

THE HAMILCAST

EPISODE 294 JORDANA GROLNICK PART 2 TRANSCRIPT

[00:00:00] Hi, I'm stage and stage's Lin-Manuel Miranda and you're listening to the Hamilcast.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:00:18] Hello, friends. Welcome back to the Hamilcast, I'm Gillian. This week we're picking up where we left off with Jordana Grolnick of the And Peggy tour. If you missed our first episode, pause here and go check that out first. You'll hear about her life in Colorado. The three year journey to being cast in Hamilton, how she spent her time away while the show was off, and why being in the room and working with the Hamilton crew is different from every show that came before it. Plus some very important changes being made to the show. But if you're all caught up, here's part two of my conversation with Jordana. Enjoy.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:01:00] I did want to talk about your activism and how vocal you are online about social things and politics, and I know that you were a major part of these letter writing parties for the elections and vote writers and all of that. And you were there for the march on Broadway. And so now that we're here, like I would just love if we could talk a little bit about the changes you hope to see in theater, not just Broadway, because theater is everywhere. It's not just Broadway, and theater is more than musicals, and all of that is also very true. I think people forgot about that a lot. But just your point of view on all of that, and I just want to talk to you about it.

Jordana Grolnick [00:01:41] Yeah. I mean, I have been so inspired by the work that the task force has done, and I think that they are truly leading the way with the blueprints of what. Is the baseline going forward for the ways that people should be making theater and keeping theater running and treating the people who. Who do theater? You said earlier that the whole economic system is such a gatekeeping thing, and I think that is the first issue that we have. The fact that just like at. Very few people go to the theater and very few people can or even know that it's possible and. Yeah. I read this morning that the Dramatists Guild, which is the Writers Guild, just. Came up with a new writer. For people, for writers to sign, writers can sign a writer when their work is optioned to. To it's like a an inclusivity rider. It's like something about the people who make work and words can decide. Yes, I'm going to sign something where this work has to be

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created and has to be representative in the way that it is created and in the way that it was cast in the way that it is, you know, crude and all of that. So I think that's cool. There's a lot. There's a lot. Going on, we've had it's tricky because all the time in the world, well, right, the things that are wrong about the world, you know, like just completely breaking down systems does not necessarily mean you build back a perfect system. I don't think there are perfect systems. We had a really big gift in the theater that we had time to sit and think and discuss and regroup. We had the time to say, OK, we're all sitting around like, What can we? What can we do differently? How have we been in exemplary and how can we be better? Is an exemplary a word? I don't know. You get what I mean.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:04:26] I get you.

Jordana Grolnick [00:04:27] And yeah, I but then then we're also sitting around needing our jobs back. Unemployment's running out.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:04:37] You trained your whole life for this.

Jordana Grolnick [00:04:39] Exactly. So the train, the train must start moving at a certain point. And and wherever we are, wherever we were, the train started moving and it doesn't mean it's it's done. Yeah. And it's so fascinating to be back in this in this world because I'm like, it's so clear to me the things that we do as artists that are when we had time to stop and think about it a little bit crazy. And the things that you know and the reason that we have all white creative teams or we have our all white managerial teams or, you know, we just don't have all the voices in the room. And I think that is it starts really far back, I think, you know, the education and the the theater is so, so incestuous because you just hire the people, you know, and it's it's it's like I was taught that in school that like people are going to just it's just all about, you know, it's all who you know

Gillian Pensavalle [00:05:56] Ya about who, you know? Oh my god. Yeah.

Jordana Grolnick [00:05:58] And you know, I I'm a white person. I know a lot of white people. And like, I'm grateful for Hamilton because now I know more people of all colors and creeds. And yeah, I live in my

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life where I'm like, Oh, yeah, that's that's a problem. I was grateful for the time off because it allowed me to use my time to to write some of the things that I felt were. Horrible in this world. And, yeah, last election cycle was. Was insane. And I'm like, I don't know. I'm really glad we were able to use our energy towards towards some of that good work that went on, but yeah, it's the train is still moving, especially in the political arena. So we got more work to do.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:06:57] So much work. I just love that you're using your voice and your social media like you're you are vocal and you're active, and that's really important. So I just want to thank you for doing that about everything that you speak out against, that you speak out for, that you use your voice for good and that is so meaningful. So thank you for doing that.

