

*Two Rooms*

By Lee Blessing (must be at least 50% the size of the title, immediately below title)

(if you use a graphic at all, a simple drawing of two birds like warblers would apply to the theme)

Originally Commissioned and Produced by

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

Des McAnuff, Artistic Director

Alan Levey, Managing Director

An NCHS Underground presentation

Sept 30 & Oct 1, 2016

Directed by Kevin Yale Vernon and Tyler McWhorter

Stage Manager, Sara Nur-Awalah

Assistant Stage Managers, Kim Halm and Andy Zajac

Michael.....Nathan Fryer

Lainie.....Tristan Bixby

Walker.....Will Koski

Ellen.....Trinity Harris

There will be one 10 minute intermission

Due to copyright agreement no recording of any kind is allowed.

Lights.....Brighton Coe

Special Thanks to:

Holly Johnson

Ben Lughinbul, NCHS Iron Choirs

Maddy Herwig

Jennifer Lowrance

The Drama Mamas and Drama Dads

Beth Topping

Spouse

Director's notes: This summer was relentless. The shootings in Orlando, followed by arguments about guns, immigration, and equal rights, were heartrending. Then there were more than 65 million refugees, the highest number in history (including WWII), 51% of them children, with no place to go. Strident voices filled the air, on social media and in living rooms, screaming about our differences in race, our differences in religion, our different views of what is good for our country. Young black men died - and all that seems to matter is our *need* to be RIGHT.

Lee Blessing wrote this script in the late 80s in our pre 9/11 world, but I find it more relevant than ever. Let me be clear; he does not accuse Islam or any other religion. Each of these characters believe they understand power or innocence or justice, but by the end of the play they have learned the value of doubt. I believe in doubt. I believe that if we're just a little less sure of ourselves we might be able to hear each other more. We might be capable of learning and understanding. We might hurt each other less.

The only way to do this extremely difficult script with its very limited cast size was to do it on top of the regular season. Everyone involved agreed to extra time and effort in addition to everything else in order to discover the troubling beauty of this work. I can't describe how proud I am of all of them.

Thank you for listening tonight. I hope you hear something that makes you doubt. KYV