

GERALD SHEFF & SHANITHA KACHAN PRESENT

# GLORIA: A LIFE

"GLORIA STEINEM IS  
A VISIONARY, AN ICON,  
A HERO TO MILLIONS  
OF WOMEN AND ME."

— OPRAH



WRITTEN BY Emily Mann DIRECTED BY Marcia Kash

APR 22  
—MAY 7  
2023

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2022/2023

HAROLD GREEN  
JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY

15TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON



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# ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

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It was close to 6 years ago that we sat in the office of Broadway producer Daryl Roth as she told us about a new work she was developing about the life of Gloria Steinem. It sounded very interesting but how do you dramatize a life on stage of such a trail blazer of women's rights? Ms. Steinem shifted the woman's role in society for women of all ethnicities and a mere hour and a half would not cover her 6 decades, let alone one week.

The answer came in the form of writer Emily Mann, original director Diane Paulus and video designer Elaine McCarthy. They envisioned the audience as another character. The cast would be surrounded on all 4 sides as if to bear witness and be part of this legacy to women in society. Together they would experience the birth of equal rights, be witness to the stunning reversal of Roe V. Wade, be part of the Me Too movement, and continue to live in the ever rising status of a male dominated society. Together audience and cast would be part of a talking circle in which everyone in the theatre would be able to voice their opinions as they navigate the growth of ideas brought on by Gloria Steinem and her contemporaries. This is theatre!

This is why we bring this experience to you, led by our amazing director, Marcia Kash, and featuring a diverse cast of strong, intelligent and talented women. It may have taken us 6 years to bring you *Gloria: A Life* but as the world continues to grow, brave women still have to continue to break down walls.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Eisner &amp; Avery Saltzman".

David Eisner & Avery Saltzman

**CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS**

Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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At the Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company we take pride in telling the Jewish story. Often that story has reflected historical struggles. Today we present a modern struggle through the life of a Jewish advocate for women's rights. During this season we can remember that Gloria Steinem enhanced her connection to Judaism with her participation in the annual Feminist seder. As a theatre company, it is our responsibility not only to focus on the story but to explore the possibilities that the stage offers in telling that story. You will see that this production explores unique ways to include the audience in the theatre experience. We welcome you to the theatre as you experience it in a new way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dene Cohen &amp; Danny Webber".

Dene Cohen and Danny Webber

**CO-PRESIDENTS**

Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company

# DIRECTOR'S NOTES

As I began to research and prep for *Gloria: A Life*, I discovered, to my great shame, that there were many names and events pivotal to the Women's Movement (2nd wave) of which I had little or no knowledge. Like many, I assumed the Movement was a white woman's fight. Nothing could be further from the truth. The brilliant, fearless, determined women who led the charge were mostly women of colour and what they understood so completely, from their lived experience, was that the fight for women's equality was – and still is – totally intertwined with the fight against racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, transphobia and more. In other words they recognized that their fight was for one all-encompassing thing: social justice. I stand on the shoulders of all the amazing women who took action and found themselves and each other in the Movement and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have learned who they are and how their efforts have improved all of our lives. It has been my honour to guide the extraordinary women in this cast who have inspired me every day. In bringing this piece to you, we hope that you will see, as we have, the value of telling your own story, listening to the stories of others and being inspired, as Flo Kennedy might say, to "get off your ass and do something".

*Marcia Kash*

Marcia Kash

**DIRECTOR**

*Gloria: A Life*

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HAROLD GREEN  
JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY

15TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

PRESENTS

## GLORIA: A LIFE

WRITTEN BY

EMILY MANN

STARRING

MARIA RICOSSA AS GLORIA STEINEM

FEATURING

CHERISH VIOLET BLOOD, LIZ DER, CATHERINE FITCH, KAREN JEWELS,  
CAROLINE TOAL, MALUBE UHINDU-GINGALA

SET DESIGNER .....	SEAN MULCAHY
LIGHTING DESIGNER .....	AMBER HOOD
COSTUME DESIGNER .....	ALEX AMINI
SOUND DESIGNER .....	RICHARD FEREN
ORIGINAL PROJECTION DESIGNER .....	ELAINE J. MCCARTHY
PRODUCTION MANAGER .....	BILL ZEILSTRA
STAGE MANAGER .....	KELLY BOUDREAU
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER .....	KATIE FITZ-GERALD

DIRECTED BY

MARCIA KASH

*GLORIA: A LIFE is presented by special arrangement with DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC. NEW YORK*