Jordana Grolnick [00:07:21] Always no prob. What is social media for, if not that and and stupid pictures of yourself?

Gillian Pensavalle [00:07:31] And also, at least one more thing. Not stupid at all. The Patreon Peeps.

Jordana Grolnick [00:07:40] So it's an important thing. It's so important. So together,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:07:45] Yes Jordana, are you ready to take some questions from the Patreon Peeps? One of the best parts of social media, if I do say so

Gillian Pensavalle [00:08:17] Here's a question that I'm just bringing back, I've been bringing it back for the last couple of episodes. What city do you shout during room company screams and chaos? Did you have one? Did you go back and forth?

Jordana Grolnick [00:08:33] Yeah, I was for a long time. Screaming, Scarsdale. Thank you for that.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:08:44] Why

Jordana Grolnick [00:08:49] I'm I'm. I'm my my grandparents, my family. There are. They're like Yonkers people like they're all from

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like Westchester. So I just I don't know when we were when we were rehearsing it. I just was thinking, like, what can I say that would like, I don't know, be for me. And so Scarsdale, my grandmother lives lived right near Scarsdale. So I said, Scarsdale, I don't know. It was like because I don't want to say like Boulder, where I'm from, because that didn't exist in 1776. But the castle probably existed in 1776. So you think,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:26] well, neither did like Wakanda or your Moms House? Right? To other locations? Right. People say, I don't know why I was not expecting Scarsdale. Oh yeah, I was not expecting Scarsdale.

Jordana Grolnick [00:09:37] That is pretty random recently when I've been on for a woman to, she's really close to man four who's coming towards you as that moment is happening. And so I will reach out and say the name of our man for which is Breon, and I just shout at him.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:53] That's great because Breon, it works with syllables.

Jordana Grolnick [00:09:56] It's yeah, yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:09:58] Just scream his own name at him

Jordana Grolnick [00:09:59] Yeah, yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:10:01] So that's a good question. Also, I will never forget it. So Mike is asking. Mike says hi, by the way. Hi, Mike. He says after seeing Hamilton's first night back on Broadway, my overwhelming perception was that not only was there no apparent quote rust, but that the break seemed to have been used wisely by so many cast members. It just seemed like they were back and better than ever. Right. So he's just asking you, like, do you feel the same way with your company? Can you speak to that at all?

Jordana Grolnick [00:10:31] Yeah. I mean. Oh, God, I think the. Yes. I mean, the simple answer is yes. And I think we all had to look at our lives and say, Is this really what we want to be doing like is this if they're, you know, now's the time to take it out to to do something

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else. And. And we all decided. Yeah, like for the most part, the people that came back said yes. So. You know. Keeping up your training and your voice, and all of that is is one thing and that. Obviously, it is hard to rebuild the stamina and all of that, but that comes back. I think the most important piece of it, though, is that. We all had a break. We had a rest and we all had. The chance to grow as people like, I keep saying that I became a human during the break because when I told you my story, it was like, Well, yeah, I went to dance class and then I went to college for dance class. And then I graduated and I kept going to dance class and like I did musical theater. And that's like, that was my path. And like I, I saw nothing else but that, and it's all I've ever wanted to do, and I'm doing it, and that's all well and good. But during the pandemic, I got to like, do some other shit. I like work for a tech company. Sorry, can I swear you could say whatever you want? Shit.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:12:19] You're a listener you know

Jordana Grolnick [00:12:23] Yeah, you could say whatever you want. Yeah, I like work for a tech company. I taught bar class. I like, you know, like watch the news a whole hell of a lot. And I just learned about the world around me in a way that I had never really. Done in like a deep way and like did a lot of like work on myself. So I think I think the company at large did a lot of that and. Because we we were so blessed to have something to go back to. So that comfort and that sort of life net safety net, that's a life that a safety. Yeah, that safety net allowed us to like, focus on some other things. You know, it wasn't just like, Oh my God, when when Theodore comes back, I have to be ready to get the next job. It was like, I have this incredible job and I know that that and they, you know, told us we were going to have as much time as we needed to get back and ready in like a really gentle way, and they totally made good on that promise. So that also helps, too. As you there was like a zen quality to how we got back on our feet with Katrina and the the important work that she did, which I'm happy to talk about. I don't know if you guys you've talked about your please your pod, but going in ... Is like this like absolute which goddess? She's a she's a dancer, Tony nominated dancer, incredible performer in her own right, but also she was hired by Hamilton as a healer. She's a yoga teacher. She's got a lot of knowledge and insight. And just like just like depth, man, she is.

