MEDIA RELEASE March 29, 2009



Brisbane sizzles with CHICAGO

In the same week that the international hit musical *Chicago* became the seventh longest running production in the history of Broadway (5,125 performances), the stunning new Australian production opened in Brisbane to rapturous applause and universal critical acclaim. Producer John Frost was thrilled with the reception the show received. "It took many years of negotiating to get the rights for a revival of *Chicago*," Frost said, "but it was worth the wait. Brisbane audiences have been blown away by our stellar leading performers, *Caroline O'Connor*, *Sharon Millerchip*, *Craig McLachlan* and *Gina Riley*, but also by the other incredibly talented performers who are joining them. We are so thrilled to have this dream cast."

Reviewers agree. Vincent Plush said in The Australian, "Can there be a show that comes close to **Chicago** for sheer intoxication?... This razzle-dazzler has brought cheering audiences to their feet... this production is a triumph... the cast members, uniformly magnificent." Tonya Turner of the Courier-Mail said, "**Chicago** is a knock-out show... sexy, slick, sharp and sophisticated - everything and more than I expected. The casting is spot on... The ensemble is unbelievably sexy - men and women alike - dressed in revealing costumes and performing with all their heart and talent. They were electric, committed, wonderful."

Other reviews were equally as effusive:

"In reviving **Chicago** for a new Australian tour producer John Frost delivers a surprising, sexy and spectacular cast of world-class talent to razzle-dazzle a whole new generation of theatre-goers. It is a dream ensemble in the most devilishly delicious musical ever written... Caroline O'Connor may well be the world's preeminent Velma Kelly... The entire cast, really, wrings every drop of emotion, humour and social satire from a rich musical experience... Don't miss it." – Australian Stage Online

"Erupting into a roaring rendition of the infamous tune All That Jazz, what proceeded was a non-stop, hypnotic and hilarious show-stopper right until the end where it was the audience's turn to stand and stamp their feet in bedazzled appreciation... (Sharon Millerchip and Caroline O'Connor) live up to every expectation, showcasing their energy and sheer talent in every single number... (Gina) Riley, well known for her acting and comedic prowess, stunned the audience with her beautiful and powerful voice – her performance was flawless. (Craig) McLachlan was similarly brilliant... Funny, charming and absolutely spot on, McLachlan showed his true versatility. It's funny, it's sexy, it's energetic and wildly entertaining." – Brisbane Times

"Chicago is sexy, sassy and sensational.... Both witty and wicked – I just couldn't get enough of all that jazz!" – Dance Informa Magazine

John Frost has just announced a Melbourne season of *Chicago* to follow the Sydney season. *Chicago* plays in Brisbane until May 3, at the Lyric Theatre, Star City from May 14, and at Melbourne's Her Majesty's Theatre from August 15. Frost is currently producing or co-producing five major productions worldwide – *Chicago* in Brisbane, *Wicked* in Melbourne, *Phantom of the Opera* in Perth, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert the Musical* in London, and *Exit the King* on Broadway.

For Media Enquiries:

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BOOKING DETAILS

BRISBANE

Venue: Lyric Theatre, QPAC

Cnr Grey & Melbourne Streets, South Bank

Season: To 3 May 2009

Performance Times: Tuesday – Saturday 7.30pm

Wednesday and Saturday matinees 1.30pm

Sunday 3pm

Price: A Reserve Adults \$109.90, Concession \$99.90

B Reserve \$89.90 C Reserve \$79.90

Bookings: 136 246 or qtix.com.au

Groups of 12 or more (07) 3840 7466

VIP, Stay and See $_{\mathbb{R}}$ and Dining Packages 1300 4 SHOWS

SYDNEY

Venue: Lyric Theatre, Star City

Season: From 14 May 2009

Performance Times: Wednesday - Saturday 8pm

Wednesday matinee 1pm Saturday matinee 2pm Sunday 1pm and 6pm

Price: Wed/Thurs Eve A Reserve Adults \$99.90, Concessions and Groups \$89.90

Wed/Thurs Eve B Reserve Adults \$79.90, C Reserve \$69.90, Schools \$50.90 Fri/Sat Eve A Reserve Adults \$109.90, B Reserve Adults \$89.90, C Reserve \$79.90

Sat Mat/Sun A Reserve Adults \$109.90, Concessions and Groups \$99.90

Sat Mat/Sun B Reserve Adults \$89.90, C Reserve \$79.90

Wed Mat A Reserve Adults \$89.90, Conc and Groups \$79.90, Pensioner Groups \$60.90

Wed Mat B Reserve Adults \$79.90, C Reserve \$69.90, Schools \$50.90

Bookings: 1300 795 267 or ticketmaster.com.au

Groups of 12 or more (02) 8512 9020

Premium Tickets, Stay & See® and Dining Packages 1300 650 300

MELBOURNE

Venue: Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne

From 15 August 2009 Season:

Performance Times: Tuesday – Saturday 8pm Wednesday matinee 1pm Saturday matinee 2pm

Sunday 3pm

Price: tba

Monday April 30 On sale