*Original Off-Broadway production produced by Daryl Roth and directed by Diane Paulus.*

*Commissioned by Lincoln Center Theater by special arrangement with Daryl Roth.*

*With special thanks to the American Repertory Theater and McCarter Theatre Center.*

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## MARIA RICOSSA (Gloria Steinem)

Maria is thrilled to be sharing this story with the HGJT community. She started her career at Second City in Chicago and Toronto and has continued to work in theatre, film and television for over 40 years. She was a member of the Stratford Festival for 5 Seasons playing leading roles in *King Lear*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Twelfth Night*, *Measure for Measure* and *Hamlet*. Other theatre work includes roles at the Tarragon Theatre, Canadian Stage, Necessary Angel, Nightwood Theatre, The Storefront Theatre, The Manitoba Theatre Center, The Harold Green Jewish Theatre and Studio 180. Maria has been a series lead, guest star and recurring character on TV series including *Ransom*, *The Strain*, *Clarice* and *Designated Survivor*. Leading roles in feature films include *The Inlaws*, *Some Things That Stay* and *The Space Between*. Maria teaches Acting for Film and TV at Humber College. She is also a street photographer with exhibitions in Toronto and New York and whose photographs will be featured in the upcoming CONTACT photography Festival. Maria would like to dedicate this performance to her mother and her three daughters.



## CHERISH VIOLET BLOOD

Actor, storyteller, and activist, Cherish Violet Blood is a proud Blackfoot woman who hails from the Kainai Nation, or Blood Tribe Reserve #148 in Treaty 7 territory located in southern Alberta. Currently residing in Toronto, Ontario, Cherish is a professionally trained and well recognized performing artist with active followings in the national Indigenous and international theatre communities. Cherish has performed all over North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Scotland. Select credits include creator/performer in *Material Witness* (Spiderwoman Theatre La Mama, NYC), creator/performer in *Making Treaty 7* directed by Michelle Thrush in Calgary, AB, the lead role in *Deer Woman*, a new play that has been touring internationally by Tara Beagan, and most recently, awarded the Canadian Screen Award for actress in supporting role for her role in *Scarborough*. As a natural comedian Cherish has hosted many album release parties for artists such as Iskwe, LAL, and Fiver, as well as for community events and numerous fundraisers.



## LIZ DER

Liz is a Dora-nominated, mixed-race performer based in Toronto. As a member of Soulpepper's 2021 Academy, she discovered a passion for playwriting and deepened her appreciation for collective creation. She is particularly interested in how theatre can be used to unpack personal and cultural complexities of identity and belonging. Past performance credits include: *Trojan Girls* and *the Outhouse of Atreus* (Outside the March/ Factory), *The House of Bernarda Alba* (Aluna Theatre/ Modern Times), and *Shadow Girls* (Pencil Kit Productions). Liz has also participated in development workshops with Tarragon, Common Boots, and Young People's Theatre.



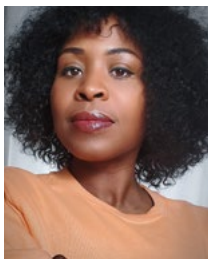
# BIOs

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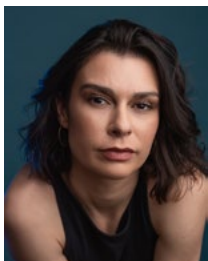
## CATHERINE FITCH

Catherine is so happy to be back in the theatre to share this story with you. She started her career in 1990 as “Cheryl-Ann” in the critically acclaimed Canadian film *South of Wawa* and has worked in TV, film and theatre ever since. Catherine won a Gemini Award for Best Supporting Actress in the TV movie *Butterbox Babies* and received 2 Gemini Award nominations for her recurring role as “Rosemary” in the TV series *This Is Wonderland*. She also garnered a Canadian Screen Award nomination for her work as “Peggy” in the TV series *Living In Your Car*. Recent TV and Film credits include: *Reacher*; *Family Law*; *Designated Survivor* and *Slings and Arrows*. Catherine has had a long association with The Blyth Festival, working in collaboration with many remarkable writers to bring Canadian stories to the stage. She performed in Marie Beath Badian’s play *Prairie Nurse* for the Factory Theatre and was nominated for a Dora Award for her role of “Violet” in George Walker’s play *Her Inside Life*. Catherine would like to dedicate her performance to her Mom, Grace, who was kind and funny and full of love.



