

# Season Extension for WICKED

Due to overwhelming demand, additional tickets released and a stellar cast unveiled for the Singapore production

**Singapore, (10 November 2011)** -WICKED, the Broadway blockbuster and global phenomenon that has enchanted over 30 million people worldwide, has taken Singapore by storm before it premieres. The smash-hit musical opens at Marina Bay Sands Grand Theater on 6 December, 2011 and ticket sales have been overwhelming. With less than five weeks until WICKED opens, new seats have been released for sale today in response to vast demand, and the season is being extended by 4 weeks until 26 February 2012.

"The demand for tickets to **WICKED** in Singapore has been phenomenal – as it has been wherever the show has played around the world. **WICKED** appeals to music theatre lovers and audiences from all different backgrounds and has such a strong word-of-mouth that people have heard about it through the international grapevine and don't want to miss out on the opportunity of experiencing **WICKED** in Singapore. A musical of this magnitude is quite unlike any other show that has toured South East Asia before and will not fail to live up to expectations and enthrall audiences in Singapore. We are thrilled to be part of this production." said Milan Rokic, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of BASE Entertainment Asia.

"A breathtaking success story of a magnitude that North America has not witnessed since the peak years of THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

Washington Post

Winner of 35 major awards including a Grammy® and three Tony Awards®, **WICKED** is the untold story of the Witches of Oz. Long before Dorothy drops in and two very different girls meet in the Land of Oz. The girl born with emerald green skin is intelligent,

fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and extremely popular. **WICKED** tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, on how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West called Elphaba and Glinda the Good.

"Remember the last time an original Broadway musical made you laugh, cry and think? WICKED is the most complete and completely satisfying new musical in a long time."

USA Today

Australian front rank entertainers will play the leading ladies, Elphaba and Glindatogether with six more of the eight Principals.

**JemmaRix** stars as Elphaba, The Wicked Witch of the West. Her love of performing started from a young age and after several successful engagements, in 2007, she was cast as Elphaba in a world first staged adaptation of **WICKED**, which required her to perform parts of the show in Japanese.

**Suzie Mathers** stars as Glinda, the 'Good'. Suziehas fast made her mark in the Australian music theatreindustry and prior to **WICKED**was cast as the lead role of "SophieSheridan" in the 10th Anniversary Australian tour of *Mamma Mia!* 

Each of the Principals will bring their own, unique star qualities to **WICKED**. The following cast coming to Singapore includes:

**Bert Newton**, winner of 18 Logies and Australia's legendary TV and radio host and comedian, starsas the *Wizard of Oz*, an engaging, sweet character with powerful presence.

**Anne Wood** commenced her career with the original Melbourne production of *Cats*, and after many successful theatre engagements including nearly three years playing the lead role of Donna in the original smash hit production of *Mamma Mia!* Stars as *Madame Morrible in WICKED*. Headmistress of Shiz University, Madame Morrible is dignified, powerful and haughty – with a dark side.

**David Harris**, one of Australia's leading men in musical theatre and is best known for his portrayal of Chris in Cameron Mackintosh's production of *Miss Saigon*, stars as *Fiyero*, the prince, a very handsome and wealthy party boy.

**James Smith** is a Singer/Songwriter who has been writing and recording his own original albums since he was 16, stars as *Boq*, a quirky munchkin enamoured with Glinda, who pays him no mind.

**Elisa Colla** made her professional debut in the Sydney season of **WICKED** and continues the role as *Nessa Rose* who is crippled and confined to a wheelchair. She is Elphaba's

younger sister, fooled into believing that Boq loves her and embittered when she learns the truth

And **Glen Hogstrom** who has a string of musical credits to his name, including Beauty & the Beast, Les Miserables, Miss Saigon, Return to the Forbidden Planet, Cats, Billy Elliot, Mamma Mia and Aspects of Love, stars as *Doctor Dillamond*, a professor at Shiz University and also the sole animal on the faculty – a goat.

The smash-hit musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz (Godspell, Pippin, Academy Award-winner for Pocahontasand ThePrince of Egypt) and book by Winnie Holzman (My So Called Life, Once and Again and thirty something) is based on the best-selling novel by Gregory Maguire. Gregory Maguire's 1995 novel, has sold more than three million copies – two and a half million since WICKED opened on Broadway in 2003.

The Singapore Production of **WICKED** is produced by Marc Platt, Universal Pictures, the Araca Group, Jon B. Platt, David Stone and John Frost. BASE Entertainment Asia is the local presenter.

**WICKED** is the next international Broadway blockbuster musical that will send Singapore's audiences out of the theater on a high and keep them coming back for more!

For more information log onto <u>www.wickedthemuscial.com.sg</u> or join our Facebook page for further updates.

#### **TICKETING INFORMATION**

Day/Times	Emerald	A	B	C	D	E
	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve	Reserve
Tues - Frid: 8:00pm Sat - Sun: 2pm & 8pm	\$250	\$165	\$145	\$125	\$95	\$55

## FOR TICKET BOOKINGS:

THROUGH INTERNET : www.MarinaBaySands.com/Ticketing

• **BY PHONE** : + 656688 8826

BOOK IN PERSON AT : Marina Bay Sands Box Offices (Museum, Theaters,

SkyPark, Retail Mall and Hotel Tower 1 and 3 Lobby)

For more information please log onto our official website <u>www.marinabaysands.com</u>

## **ABOUT WICKED**

Winner of 35 major awards including the Grammy Award and three Tony Awards, **Wicked** is the untold story of the witches of Oz. Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the Land of Oz. One born with emerald-green skin is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. **Wicked** tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good. Declared "A Cultural Phenomenon" by *Variety* and "The Best Musical of the Decade" by Entertainment Weekly, **Wicked** currently has 7 productions worldwide: New York; London; Japan; Holland; Australian/Asian Tour; and two concurrent North American National Tours. Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, **Wicked** has music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and a book by Winnie Holzman. The production is directed by Lisa Leguillou with original direction by Joe Mantello. The musical staging is by Wayne Cilento. **Wicked** is produced by Marc Platt, Universal Pictures, The Araca Group, Jon B. Platt, David Stone and John Frost.

# **ABOUT BASE ENTERTAINMENT**

BASE Entertainment specializes in the development, production, programming and management of live entertainment properties and theatre operations. BASE develops, produces and manages intellectual properties which reach audiences through various platforms, including live, digital, broadcast and licensing. BASE Entertainment founders include Brian Becker and Scott Zeiger, who have 45 years combined experience in the live entertainment industry. The company has offices in Singapore, New York, Las Vegas, and Houston. Since their Asia office opened in Singapore in 2010 Base Entertainment has brought a wide array of live entertainment to Singapore's Marina Bay Sands' two theaters, including Disney's The Lion King, Riverdance, A R Rahman, Thriller Live, Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cirque EloizeiD, Bar at Buena Vista, and The Imperial Ice Stars productions of Swan Lake on Ice. BASE is currently the local presenter of WICKED.

#### **ABOUT MARINA BAY SANDS**

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a casino, Paiza Club for premium players and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances, including world renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.marinabaysands.com">www.marinabaysands.com</a>.