

# Songs of Lear

Song of the Goat Theatre  
(Teatr Pieśń Kozła)

Directed by Grzegorz Brał

Music by Jean-Claude Acquaviva  
and Maciej Rychły

DATES: SEP 28—OCT 1 at 7:30pm

LOCATION: BAM Fisher (Fishman Space)

RUN TIME: 1hr no intermission

#SongsOfLear  
#BAMNextWave

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# Songs of Lear

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(Teatr Pieśń Kozła)

DIRECTED BY  
Grzegorz Bral

MUSIC BY  
Jean Claude-Acquaviva, Maciej Rychły

ARRANGEMENTS BY  
Kacper Kuszewski

CAST  
Ana Maria Almagro  
Monika Dryl  
Katarzyna Janekowicz  
Jenny Kaatz  
Julianna Bloodgood  
Gabriel Gawin  
Henry McGrath  
Łukasz Wójcik  
Kelvin Chan  
Adam Clifford  
Rafał Habel  
Olga Kunicka

MUSICIAN  
Maciej Rychły

THEATER PRODUCER  
Alicja Bral

US PRODUCER  
Mara Isaacs, Octopus Theatricals

*Songs of Lear* is sponsored in part by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, Jack Pierson, City of Wrocław, and the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

## ABOUT *Songs of Lear*

A non-linear, dramatic musical event, *Songs of Lear* reveals the subtle energies and rhythms that govern Shakespeare's tragedy. The ensemble members, having chosen crucial scenes from *King Lear*, weave a story out of gestures, words, and music.

The minimalist set and director-narrator are a prelude. Music is the main actor, shaping the relationships and bringing emotions to the stage: despair, tragedy, madness, disappointment, and love.

Each song is a starting point for another "dramatic poem." This visceral and haunting multilingual song cycle strips one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies to its essence and casts its own rhythmic spell.

*Songs of Lear* had its international premiere during the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh in August 2012, where it received three prestigious awards: *The Scotsman Fringe First*, *The Herald Archangel*, and a UK Musical Theatre Matters Special Award.



**Jack Pierson**



# Who's Who

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## SONG OF THE GOAT THEATRE

Established in 1996 in Wrocław by Grzegorz Bral and Anna Zubrzycki, Song of the Goat Theatre (Teatr Pieśń Kozła) has developed an international reputation as one of Europe's most innovative theater companies, committed to researching what makes theater distinctive from other art forms. Song of the Goat Theatre's ever-evolving training, rehearsal, and performance processes are treated as laboratories, enabling the company to research the craft of the actor and director and to evolve new techniques, performance languages, and work. Commitment to connection informs the development of each new training approach and always seeks to integrate movement, voice, song, and text, creating performances that have an inherent musicality connecting with the audience on a sensory level. The current repertory includes *Songs of Lear*, *Crazy God* (inspired by *Hamlet*), *Portraits of the Cherry Orchard*, and *Return to the Voice*.

In 2013, Song of the Goat Theatre in cooperation with Bral School of Acting established an acting course for all theater practitioners. Classes

are enhanced by lectures entitled "Anthropology of Acting." This program has been designed for actors, directors, performers, and dancers.

In addition to their training and performance programs, the company also oversees the Brave Festival—Against Cultural Exile in Wrocław, Poland, an annual festival celebrating global ethnographic cultural and performance practices that are marginalized or facing extinction. [piesnkozla.pl](http://piesnkozla.pl)

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### GRZEGORZ BRAL Director

Director, educator, actor, Grzegorz Bral co-founded Song of the Goat Theatre in Wrocław, Poland, in 1996. His company devised a unique performance style based on the "coordination technique," drawing actors and students from all over the world. He is also the artistic director of Brave Festival—Against Cultural Exile, presenting art of vanishing cultures and traditions, and the president and founder of the charity organization Rokpa Polska. Artistic director of Studio Theatre in Warsaw, Poland from 2010—12, his awards for artistic work include the Honorary Award of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, *The Scotsman* Fringe First and *The Herald* Archangel (both in 2004 and 2012), and a UK Musical Theatre Matters Special Award 2012. In 2009 his ensemble was nominated for European Prize XII in the category of new theatrical realities. He is a founder and Head of Bral School of Acting, which provides training in Song of the Goat Theatre's coordination technique.