## KAREN JEWELS

Karen Jewels is a multi-disciplinary artist born in Toronto. Karen is a singer-songwriter, actor, and designer. She first discovered the theatre as a teenager in high-school where she won an award for excellence in acting at the Sears Drama Festival. Since then, Karen has performed professionally in theatrical productions like *The Lion King*, *The Journey, Truth & Illusion*, *Dandelions In The Wind*, *Ain’t Misbehavin’*, and *Old School*. Her television credits include *Walt Disney’s The Music Man*, *Nickelodeon’s Make it POP*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Saving Hope*, *The Strain*, *Kim’s Convenience*, *The Baroness Von Sketch Show* and *The Odd Squad*. As a voice actor Karen’s voice can be heard in television commercials and on season 2 of Nick Jr’s animated series *Top Wing*. She recently received her BA in the Creative Arts. Off stage she is the founder of Upright Media Republic, helping artists and entrepreneurs execute their creative goals.



## CAROLINE TOAL

Caroline Toal is an award-winning actor and an emerging playwright. She has originated numerous roles in new Canadian theatre productions and has been nominated for six awards, winning two Dora Mavor Moore awards for her work. Select Theatre: *Three Sisters*, *Casimir & Caroline* (The Howland Company), *Blackbird*, *Spider’s Web*, *Steel City Gangster* (Theatre Aquarius), *Early August* (Lighthouse Theatre/Showboat Festival Theatre), *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Selfie*, *Hana’s Suitcase* (Young People’s Theatre), *Stag & Doe* (Theatre Orangeville/Theatre Collingwood), *The Taming of the Shrew* (Shakespeare Bash’d), *Ambrose*, *Firebrand* (Single Thread Theatre), *Cockfight*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Storefront Theatre), *We Are The Bomb* (Theatre Brouhaha). [www.carolinetoal.com](http://www.carolinetoal.com)

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## MALUBE UHINDU-GINGALA

Malube received the official offer for *Gloria: A Life* on the morning of her birthday. A glorious start to this journey! Malube's theatre works include: *How Black Mothers Say I Love You* (Great Canadian Theatre Company); Prix Rideau Award Winner for Outstanding Production, *Canada 300* (Watermark Theatre), & Next Stage Festival's production of *Sick: The Grace Project* (DORA Award nominee for Outstanding Production & Performance in the Theatre for Young Audiences Division). Her big break came when she starred in *The Truth About The Harry Quebert Affair* (MGM) opposite Damon Wayans Jr. Since then, Malube's appeared in *The Handmaid's Tale* (Hulu), *Chateau Laurier* (Apple TV+), *Trapped With My Husband* (Lifetime), and *Five Days At Memorial*, currently on Apple TV+, by John Ridley & Carlton Cuse. Recently, Malube led in *The Great Holiday Bake War* (Own - Oprah Winfrey Network). She thanks her Grandmother, Marie-Louise, her mom Jacqueline & her little sisters, Essaba & Manzan. Instagram: @malubeug



## MARCIA KASH (Director)

Trained as an actor, Marcia began her career at the Royal Court Theatre, London, before appearing on Broadway, the Stratford Festival and in many regional theatres. As a director over the past 25 years she has helmed over 100 productions across Canada, in the US and the UK. Marcia is also an award-winning, internationally produced playwright with 12 plays to her credit. Her work has been translated into numerous languages with several productions running currently in Poland, China, Quebec, the US and the UK. Her new play, *Deadline* (co-written with Douglas E. Hughes) premiered in the US in October 2022. [www.marciakash.com](http://www.marciakash.com)



## EMILY MANN (Playwright)

Multi-award-winning Director and Playwright Emily Mann is the Artistic Director and Resident Playwright of the Tony Award winning McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, New Jersey. Her plays include: *HAVING OUR SAY*, adapted from the book by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany with Amy Hill Hearth (Hull-Warriner Award, Peabody Award, Christopher Award; Tony awards, Outer Critics, Drama Desk award nominations); *EXECUTION OF JUSTICE* (Bay Area Theatre Critics Award, Playwriting Award from the Women's Committee of the Dramatists Guild, Burns Mantle Yearbook Best Play Citation, Drama Desk nomination); *STILL LIFE* (six Obie Awards); *ANNULLA, AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY*; *GREENSBORO (A REQUIEM)*, an adaptation of I.B. Singer's novel *MESHUGAH*, and *MRS. PACKARD* (Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays). Adaptations: *SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE* (Drama League Award nomination), *UNCLE VANYA*, *THE CHERRY ORCHARD*, *A SEAGULL IN THE HAMPTONS*, *THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA*, *BABY DOLL*, and *ANTIGONE* She was awarded a Princeton University Honorary Doctorate of Arts, a 2015 Helen Merrill Distinguished Playwrights' Award, and a 2015 Margo Jones Award given to a "citizen-of-the-theatre who has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to the encouragement of the living theatre everywhere."