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She's incredible. So, so she came in and kind of led us every morning in some grounding work and some meditation and reconnection with each other in a way that just like put everyone on the same page truly to just be like, OK, we're here now, and how do we move forward? And what concerns do we have and how do we and how do we keep keep the dialog open, but also get back on the train that we all chose to be on here? So yeah, that's a really long answer to say we all got the privilege of starting again and also, like each company got to gel together. Like what? During the shutdown? When the shutdown happened, we had just replaced 14 people like our company was brand new, essentially like half staff, new, so brand new. But we had never gotten a rehearsal process as a whole. They got their own individual rehearsal processes and then had to slot into the show. It like after a put in with like not necessarily all the people they were going to be on stage with that night. So we all got like, you know, a lot of people got a rehearsal process again. A lot of people got to work with Baldy and Gallagher for the first time. So, yeah, it put everyone on a level playing field.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:15:49] Yeah, I've I've heard a lot about her off the record and just, you know, conversations and texts with friends and everyone says the same exact thing, but you also all use the word healing. And I think that's really, really telling that so that you all just go back to heal and safe is another word that I'm hearing a lot. And just like how freeing it is to be able to express yourselves and have this kind of beautiful moment. And then it's like, Look, yeah, of course. Then that, of course, translates to the performance.

Jordana Grolnick [00:16:29] You know, I think I think it has to

Gillian Pensavalle [00:16:32] Anya, she has a couple of questions. She's saying, yay swings. I have so much respect for you. I'd like to know which of your tracks was the most challenging to learn and why. Because yes, everyone knows. On Hamilcast we celebrate swings. Swings are superheroes. So, yeah, you knows what's up.

Jordana Grolnick [00:16:51] Thanks, Anya. Yeah. Hardest track to learn was probably Woman two. She was my final lady. So like, I had the four

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other girls in my head. And so then Man two was just like the last piece of the puzzle. So my brain was kind of full.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:17:11] That's the bar wench, for lack of a better term.

Jordana Grolnick [00:17:13] Oh, she's the bar wench.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:17:14] Great.

Jordana Grolnick [00:17:15] Yeah. Mm hmm. She's the brunch.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:17:17] Great.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:17:18] So you had other tracks in your head, is what you're saying?

Jordana Grolnick [00:17:20] Yeah, yeah. And she she does the most like woman to has a lot of props, and she gets lifted more than anyone else. And she's just like all over the place. And the lifts, like, truly gave me a little bit anxiety. So that was part of it as well, but yeah, yeah, we're we're past that now.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:17:45] Anya is also asking what was your craziest swing moments,

Jordana Grolnick [00:17:49] craziest swing moments? Oh, there are so many OK about my I guess this. I like this story because it's when I was on for woman to who is the bar wench who. This is why she was hard to like. I have like all these anxieties about her, but she's also the actress in the play.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:18:14] I was just going to say, just give her a little bit of context. That's so funny. You read my mind. I was literally just going to say that

Jordana Grolnick [00:18:21] you see, you know, the show, you know, very much what you're talking. She's the actress in that crazy teal dress. And when I was on for her one day I, she get the in the play. She gets spilled on wine sold on her. She stands up and she pushes man

