For Immediate Release: Theatre

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Cast & director available for interviews

JT PRESENTS

Produces

*The Radicalization of Rolfe* by Andrew Bergh

The West Coast Premiere of a play that examines a much-loved character from *The Sound of Music*

Arriving at SAFEHouse Arts (145 Eddy St. in SF)

May 8-June 1, 2025

Following on sold out runs of *A Guide for the Homesick* and *Four Play*, JT Presents brings Andrew Bergh’s hit play, *The Radicalization of* Rolfe, from New York to San Francisco. The play focuses on the character of Rolfe from *The Sound of Music* and follows his story parallel to the plot we know from the film. His tentative pursuit of the eldest Von Trapp daughter is encouraged by the Nazis, who hint at his advancement in the Party. He also has a boyfriend who is urging Rolfe to leave Austria with him as things get more dangerous for homosexuals. Relevant to current events, it shows how a young man can be flattered and manipulated by a political party, plus it queers a well-loved story.

Bergh’s play premiered at the FringeNYC Festival in 2016, where it won an Overall Excellence Award. It was later given a production in 2018 at Island City Stage in Wilton Manors, Florida. Aaron Krause called it “a taut, skillfully constructed, focused piece. Bergh includes intrigue, spilled secrets, conspiratorial planning and suspense, sprinkled with touches of humor and a healthy dose of drama and darkness befitting the time.” (*Theatre Criticism*, April 5, 2018)

Alan Quismorio will direct a cast of Bay Area actors at SAFEHouse Arts Performance Space May 8-June 1, 2025.

**Cast:** Martin Grimes (“Franz”), John Hurst (“Herr Zeller), Tyler Iiams (“Joahn”), J.J. Van Name (“Fraud Schmidt”), and Simon Winheld (“Rolfe”)

**The Artists**

**Andrew Bergh** (Playwright) is a New York based playwright. His plays include *Bliss, Jane of the Tree, The Domesticated Queer,* the trilogy *Hinterlands*, and a bunch of one-acts. *The Radicalization of Rolfe* won the 2016 New York International Fringe Festival for Overall Production.

**Alan Quismorio** (Director) is the Managing Director (and formerly Co-Artistic Director) of The Chikahan Company, a Filipinx American theatre company based in the San Francisco Bay Area. He served as Artistic Director for the Alchemy Program for Emerging Playwrights at the Jon Sims Center, Asian American Theater Company, and Bindlestiff Studio. His directing credits include *Dooley* (Alchemy Program & New Conservatory Theatre), *Thunder Above, Deeps Below* (Bindlestiff Studio), and *A Guide for the Homesick* (Theatre Rhino). He is an alumnus of Crowded Fire Theatre.

**JT Presents** began producing in 2022 with Ken Urban’s *A Guide for the Homesick* for the Theatre Rhinoceros 2022-2023 Season. The production prompted *Bay Area Reporter* critic Jim Gladstone to declare that “Rhino [has] got its groove back.” JT Presents next produced *Four Play* by Jake Brunger in 2024, which *Theatrius* called “brilliant.” In between, they brought Joe DiPietro’s *Fucking Men* to the Nectar Social Club in Oakland for three sold-out performances.

**Information, ticket link, and hi-res graphics at** https://safehousearts.org/the-radicalization-of-rolfe/

**Calendar Editors**

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| What: | **The Radicalization of Rolfe** by Andrew Bergh |
| When: | May 8-9, 2025 (previews)  May 10, 2025 (opening night/press night)  May 8-June 1, 2025 (Thursdays, Fridays, & Saturdays at 8 PM; Sundays at 3 PM) |
| Where: | SAFEHouse Arts (145 Eddy St. in San Francisco; 1.5 blocks from Powell Street BART) |
| Tickets: | $40 regular / $25 for students, seniors and vets |
| Info/Reservations: | <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-radicalization-of-rolfe-tickets-1243537186199?aff=oddtdtcreator> |

After selling out at the FringeNYC-2016 and Island City Stage’s 2018 season, Andrew Bergh’s *The Radicalization of Rolfe* makes its San Francisco Premier. Brought to SF by JT Presents, which formerly produced *A Guide for the Homesick* in Theatre Rhinoceros’s 2022-2023 season, *Fucking Men* at Nectar Social Club in downtown Oakland, and *Four Play* back in The Castro, *The Radicalization of Rolfe* will perform at SAFEHouse Arts (145 Eddy St. in SF). It follows the character of Rolfe from the beloved musical *The Sound of Music* as he is enticed by the Nazis, who promise him advancement, while at the same time falling in love with Johan, who wants Rolfe to get out of Salzburg with him since it’s becoming more and more dangerous for homosexuals. Under the direction of Alan Quismorio with a cast of Bay Area actors, *The Radicalization of Rolfe* finally arrives on the West Coast for a four-week run beginning May 8.