

NOVEMBER 2025

# TODD SNYDER

NEW YORK



Coat, Cream  
\$3398 OU0904327  
Shirt, White  
\$198 SH2072987  
Trousers, Brown  
\$298 PA994280  
Tie, Dark Brown  
\$148 AC157204

ON COVER

Tuxedo  
Jacket, Ivory  
\$898 SP087233

Tuxedo  
Trousers, Black  
\$398 PA2017231  
Bowtie, Black  
\$148 AC1624021

Alden  
Loafer, Black  
\$692 D5103

# A Knight on Broadway

As Aaron Tveit takes the stage in a highly-anticipated revival of the musical *Chess*, the blue-eyed tenor sets his sights on becoming Broadway's next king.

Photographs by MATTHEW BROOKES Styling by JIM MOORE

**A**aron Tveit was not your typical theater kid. At Middletown High School in New York's Hudson Valley, he played varsity soccer, basketball and golf. "I remember during freshman year someone said, 'Are you going to audition for the school play?' And I said, 'Why would I do that?' And then someone said, 'I think a lot of girls do it.'"

An audition or two later, Tveit was cast as Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Tony in *West Side Story*, and in 2021 he won his first Tony for originating the role of Christian in *Moulin Rouge!* on Broadway. Along the way, he became a theater favorite, originating the role of Gabe in the Off-Broadway production of the musical *Next to Normal* and playing Frank Abagnale Jr. in *Catch Me If You Can*, as well as Fiyero in *Wicked*.

This month, he's back on Broadway in a refresh of *Chess*. The show, a curio from the Eighties, revolves around a tournament between a Russian grandmaster and Tveit's character, American Freddie Trumper, a John McEnroe of the chess world. The music is by ABBA's Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus, with the original book by EGOT winner Tim Rice (*The Lion King*). Tveit took a break from rehearsals to chat with us about making Freddie sympathetic, starting a family and playing Cafe Carlyle for the first time back in 2024.

**What music played in your house growing up? Are there songs from that time in your life that are like comfort food?**

The Eagles and Paul Simon's *Graceland*. I hear those songs, and I'm somehow transported to being 6 years old.

**And now you're a dad — you were engaged to Erika Yang in 2023, had your daughter in 2024, and were married this past August. Is being on Broadway different now that you're a family man?**

I still work as hard as I ever did preparing for a performance, but I can hold things a little looser.

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*In my one-man shows, if I don't have a reason to sing each song, it can come across as inauthentic, and will feel like I'm bullshitting.*

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Topcoat, Navy  
\$1998 OU2762444  
V-Neck, Navy  
\$228 SW0690154  
Trousers, Navy  
\$298 PA1654911  
Alden  
Shoes, Black  
\$937 9901



*“I’d say my style is ‘elevated casual.’ For Chess, though, we’ve been looking a lot at what Richard Gere wore in American Gigolo.”*



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Bisque  
\$448 SW0880333  
Chino, White  
\$188 PA060676

ABOVE

Tuxedo Jacket,  
Emerald Green  
\$1198 BC184289  
Tank, Black  
\$68 KN1270422  
Tuxedo  
Trouser, Black  
\$398 PA2017231

I’m also more focused at work because I want to be able to walk in the door at the end of the day and see my daughter smiling.

**You’ve developed a side hustle performing one-man shows with eclectic set lists that run from *Les Mis* to Jason Isbell. Does the room impact the songlist?**

The Cafe Carlyle made me think of old New York and all the performers that have made standards their own, so in the set there’s a Tony Bennett song (“I Wanna Be Around”) and a Sammy Davis Jr. song (“What Kind of Fool Am I”).

**How are you going to make Freddie in Chess, ostensibly a bipolar jerk, sympathetic?**

The way you get the audience to root for a character like Freddie is to make the audience think, *“If I were in that situation, I’d make the same choice.”* It’s a similar challenge to when I played Sweeney Todd.

**Is there a Broadway role you haven’t gotten to play that you’d really like to?**

George [Seurat] in *Sunday In The Park With George*... And I played Enjolras in the movie version of *Les Misérables*, but I’m older and ready to play Valjean. ■

See Aaron in action at [toddsnyder.com](http://toddsnyder.com).

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\$798 BL214492  
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