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one down, who's holding this Tudor Cup and this like chalice, and she pushes them to the ground. And I in my swing excitement, I think, and my like, I don't do this every day. Lack of knowledge pushed him, possibly a little too hard, and he fell to the ground and dropped the cup, which landed with like a very loud, hollow sound. And then and then we freeze, right? So it's like spill react, stand push points, and then you're frozen for like eight counts. And during those accounts, when the focus and the lights are on George A. and Philip arguing the cup rolls slowly down stage. No, and I'm frozen and just filing it with my eyes. And Chris Campbell, our man one is frozen and following it with his eyes, but also his eyes are like a little bit fiery because it's like, Oh my God, you made me drop my cup, which anyone's eyes would be. And then it lands like by the footlights. And I was mortified. And I think the day before I was Sally and she in What did I miss? She turns around and drops the and pushes down the tray on the letter on which the letter lays lies. She pushes it down and I pushed it down too hard. And my other swing who was on four man, five holding that tray dropped it. And so I just I had to learn to like, chill a little bit, I think, because I was dropping metal objects on the stage left and right.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:20:32] I kind of love that because I love the intention and intensity. Yeah, that comes from you. As a performer, I love that I was full out. I know it's, you know, all the things when you're on stage, it makes you feel like, Oh my god, oh my god, oh my God. But I sitting here now with you when there are no metal objects, to be.

Jordana Grolnick [00:20:50] We can laugh about it

Gillian Pensavalle [00:20:52] I like it. Yeah. So someone had to run and get the metal, the pewter cup.

Jordana Grolnick [00:20:56] Oh God, I don't even remember what happened with it. I think someone picked it up. Yeah, I don't even know who that was. I got to think of it, probably thinking, yes.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:21:03] And he's also asking if you could choose your dream role in any show. What would it be?

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Jordana Grolnick [00:21:09] Velma Kelly in Chicago.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:21:10] Oh, yes.

Jordana Grolnick [00:21:11] Yeah. I mean, it was always when I was a baby, so totally.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:21:16] Oh my god, I can't wait to see you as well.

Jordana Grolnick [00:21:18] Saying it? Put it out there. Yeah, one day.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:21:21] Yeah, Kathy has a lot of questions. Kathy's asking, What is your favorite song in a chorus line?

Jordana Grolnick [00:21:29] Oh, what a great question. Yeah, my favorite song in a chorus line. I mean. What I did for love really gets me all the time, but from different angles, its gets me

Gillian Pensavalle [00:21:43] what do you mean by that?

Jordana Grolnick [00:21:44] Well, I just think it's so universal and broad like what that can mean at any time in your life. Like if I were to sing it right now, I'd probably crumble. But if I were to sing it or, you know, I'd be, I'd be like, I could be a proud feeling. But also, you know, if I were to sing it. In fact, I think I saw something like one of the Broadway broadcasts during the pandemic, the shutdown and all of it. I think they sang it on one of something I saw and I was a disaster like a total weeping mess, you know.

Jordana Grolnick [00:23:06] I don't think that's my favorite song from a chorus line. I have to I have to say Richie Song, give me the ball. Yeah, that's what's coming to mind.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:24:07] Kathy says, Is there a venue you haven't performed in that you would love to, you know, like the Kennedy Center or MSG places like that?

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Jordana Grolnick [00:24:15] Oh. Huh. And yeah, I've been really obsessed with outdoor venues recently, like not quite like I've performed at the Muni, which is a blast, but I would love to do something like in the woods somewhere, like outdoor amphitheater kind of stuff

Gillian Pensavalle [00:24:40] like red rocks

Jordana Grolnick [00:24:43] Sure! That'd be sweet, now I was just reading about like these. There is this like theater in France that has been there for 100 years and they, like, produce crazy, weird plays and we're like, not weird, but it's like very seldomly produce plays. But like a more exciting answer would be like Radio City, probably that would be an insane place to be so huge.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:25:18] Because, yeah, I think they're all exciting answers. And if you could play one of the male tracks in Hamilton

Jordana Grolnick [00:25:24] Laf/Jeff's hands down. Yeah, he's such a showman and he's got the best raps and the prettiest costume.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:25:36] Yeah, I even love when he was going to say when he becomes Lafayette. But I mean, like in guns and chips, you know what I mean? Like, he's all high up, but when he just is that like entrance and guns and chips I love. I love that album that the gold and everything else.

Jordana Grolnick [00:25:50] Yes. Yes, yes.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:25:51] Britney is asking, What is your method for learning and remembering your swing tracks Britney? Everyone has their own method. I love learning about it.