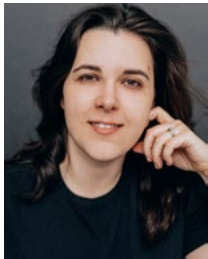
# BIOS

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## **SEAN MULCAHY** (Set Designer)

Sean is a Toronto-based Designer and Stylist whose work has been seen throughout Canada, the US and Central America. Select companies include The Stratford Festival, The Obsidian Theatre Co., HGJT, Drayton Entertainment, Theatre Aquarius, Canadian Stage and Neptune Theatre. Awards include A Guthrie and The Tom Patterson Award (Stratford Festival); 3 Robert Merritt Awards (Theatre Nova Scotia); Best Group Costume Design (Pride Toronto 2011); 2020 Laureate of the Virginia and Myrtle Cooper Award in Costume Design (OAC/OAF). Sean is an MFA candidate at York University, 2023 and a member of the Associated Designers of Canada IATSE 659, Sean is also a Design instructor at Toronto Metropolitan University, Chang School for Continuing Education. More: [www.seanmulcahydesign.com](http://www.seanmulcahydesign.com)



## **AMBER HOOD** (Lighting Designer)

Gloria marks Amber's first production with Harold Green. Recent Credits include: *Hand to God* (Magnus Theatre), *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* (The Segal Centre), *Boy Falls From the Sky* (Mirvish and Past Future Productions) Many thanks, and congratulations, to the entire company for bringing this beautiful piece of theatre to the stage! To learn more about Amber, her past works and future projects, please visit: [www.AmberHoodLD.com](http://www.AmberHoodLD.com)



## **ALEX AMINI** (Costume Designer)

Select theatre credits include: *Caroline or Change*, *The Wild Party* (Dora Nominee), *Grey Gardens* (Dora Nominee), *Onegin*, and *Next To Normal*, (Dora Nominee); Musical Stage Co., *To Life*, *The Jazz Singer* and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*; The Harold Green Jewish Theatre, *Mary Poppins*, *Mamma Mia* and *Beauty and the Beast*; Port Hope Capitol Theatre. As always, thanks to Carmen for saving my life.



## **RICHARD FEREN** (Sound Designer)

Richard has been creating music and soundscapes for theatre, dance & film since 1992. He has won seven Dora Awards, the 1999 Pauline McGibbon Award, and was the first sound designer ever shortlisted for the Siminovitch Prize, in 2012. Recent credits: *Controlled Damage*, *Grand Ghosts* (The Grand Theatre); *Public Enemy*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Measure For Measure* (Canadian Stage); *Frankenstein* (Kidoons/Wyrd Productions); *The Jungle Book* (Alberta Theatre Projects); *Hamlet* (Stratford Festival); *The Cold War* (VideoCabaret); *Every Brilliant Thing*, *Perfect Wedding*, *Miss Caledonia* (Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Going, Going* (short film by Fiona Highet); *Carmen* (feature film score); *The Flick* (Outside the March/Crow's Theatre). Upcoming: *Sizwe Bansi Is Dead* (Soulpepper), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Canadian Stage – Shakespeare In High Park).

# BIOS



## KELLY BOUDREAU (Stage Manager)

This is Kelly's debut at HGJTC, and is honoured to be part of the Gloria team. Selected Theatre Credits: *Grand Ghosts*, *Silence* (Grand Theatre); *Innocence Lost* (Soulpepper); *The Gig*, *Hairspray*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Belly Full* (Theatre Aquarius); *Jerusalem*, *John* (The Company Theatre); *Mamma Mia!*, *Twelve Angry Men*, *The Sound of Music*, *Joseph and the...* (Drayton Entertainment); *Dry Powder* (Evermore Theatre Company); *The Melville Boys* (Bluewater Summer Playhouse); *Off Balance* (National Play Festival); *On Golden Pond* (Rose Theatre Brampton). Kelly is a graduate of Sheridan College.



