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## ***I WISH* MAKES MAGIC AT THE NEW VICTORY THEATER**



*Performances Begin at the New Victory Theater on May 11  
Tickets on Sale Now!*

**May 2, 2024** - A glittering fairytale of magic and moxie comes to the **New Victory Theater** with *I Wish*, running from May 11 through May 19. A collaboration between the **Unicorn Theatre**, the UK's largest children's theater, and globally celebrated cabaret and theater maker **Le Gateau Chocolat**, *I Wish* is a dazzling dip into what happens *after* your wishes come true.

While fairy-godmother Effie marks the milestone of her brumblefillionth wish with a look back at her greatest hits, she journeys into a glittering world of hopes, dreams, and unintended consequences. This fantastical and playful one-person musical tells a new fable for our times – one of self-discovery, acceptance and joy!

“We are so thrilled that our audiences can experience the magic that the Unicorn Theater and Le Gateau Chocolat’s delightful production brings to the New Victory Theater,” said **Mary Rose Lloyd, New 42 Artistic Director**. “The show’s message of love and acceptance is particularly powerful - and Jordan Laviniere’s gorgeous performance lends something wonderful to the stage.”

*I Wish* is a Unicorn Production created by Le Gateau Chocolat, Rachel Bagshaw, and Seiriol Davies. Voted by *Time Out London* as one of its Top 10 Cabaret Stars, Le Gateau Chocolat is an internationally acclaimed theater artist and singer who has performed original works for

audiences across the globe, including as part of Taylor Mac's *A 24-Decade History of Popular Music: The First Act* at London's Barbican Theatre (2019). Jordan Laviniere, who replaces the original casting of *Le Gateau Chocolat* in the role of Effie, has performed on London's West End and beyond, including in *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* (Apollo Theatre, London), *Hairspray* (UK tour), *Rent* (UK tour), *Bugsy Malone* (Lyric Theatre, London), *The Lion King* (Lyceum Theatre, London), *Wuthering Heights* (St. Ann's Warehouse, New York City), and more.

"The Unicorn is delighted to return to the New Victory Theater after hugely successful visits in previous years," said **Rachel Bagshaw, Unicorn Theatre Artistic Director**. "We're so thrilled to be sharing the magic of Effie with New York children and their grown-ups."

*I Wish* features direction by Rachel Bagshaw, music and lyrics by Seiriol Davies, design by Ryan Dawson Laight, movement direction by Mark Smith, lighting and video design by Sarah Readman, arrangements and musical direction by David Merriman, and sound design by Holly Khan.

*I Wish* runs 50 minutes with no intermission and is recommended for everyone aged 4 - 7.

Tickets start at \$28 and are available at the New Victory Box Office (209 W 42nd Street) leading up to the performance and starting two hours before curtain time on performance days. For box office hours, please visit [NewVictory.org/BoxOffice](http://NewVictory.org/BoxOffice). Tickets can also be purchased online at [NewVictory.org](http://NewVictory.org) and via phone by calling 646.223.3010.

**Photos for *I Wish* can be downloaded [HERE](#).**

*Photo Credit: Alexis Dubus*

The show on stage is just one part of the visitor experience! For 45 minutes before and 20 minutes after every show, the lobby of the New Victory Theater features free do-together activities in which families can try new performance skills or explore the show's themes. Whether they are wild, wallflowers or somewhere in between, New Victory will guide children through fun family engagement inspired by the show.

Powered by New 42, the New Victory Theater is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; the National Endowment for the Arts; as well as the New 42 Board of Directors, and our dedicated foundation, corporate and individual donors.

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## **About New Victory Theater**

The New Victory opens new worlds to young people and families through extraordinary performances, education and engagement programs. Bringing kids to the arts and the arts to kids since 1995, this nonprofit theater has become a standard-bearer of quality performing arts for young audiences in the United States. Reflecting and serving the multicultural city it calls home, The New Victory is committed to arts access for all communities of New York to experience and engage with the exemplary international shows on its stages. A global leader in arts education, youth development and audience engagement, the New Victory Theater has been honored by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, by Americans for the Arts with a national Arts Education Award, and by the Drama Desk for "providing enchanting, sophisticated children's theater that appeals to the child in all of us, and for nurturing a love of theater in young people."

## **About New 42**

Under the leadership of President & CEO Russell Granet, New 42 is a cultural nonprofit whose mission is to make extraordinary performing arts a vital part of everyone's life from the earliest years onward. Driven by a deep commitment to performing arts access, New 42 connects people to world-class performances, essential education and employment programs, and creative communities that push culture forward. Through New Victory and New 42 Studios, the nonprofit serves artists, educators and New Yorkers of all ages with invaluable arts engagement and resources in and beyond the performing arts. Together with our supporters, New 42 opens new perspectives, incubates new works and creates new opportunities to move us all.

## **About Unicorn Theatre**

Transforming young lives through theatre.

At the Unicorn we create new, inventive and enthralling theatre experiences for children aged up to 13. Every year, we welcome around 65,000 families and schools through our doors, and many thousands more through Unicorn Online.

We believe that young people of all ages, perspectives and abilities have the right to experience exciting, entertaining and inspiring work and we actively seek out children who wouldn't otherwise attend, offering free tickets where needed. We develop work with children from our partner schools and community groups to ensure that our work remains relevant and informed by the young people we serve. Our values of courage, curiosity and respect run through everything we do. [unicorntheatre.com](http://unicorntheatre.com)

## **About Le Gateau Chocolat**

Le Gateau Chocolat Ltd is a leading Black and LGBTQ+ led performance company supporting the works of award winning cabaret icon, Le Gateau Chocolat; who is one of the few performers in Britain with a significant and concurrent profile in multiple art forms, including drag, cabaret, opera, musical theater, children's theater and live art. Performance works by the company are centralized around Gateau's lived experience and his unique perspective of intersectionality.

We believe in creating and holding space for otherness, diversity, intersectionality, and inclusivity, through creativity, conversation, and the power of live performance.