Jordana Grolnick [00:26:03] I, when I was learning, I'm not really a watcher because a lot of people can watch the video and be like, I know what it is because we have an archival video of, you know, of recent performance. And that doesn't really do it for me. I'm really like a kinetic learner and I have to be in the space. So I have like knowing where I am on the set, like in relation to the stairs or this

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post or like this person is super helpful for me. So I'm like a rehearsal kind of person, but I so like that's how I learned the bones of each track. And that also helps me learn the vocals because when I'm in a specific position on the stage, I can remember which vocal track I'm supposed to be singing. Like Woman five has some stuff that she does differently, and I know where she is in each time she sings like her own little line, rather than like remembering what it looks like on the page or something cool. And then in order to like, memorize and study, I had a very, very long tracking sheet for my first girl that I learned, which was woman one. And it was like a bunch of information that became unnecessary very quickly. Once it sinks into your brain. And so then as I kept learning, I would focus on the different information that I needed to know spacing numbers like different prop things. And then now, when I came back from the pandemic, I just needed to like watch the archival a bunch and like rewind to just be like, Oh, yeah, like, that's something I used to know and then forgot. Now know again. And so then I went back and did some more notes, and now I just have sort of like a barebones things that I like to review before I go on so that I like certain things that I just just haven't quite sunk into my brain for whatever reason.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:28:17] Like on paper on an iPad, whatever, like sort of like written down.

Jordana Grolnick [00:28:19] Yeah, yeah. And there are things that I let slip away that have needed to come back through a little more studying. But yeah, that's how I learned.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:28:30] And how do you communicate all of that as the dance captain?

Jordana Grolnick [00:28:34] Have. That is something that's like a whole new journey that I'm on because I'm yeah, it's interesting to to. It's one thing to learn it, but it's another thing to teach it, and it's another thing to teach it. Who to people who have different. And learning styles, you know, the way you learn is not the way everyone learns. So right now, we have a brand new swing. His phenomenal and has swung before and has dance captain before, so she really understands all the nuances of it. But she's really well. She's like a watcher and then a writer, so she'll watch what it is. She'll

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figure it out, kind of kind of what it's supposed to be until like, write it down and she'll get ahead of me before I have the time and the chance to teach her so that she can kind of have an idea of it. And then I can just kind of plug in the specifics and she's like super into counting, which is funny that you said that earlier because we just really don't count. And I'll turn like, there's very little of it. I can count on one hand the amount of times I'm actually counting,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:29:45] but I do understand that people train dancers, their whole lives like just their internal clock, their internal count.

Jordana Grolnick [00:29:52] And like, I think in any other show, I'd also be counting. But because everything is to lyric and I have learned it from people who learn it from lyric, you know, it's it's like, So then you're just always, you're like, Well, it's on. It's on the word death. It's not on the one. It's just death like I am.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:30:12] Oh which death?

Jordana Grolnick [00:30:12] Yeah, right? So yeah, it's it's super interesting. And then. And like some people like, there's a part and what did I miss? Were you like, you're pointing it towards Jefferson, and I always remember it as the next move. You want to take your way to the direction that you're pointing because you, like, get on to one leg. So I always think about it that way, but other people think about it. Well, I just take my outside foot to my inside foot, and some people say, Why is my weight on my inside foot or I passing my outside foot? Or like, you know what I mean? They're just like different ways to say the same thing, a million different ways to say the same thing and get the same result. So it's a fun experiment.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:30:57] Oh, that's cool. Yeah, Rob is asking, what is your favorite moment in the show to witness either from offstage or the surround or otherwise while the spotlight is on someone else?

Jordana Grolnick [00:31:09] Such a good question. Favorite moment in this show to witness. Honestly, anything Donald Weber is doing anywhere. It's so fun because he is just like the epitome of an actor

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who is he's in it like he is in it. But he also knows that he is a person who is an actor being in it so he doesn't take it too seriously. Like he can give you a knowing glance that is like, I'm Donald giving drawn into a knowing glance, but also like, I'm Burr. So watch out. I want to think of a really specific moment, though, because there are so many. Oh oh, are Hercules Mulligan before he gets revealed as Hercules Mulligan

Jordana Grolnick [00:32:34] Seeing him as woman five, you're watching you can like you're you're shaking a coat above him and you can see him in the in the huddle of the dudes who don't really see him because they're all shaking their coats, too. But only Woman five and man six can really see him. And Brandon Armstrong, our mulligan. I only just noticed this. He is like stomping his feet on the ground. He is getting so hype for his cross down stage to then make his rap. It is so fun to watch.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:33:03] Oh my god, I love that so much and I love that. Like, out of all, there are a handful of people doing that. The shaking of the butt that you just have this perspective, like as an audience member, it feels like you're all seeing him. Yeah, no. Oh my god. Crazy, right? Amazing answer. That is an amazing.

