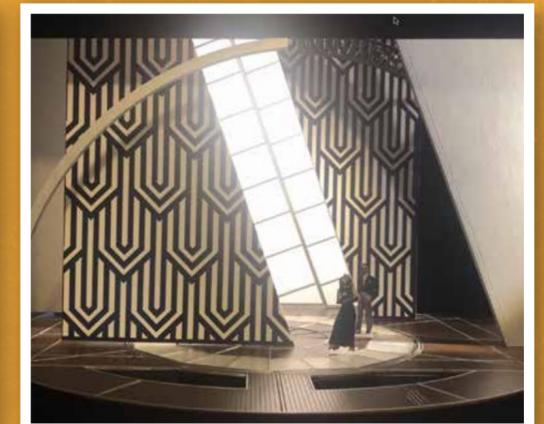
DEADLINE



IN THEIR WORDS

**THE CREATIVE TEAM TALKS ABOUT REDISCOVERING
AN EXTRAORDINARY ARTIST—
AND SHARING HER STORY WITH THE WORLD.**

**A LOOK AT THE SCENIC DESIGN BY
RICCARDO HERNÁNDEZ**



HER ART IS BREAKING RECORDS, HER LIFE IS ON ITS WAY TO BROADWAY.

20TH-CENTURY POLISH PAINTER TAMARA DE LEMPICKA IS ALL BUT GUARANTEED TO BE THE ART WORLD'S NEXT FIXATION. For starters, a musical about her life--titled, simply, *Lempicka*--received wild acclaim during its premiere at the 2018 Williamstown Theatre Festival, with a review in *The New York Times* calling it a "woke throwback" reminiscent of *Les Misérables* and *Evita*.

The show takes its subject matter from the most fruitful portion of Lempicka's artistic career, during her residency in interwar Paris. Lempicka and her husband flee Russia following its communist revolution, and she uses her grace and budding talents as an in-demand portraitist to carve out a space for them in Parisian high society. Tamara's blossoming romance with her muse Rafaela Fano forces her worlds to collide and the artist must decide which parts of her life she can keep and which she must cast aside.

With Broadway in its future, *Lempicka* will have a West Coast run at the La Jolla Playhouse in San Diego. Meanwhile, auction house Christie's believes that one of Lempicka's paintings is all but certain to break records in their Impressionism & Modern Art evening sale on February 5 in London.

Lempicka's sensual *Portrait of Marjorie Ferry* from 1932 encompasses everything that collectors supposedly look for in her work--a tender female portrait, her signature Art Deco glamor, crystalline forms, and a collision between the organic and the mechanic that epitomized her industrializing epoch.

Christie's estimates *Marjorie Ferry* will fetch upwards of \$15 million, handily beating the estimates for works by the likes of Picasso, Pissarro, Rodin and other male canonical figures also represented in the show.

The auction house is adamant that collectors are, by far, most intrigued by her portraits of women. One of those women includes none other than Rafaela Fano, the subject of the current most expensive Lempicka sold at auction, *La Tunique Rose*, which broke the artist's record in November of last year when it surpassed its high estimate of \$8 million to go for \$13,362,500.

Lempicka herself described Rafaela as "the most beautiful woman I've ever seen." Patrick Bade, in his 2006 monograph on Lempicka, determined that the artist's paintings with Rafaela as model are "the most potently erotic works of her career."

The passions and biography that led Tamara to create such collectable art--sought after for decades from aristocrats in Paris to celebrities like Madonna--present potent themes that could be very powerful for audiences who see *Lempicka*. Themes like the struggles associated with immigrating for survival, and the freedom to love without judgment.

TAMARA DE LEMPICKA SHOULD BE AS WELL-KNOWN TO THE MASSES AS PICASSO, MATISSE OR WARHOL. Perhaps, with just one more mega-successful sale at Christie's and a little light shining on her from Broadway, 2020 marks the year that she is.

A TAMARA DE LEMPICKA PAINTING SOLD FOR \$21.1 MILLION AT CHRISTIE'S, SMASHING THE ARTIST'S AUCTION RECORD.

Polish artist Tamara de Lempicka emerged as the star of Christie's evening sale of Impressionist and modern art in London on Wednesday. A painting by the Art Deco painter, *Portrait of Marjorie Ferry* (1932), set a new auction record for her work, selling for £16.2 million (\$21.1 million). It beat out her previous record, set only three months ago when *La Tunique Rose* (1927) sold for \$13.3 million at a Sotheby's sale in New York.

Portrait of Marjorie Ferry depicts the titular Parisian cabaret singer and was executed in the artist's trademark style with pronounced angles and strong contrasts between light and shadow. The artist is well known for her

sensual portraits of women, many of whom she encountered during her years living in Paris between the two World Wars. All 10 of Lempicka's highest selling works feature depictions of women.

According to Christie's, Lempicka once said:

"AMONG A HUNDRED PAINTINGS, YOU COULD ALWAYS RECOGNIZE MINE. The galleries...put me in the best rooms, always in the center, because my painting attracted people. It was neat, it was finished."

And interest in Lempicka's work is spreading outside the art world: *Lempicka*, a musical about Lempicka's journey from fleeing the Russian Revolution to becoming a fixture of Parisian high society, will open on Broadway. The artist has been admired by celebrities including Barbra Streisand, Jack Nicholson, and Madonna for decades; the latter even featured her works in the opening segment of the music video for her hit song "Vogue."



**WHEN HER WORLD
WAS RIPPED APART,
SHE PAINTED A NEW ONE.**

LEMPICKA

A NEW MUSICAL

BOOK, LYRICS & ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY CARSON KREITZER

BOOK AND MUSIC BY MATT GOULD

CHOREOGRAPHED BY RAJA FEATHER KELLY

DIRECTED BY RACHEL CHAVKIN

LEMPICKAMUSICAL.COM