## KATIE FITZ-GERALD (Assistant Stage Manager)

Katie is thrilled to join Gloria as Assistant Stage Manager. Some credits: *Yerma* (Coal Mine), The National Ballet of Canada, *Bad Parent* (Soulpepper), & *Juliet* (Mirvish Productions), *The Great Divide* (Harold Green Jewish Theatre), *Sherlock Holmes* (The Shaw Festival), *Hair* (Hart House), *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (Young People's Theatre), *SWEAT* (Theatre Aquarius). Upcoming: *The Sound of Music* (1000 Islands Playhouse). All the love to her friends and family for their support, enjoy the show!



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**SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 7:00 PM**

RABBI DR. ELYSE GOLDSTEIN

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 8:00 PM**

JOCELYN TATEBE - PRESIDENT WOMEN'S LAW ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1:00 PM**

MARLEE ENGEL AND HANNAH CIORDAS - DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD SERVICES

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 8:00 PM**

EVA KARPATI - NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 8:00 PM**

DR. MAY COHEN - CHAMPION OF WOMEN IN MEDICINE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 8:00 PM**

JOCELYN TATEBE - PRESIDENT WOMEN'S LAW ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2:00 PM**

CHRISTINE FERNANDEZ - TORONTO PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S MEETUP

**TUESDAY, MAY 2, 8:00 PM**

AKILAH ALLEN-SILVERSTEIN - NO SILENCE ON RACE - BEING BLACK AND JEWISH

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 1:00 PM**

ELENI MARINO - MANAGER OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION  
JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD SERVICES

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 8:00 PM**

PAMELA HART - NATIVE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE OF TORONTO

**THURSDAY, MAY 4, 8:00 PM**

RABBI DR. RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

**SATURDAY, MAY 6, 8:00 PM**

SARA YACOBI-HARRIS, NO SILENCE ON RACE - BEING BLACK AND JEWISH

**SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2:00 PM**

PAMELA HART - NATIVE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE OF TORONTO

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All the world's a stage and all of us want to be players. Each of us shapes a unique role in the scripts we write for ourselves. As for Harold, his role was in building safe, family-friendly havens. In addition, his interest in Talmud as well as Shakespeare led him to making the world a better place in many ways. Whether it was the time and expertise he devoted to Mount Sinai Hospital, to the Jewish Community Centre or to the labourers who worked in his industry, he was fully engaged in improving lives. He enjoyed going to the theatre and we suspect that he would have liked to have been on a stage. Vicariously, he is now on one. He would want you to enjoy his legacy.

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If you would like to make a donation, please call Matt Birnbaum at 416.932.9995 x 223. This donor lists encompasses the period from November 1, 2021 – April 21, 2023. If we have missed your name, please accept our apologies and contact Matt Birnbaum at 416-932-9995 ext 223 with any corrections.



The Chai Society is an exclusive group of donors who, through their generosity, will breathe continuing life into the HGJTC. By becoming part of this initiative, you are contributing to the only professional Jewish Theatre Company in Toronto. You can help to support a medium that can educate – not simply our own, but the greater community – inspire and celebrate the arts across generations, while providing a positive spotlight on the Jewish story and reflecting pride in our heritage. Our theatre company has been made a reality by the Harold Green family. Now we invite you and your family to participate in building the Canadian voice of Jewish theatre.

### CHAI SALON EVENINGS

This exclusive group will have access to live performances in private homes with well-known celebrities from Toronto and beyond. Whether musical, dramatic or literary, the salon evenings promise to be a unique inside look at theatre. The first evening was a salon with the Jersey Boys and Theresa Tovah.

### IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

- A portion of your gift will support the operating costs of theatre and allow us to build a bridge to sustainability. Ticket prices do not cover all the costs associated with creating live theatre.  
Examples: rising costs of venues, marketing for theatre and travel for artists.
- Our Jewish values of honouring our seniors and educating our children are hallmarks of our mission. With your gift, we will pilot exciting programs with schools, both public and private, and work to bring theatre to places such as Baycrest and other retirement homes. To date we have been able to supplement a number of tickets for these populations, but we would like to establish youth programs on a continuous basis that will allow the next generation to taste Jewish art and explore the potential of our culture through a personal connection with drama and live theatre. Through programs such as In the Beginning: A Jewish Playwright's Festival, we will encourage and discover new Jewish Canadian playwrights.
- Because we plan on being here for the long term, we also wish to strategically "save for tomorrow", to ensure that programs started today will endure.

Become part of the Chai Society and achieve lifetime recognition for your founding support.

For more information, please contact General Manager Matt Birnbaum at 416.932.9995 x 223.

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