Jordana Grolnick [00:33:23] And so I'm glad about the specific moment. It's way better

Gillian Pensavalle [00:33:27] Liz's is asking, what does your pre-show routine look like?

Jordana Grolnick [00:33:34] Before the show, while you have to eat like well before the show, because otherwise you're going to be sorry. Yeah. And then, yeah, I get there about an hour early. If I know I'm going on, even if I don't know, I'm going on because you never know. And yeah, I mean, I always make sure to kind of do a physical something physical during the day beforehand, just so that, especially as a swing, because if I'm just have not even move my body that day, I'm going to be sorry if I have to go on mid-show. But if I'm if I know I'm on. You got there, I like to do my pin curls and my makeup, and then whatever time I have left, just do a little getting my muscles engaged in warm and ready to go. The show is kind of a kind of

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one up, like the first number, though if you're not in your leg, it's going to be. It's going to be. You're going to be sorry or I'm going to be sorry, because that's that's what I always tells me if I'm ready to go or not. I can, like, stand on one leg during the opening number.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:34:42] Oh my god. You don't need alone time or you don't have a certain playlist. You're just kind of all you need to do is sort of get your body ready.

Jordana Grolnick [00:34:50] Oh yeah. There's also like if I like to at least think through the first number so that I know like I have imagined myself in that space before, I actually have to do it. And if I know I'm going on, I'll usually spend some good time just making sure I've studied what I need to study. But usually I do need like a couple of minutes of alone time to just like, think through what's going on. And we've been doing a lot of we've been doing like Circle Up, which a lot of companies do, I think, but just a little grounding moment with the people you're about to go into battle with to to just breathe together and kind of all get on the same page, which has been super nice.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:35:37] Yeah, I always say that being in the show or any show is like being in the trenches together, but you also experience these eighteen months. Not at all together, but very much together. So now to be back there, I can see how that could. You know, there's more meaning to that too of like, we're here. We made it. We did it. Let's go do the damn thing.

Jordana Grolnick [00:35:58] Totally. I I kept saying this many facets of my life, but like we. We had this singular experience together. We all had these. Nobody else knows what it is like to flee San Francisco and then come back to San Francisco in the same theater and like. And not be able to do our job like that, our specific company has a very specific. Experience that we all share. Most of us. And, you know, just actors in general, anyone in Hamilton in general, that gets a little bit bigger, but it was like this spiritually apart, but together. Yeah. So it is it is nice to be able to like look into the eyes of the people that you just wanted to look into their eyes for months and months. I know.

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Gillian Pensavalle [00:36:55] So sort of on the other on the other side of this, we're having a love fest right now. But Valerie is asking, what's your biggest pet peeve in general?

Jordana Grolnick [00:37:03] Yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:37:04] Oh, oh no. Not like about, you

Jordana Grolnick [00:37:07] I just I hate it when Brandon Armstrong, though his biggest pet peeve. Oh, why? I don't have this just right off the top of my mind. When people don't replace the toilet paper, when there is a roll of toilet paper to replace, you don't do it. Yeah.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:37:26] Or they just place it next to the roll. They don't actually put it in the like.

Jordana Grolnick [00:37:30] Could you be that lazy? Could you actually be that lazy

Gillian Pensavalle [00:37:35] or selfish to walk out of the bathroom and be like, Well,

Jordana Grolnick [00:37:38] someone else will do it? Exactly what's wrong with a society?

Gillian Pensavalle [00:37:43] Yeah, thoughtless. I agree. James is asking if you could go back and give your younger self one piece of advice. What would it be?

Jordana Grolnick [00:37:52] It would be to stop worrying about what you look like. Oh, yes. Yeah, because it just doesn't. Matter. Yeah, I just think about all the all the energy I spent thinking about that, obsessing about that or not being present in a certain situation because I was thinking about. Any facet of how I looked and just like, you know, wishing that I had all that time back, you know, brain space. Not that I'm like, I'm done worrying about what I look like, but yeah. That's that's been present for me for right now.

