MEDIA RELEASE 25 August 2023



BROADWAY'S BIGGEST BLOCKBUSTER FLIES INTO SYDNEY TONIGHT

Rejoycify! Tonight, the musical phenomenon **WICKED** begins performances in Australia's very own Emerald City at the Sydney Lyric Theatre. With huge anticipation and demand, the precinct around the Sydney Lyric has been decorated green to add to the excitement.

To celebrate the arrival of **WICKED** in Sydney tonight, Elphaba ascended to the roof of The Star this morning to survey the city skyline and look to the Western skies.

Due to the huge demand, new tickets will be on sale next week, with pre-sales from 28 August and general public tickets on Friday 1 September, with best availability for tickets from November.

WICKED Australia Co-producer John Frost said, "I'm thrilled we're able to bring **WICKED** to Sydney which will coincide with its 20th anniversary on Broadway. This is one of the most lavish musical productions to have ever played in Australia, the full Broadway experience. You get your money's worth and then some, with the lavish sets and opulent costumes, a feast for the eye and the ear. If you have never seen **WICKED**, come and see it for the first time and be spellbound. If you have seen it before, I know you'll want to come back and be enthralled all over again. Get your tickets now while you can."

WICKED is proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Minister for the Arts and Minister for Jobs and Tourism John Graham said, "I am thrilled that the Sydney Lyric Theatre is hosting **WICKED**, one of my favourite musicals, during its 20th anniversary year on Broadway. I am looking forward to seeing this production. Visitors and locals alike can enjoy a bit of Broadway here in Sydney."

Almost 20 years since its premiere on Broadway, **WICKED** remains one of the most successful and popular musicals in the world. Winner of over 100 major awards including the Grammy Award, the Olivier Award, six Helpmann Awards, three Tony Awards® and six Drama Desk Awards, **WICKED** is "A Complete Triumph! An original musical that will make you laugh, cry and think" (USA Today).

The stellar Australian cast is led by **Courtney Monsma** as Glinda, the bubbly popular girl who becomes "Glinda the Good", and **Sheridan Adams** as Elphaba, the girl born with emerald-green skin who grows up to become the "Wicked Witch of the West". **Robyn Nevin** plays the role of Madame Morrible, **Todd McKenney** is the Wizard, **Liam Head** plays Fiyero, **Adam Murphy** is Dr Dillamond, **Shewit Belay** plays Nessarose, **Kurtis Papadinis** is Bog, and **Zoe Coppinger** is the Elphaba Standby.

The talented group of performers comprising the WICKED Ensemble and Swings includes Christian Ambesi, Conor Bann-Murray, Brittany Carter, Olivia Castagna, Eli Cooper, Matt Cranleigh, Joseph Donovan, Sage Douglas, Bayley John Edmends, Todd Jacobsson, Rohan Khanna, Andrew Kroenert, Elisha Zion Lee, Jordan Malone, Emily Monsma, Matilda Moran, Jackson Reedman, Amelia Sanzo, Edward Smith, Ksenia Teliatnikova, Lucas Van Rhijn, Jessica Vellucci, Mietta White and Jun Woodfield.

Long before Dorothy dropped in, two other young women meet in the land of Oz. One born with emerald-green skin is smart, fiery, misunderstood and possessing an extraordinary talent. The other is bubbly, blonde, ambitious and exceptionally popular. They become rivals, then friends...until the world decides to call one "good" and the other one "wicked."

"A magical Broadway musical with BRAINS, HEART and COURAGE" - Time Magazine

"WICKED's production values are exceptional. A POWERFUL PIECE OF THEATRE" - The Australian

"A SPECTACULAR ENTERTAINMENT with deep emotions and a serious message" - The Tokyo

"If every musical had the brains, heart and courage of WICKED, Broadway really would be a magical place" - Time Magazine

"WICKED is splendiferous as ever! The show works because it explores the complexity of moral choices and the prices we have to pay for making them. It's a reminder of how musicals can support complex stories when you have a book writer of the quality of Winnie Holzman, great songs by Stephen Schwartz and a rich, visually splendiferous production, as directed by Joe Mantello. And, of course, the green girl and the blonde girl, as they refer to each other, are everyperson figures. We're all either one or the other." — Chicago Tribune

Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, **WICKED** has music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and a book by Winnie Holzman. The production features musical staging by Wayne Cilento with original direction by Joe Mantello. **WICKED** is produced by in Australia by John Frost for Crossroads Live Australia, Marc Platt, Universal Pictures, The Araca Group, Jon B. Platt and David Stone.

Experience the unforgettable, award-winning musical **WICKED** in Sydney this year.

Wickedthemusical.com.au @WickedInOz #WickedInOz

SEASON DETAILS

Venue Sydney Lyric Theatre, The Star

Season From 25 August 2023

Performance Times Wed-Sat 7.30pm, Matinees Wed 1pm, Sat 2pm, Sun 1pm & 6:30pm

Prices: From \$79.00 (Transaction fees apply)
Bookings: ticketmaster.com.au or 136 100

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