

## 'A Streetcar' at the Odyssey

**The essentials:** Blanche DuBois, from a once-wealthy Southern family, seeks refuge with her younger sister, Stella, who defied family convention by marrying a working-class husband. Stanley takes a quick dislike to Blanche as two ways of life collide in Tennessee Williams' towering drama "A Streetcar Named Desire."

**Why this?** Fans of Williams' work might be familiar with Jack Heller, who memorably portrayed the playwright in the biographical "Tennessee in the Summer" (in 2002 and 2012) and staged and performed the author's work as part of the short-play compilation "The Lost Plays of Tennes-

see Williams" (2008). He's sticking to tradition — no contemporary overlays — in staging "Streetcar" as a visiting production at the Odyssey Theatre, he says. He sees the 1947 play as "the death of the old South and the beginning of the new," with Blanche as the former — "the aristocracy" — and Stanley as "the realistic, practical South where people were not waited on but had to work hard for their money."

**Details:** Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., West L.A. Opens Saturday. Performances 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, through July 7. \$20-\$40. (310) 477-2055, Ext. 2, [odysseytheatre.com](http://odysseytheatre.com)