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Gillian Pensavalle [00:38:40] I wonder if this next question is related, Peter's asking what is one piece of advice you'd give to someone starting out?

Jordana Grolnick [00:38:50] All to embrace all the things that make you uniquely you, which is, I think, a beautiful thing about where this industry is going is that for the most part, those things are being embraced. Mm-Hmm. In the way that they can be within a system that is built to not embrace everyone. Yep. And to take ballet class and to always remember that there is more going on in the world than just. Theater, even though it's a very important part of being human.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:39:35] What did ballet teach you that that is in your top two things? I'm so curious.

Jordana Grolnick [00:39:43] Oh gosh. I just I think I just know that I would not be where I am with my particular set of skills without the ballet training that I had and the and the discipline that it's like there's something. How about just like my teachers and my little ballet studio who took it so seriously and wanted us to take it just too seriously? And I think there is definitely a place for that, and it's important to know that sometimes I wish I didn't take everything so seriously. But back then, it was like if I missed dance class, I personally would feel so guilty because I just knew that. Like what? And it was. It was. In part, they taught to us that like if you don't dedicate yourself to this like day after day, meaning you can miss a day for sure, but like the the practice of keeping of of returning and returning to the same exercises and things and ideas and physical manifestations of all of that is the only way to. Get better at something. Yeah, practice,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:41:08] practice, yeah. Ashley's asking, what's one lesson you're Hamilton experience has taught you that you think everyone should learn?

Jordana Grolnick [00:41:16] What a good question. Oh, God. I grew up in a very homogenized environment. Lots of people like me from the same backgrounds, and I I wish for every single person on the planet that they get the chance to be in a room with people. Tons of people who just don't have that experience. Mm-Hmm. And yeah, it can be. A

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little bit scary to be like feel othered and alone, but in a way that is like, I think you must feel in this world to understand the experiences of other people. So. Truly, Hamilton has given me that the ability to to learn about. Different backgrounds and cultures and experiences on this planet in this country specifically. I'm just really grateful to have gotten to know

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:29] And our last Patreon Peep question is coming from Carrie. She's asking you what is inspiring you right now?

Jordana Grolnick [00:42:37] Well, I think I remember Carrie and this question. I feel like, do you ask the same question?

Gillian Pensavalle [00:42:45] Sometimes they come, yeah, sometimes they ask. A lot of people ask the same questions because I I also love that too, because it's like everyone's answer is going to be so different. It's like, what do you scream in room? Like, What's yeah right now? So, yeah, this is my dear, dear, dear friend Carrie Rachel Dean.

Jordana Grolnick [00:43:04] So I remember it because you pronounce Carrie the way my mom, who's from New York, pronounces Carrie

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:11] How else Carrie? Oh God. Yeah, I get. I get in trouble for the way I pronounce Florida. Florida. Mario, I don't say Florida or Mario. Oh yeah, I get that. I'm sorry. That's my other podcast. You become obsessed. People get mad at me for the way I pronounce things.

Jordana Grolnick [00:43:30] Lots of crime going on in Florida and Florida.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:33] Yeah. Get it together, Florida.

Jordana Grolnick [00:43:34] OK, sorry, that was a tangent. No, I love it. I love you, Carrie.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:40] Now it sounds out of your head. I'm like, Wait, how would you say it, Carrie?

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Jordana Grolnick [00:43:43] No, it's very subtle when you say it. I am only, yeah, I would say Carrie kept Carrie like, I'm carrying this

Gillian Pensavalle [00:43:50] baby, Carrie carrying and my friend Carrie.

Jordana Grolnick [00:43:53] Oh, you're saying it's the same yet? No, it's it's. I love it. I actually really enjoy your pronunciation. Don't think about it ever again. OK. Sorry. I'm really. Oh, Carrie, what is inspiring me lately? Nature? Hmm. Nature is inspiring me. And uh,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:44:16] you know, I have to tell you, your Instagram really is inspiring me. And now I'm really I'm bringing it full circle. Like those photos? I know you're like, Well, nature to the work. I just snapped the picture. But it is. It's very it's really like gorgeous. When your photos come on my feed, it's kind of like a momentary like, Oh, wait, there's like a whole big world out there. And there's someone I know out there experiencing it and it's like, it's I don't know, it's a nice little. Not to make it about me, but it like you posting that I think does a lot of things for a lot of people because they're seeing it through like we're vicariously living.

