

I'm incredibly grateful to the Boston Theatre Critics Association for this honor, and for having reunited so many of us through our screens last week to celebrate this art form we love so profoundly and miss so dearly.

I'd like to thank the playwrights of *The Return*, Hanna Eady and Edward Mast, for writing this important and remarkable play, brimming with the pain of injustice and filled with the beauty of hope. Whomever we are, wherever we live, may we all find ourselves listening when the oppressed are telling their stories.

Thank you to the passionate Guy Ben-Aharon for guiding me through this challenging role and allowing me to be part of Israeli Stage's swan song, it was an honor. Thanks to our wonderful technical and design team Ben Lieberson, Cristina Todesco, Jeff Adelberg, David Wilson, and Chip Schoonmaker for creating such an unsparingly claustrophobic environment to play in; to Kim Waller, our phenomenal stage manager who took this journey with us every night; and my dear friend and astounding scene partner Philana Mia, whose talent, generosity and humor made this difficult play a pleasure to perform. I share this honor with her.

Finally, I want to thank the loves of my life: the brightest star with the biggest heart, my beloved wife Dana, and my sweet and wondrous daughter Alice, who makes me laugh as fully and freely as her mother does.