Photo: Z. Warzynski





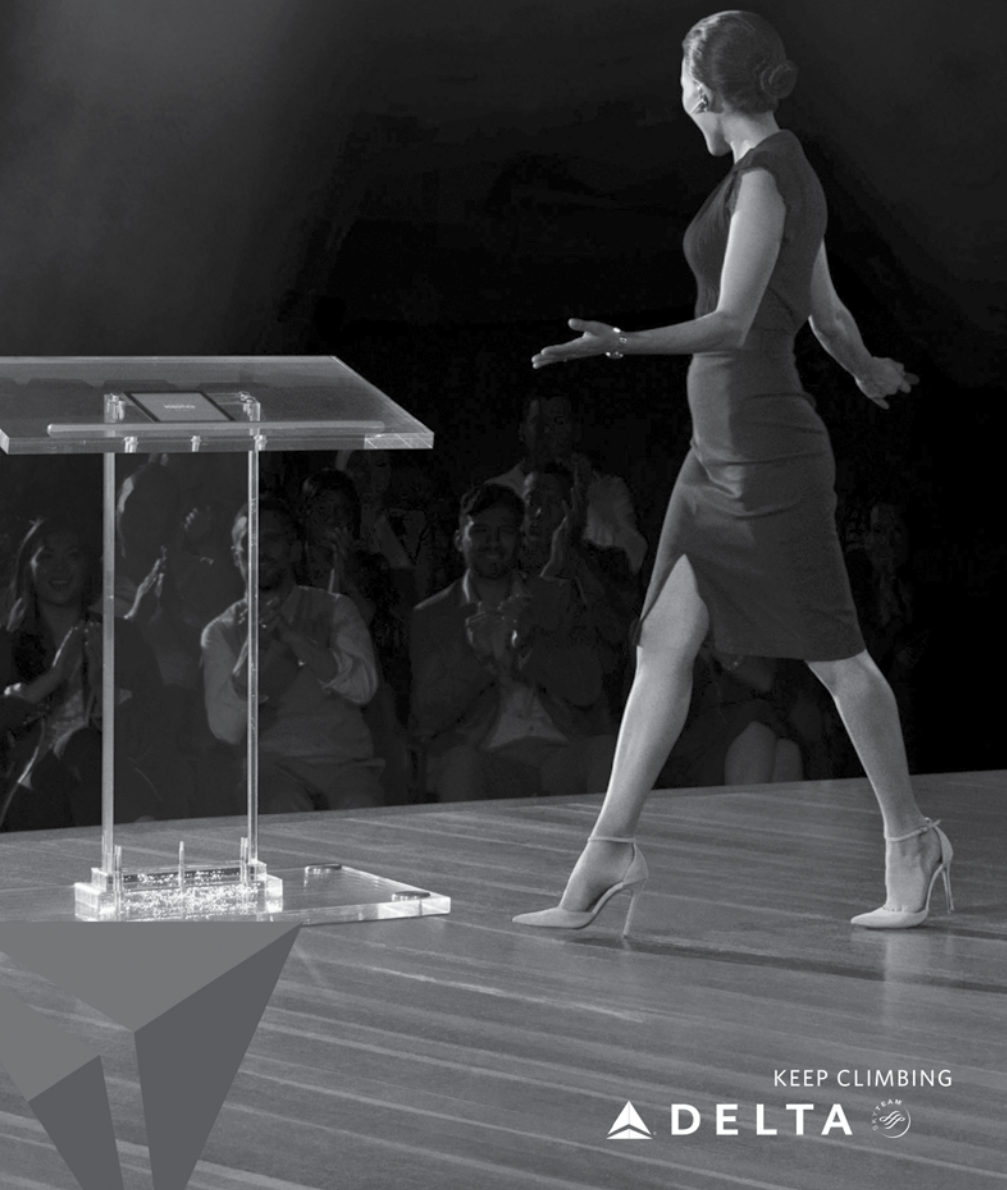
Photo: Z. Warzyński



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