Jordana Grolnick [00:44:53] Can you give us a beautiful way to say something that a lot of people would say is like? And they were like, you know, like, oh yeah,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:45:03] because I don't want to go camping, I just like, I know the details are like, Oh, better. But I'm like, Wait, wait. Nature is beautiful and it is. It's just like a nice reminder as you're, you know, doomscrolling or mindlessly scrolling or, you know, you're like, even as I'm talking, I'm like doing the movement, this muscle memory. Yeah. And your feed is such a way to be like, Oh, wait, wait, let me look up for a second. Like, let me look out my window for a moment. So.

Jordana Grolnick [00:45:32] Oh yeah, thanks. You're welcome. Yeah, I I I'm glad. I think like something I want is to get more people out in nature. I just like it brings me so much joy and peace so you don't have to go camping. I mean, I get that, I get that.

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Gillian Pensavalle [00:45:51] But and not to put any pressure on you to like, you know, now you have to become like a, I don't know, an outdoorsy influencer. I'm not saying that. Like, just do exactly what you're doing. I don't want to put any pressure on you in any way, but because of it, it's like it's beautiful in a lot of ways to see what you're posting. You know what I mean? It's like esthetically beautiful, but it's also like, Oh yeah, thanks for the reminder.

Jordana Grolnick [00:46:11] Oh, cool. I'll keep doing it. Thanks.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:13] As long as you don't do it, then when you give up that it'll be fine to

Jordana Grolnick [00:46:16] me like, I hate nature, I'm gonna stay in my bed.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:18] OK, Jordan, do you have a show tonight? Am I wrong?

Jordana Grolnick [00:46:22] Yes, you're correct.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:25] I want to thank you so much for spending what, three ish almost hours with me. And then you have to now have a show. I adore you. I appreciate you. Thank you so much for taking the time of being so honest and open and generous with all of your answers and all of this conversation.

Jordana Grolnick [00:46:43] Thank you. This is a dream that I have realized now. So how crazy?

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:49] How crazy?

Jordana Grolnick [00:46:51] I love it. Thank you for being a historian of Hamilton and giving us all that gift. It's so cool. It's so

Gillian Pensavalle [00:46:59] thanks. It really is. You know, how people are like, Oh my pleasure, it really. It's my favorite thing to do. I love it. It means the world to me to do. It is a true passion project. I just I adore it. But speaking of your Instagram, where can

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people find you on social media, your Twitter, Insta, your website, like all of that stuff, just tell them where they can find you.

Jordana Grolnick [00:47:18] You can find me most mostly on Instagram jordanagrams. And mostly there Twitter is just political petitions and so follow.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:47:36] So follow that.

Jordana Grolnick [00:47:37] Follow those and sign them vetted by me. But I don't really hang out there that much, and my website is Jordan. I like that song, but needs an update, obviously. So. And yeah, cool. Follow along for a lot of trees and mountains.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:47:58] Yeah. And like some

Jordana Grolnick [00:48:00] Hamilton and Hamilton and Hamilton, it's pretty much it.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:48:04] Well, thank you, everyone. So much for listening. Thank you, peeps. They are \ great,

Jordana Grolnick [00:48:09] thoughtful, informed? Well, yeah,

Gillian Pensavalle [00:48:13] they're the greatest. And thank you, Jordana. I really I just appreciate you so much and I love you and thank you so much for spending your afternoon with me.

Jordana Grolnick [00:48:21] Thank you, Gillian.

Gillian Pensavalle [00:48:22] All right, I'll see everybody next week. I love you. I'm G. Pen

Jordana Grolnick [00:48:29] J. Gro ... Jordamnilton

Gillian Pensavalle [00:48:31] Oh, stop it.

Jordana Grolnick [00:48:33] Yeah, that's the only that's the best part with.

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Gillian Pensavalle [00:49:13]

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