

Media Release



For immediate release

POWERFUL, PASSIONATE & POLITICAL TIM RICE AND ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE 'EVITA' COMES TO SINGAPORE

[Singapore, October 5, 2017] Winner of over 20 major awards, the original West End and Broadway production of **TIM RICE** and **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S** iconic musical **EVITA**, directed by legendary Broadway director **HAL PRINCE**, will make its Asian premiere at The Mastercard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands this February as part of an international tour.

Tickets are on sale via Sistic and Marina Bay Sands ticketing.

EVITA originally opened at the Prince Edward Theatre London in 1978 and ran for a record-breaking eight years. It won two Olivier Awards, and starred **David Essex**, **Joss Ackland** and a then unknown **Elaine Paige**. The show opened on Broadway in June 1979, starring **Patti LuPone** and **Mandy Patinkin**, playing 1,567 performances and winning seven Tony Awards.

Set in Buenos Aires between 1934 and 1952, **EVITA** charts the rags-to-riches rise of Eva Perón, wife of former Argentine dictator Juan Perón, from her humble beginnings through to the extraordinary wealth, power and status which ultimately led her to be heralded as the "spiritual leader of the nation" by the Argentine people.

For decades, **EVITA'S** fairy-tale love story coupled with the tragic hand of fate, has thrilled theatre-lovers all over the world. The 1996 movie starring Madonna as Eva, Jonathan Pryce as Perón, and Antonio Banderas as Che Guevara went on to win an Oscar and three Golden Globes.

The finest ever pairing of **Tim Rice's** lyrics and **Andrew Lloyd Webber's** music has created some of the best loved songs in musical theatre, including *Don't Cry For Me Argentina*, *On This Night of a Thousand Stars*, *Oh What A Circus*, *You Must Love Me* and *Another Suitcase in Another Hall*.

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Opening on 23rd February for a strictly limited season, this new international production stars **EMMA KINGSTON** (*Les Miserables* in London's West End as well as UK productions of *In the Heights*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* and *Grease*), who was personally chosen by Tim Rice, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Hal Prince to play Eva Perón. South African musical star **JONATHAN ROXMOUTH** (*The Phantom of the Opera*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Cats*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Grease*, *West Side Story*, *Sweeney Todd*) will perform the role of Che, and playing Perón is **ROBERT FINLAYSON** (*The Phantom of the Opera* and *Miss Saigon* in the West End, as well as *Cats*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Aspects of Love*, *High School Musical*, *West Side Story*).

The production reunites the original creative team of legendary Broadway director **HAL PRINCE**, the West End and Broadway choreographer **LARRY FULLER** and the original designer **TIMOTHY O'BRIEN**.

Hal Prince has won 21 Tony awards, more than any person in history. As well as **EVITA**, his directorial and producing credits include *Candide*, *West Side Story*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Show Boat*, *A Little Night Music*, *Follies*, *Cabaret* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Hal Prince said "I am absolutely thrilled to be directing this original production of **EVITA**. I believe that it is Tim and Andrew's finest work and audiences in Singapore are truly in for a treat."

Tim Rice is the recipient of three Tony Awards, three Olivier Awards, three Oscars and 12 Ivor Novello Awards. His other musicals include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Blondel*, *Chess*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aida*, *From Here to Eternity* and *The Lion King*.

Andrew Lloyd Webber is the recipient of seven Tony Awards, seven Olivier Awards, a Golden Globe and an Oscar. His other musicals include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *CATS*, *Tell Me on a Sunday*, *Song and Dance*, *Starlight Express*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Aspects of Love*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Whistle Down the Wind*, *The Woman in White*, *Love Never Dies* and *School of Rock*.

Chief Executive Officer of Base Entertainment Asia, **Chantal Prudhomme**, said, "Given the great sense of anticipation and excitement amongst audiences in Singapore to watch **EVITA**, I am thrilled to present the Asian premiere here at The Mastercard Theatres."

Producer and CEO of Lunchbox Theatrical Productions, **James Cundall**, said "**EVITA** is one of THE classic musicals of the 20th century, and an outstanding Tim Rice/ Andrew Lloyd Webber collaboration. I am beyond excited to be finally bringing this masterpiece of a show to Singapore – it truly promises to be an unmissable theatrical event."

EVITA is produced by Lunchbox Theatrical Productions, Base Entertainment Asia and David Atkins Enterprises in association with David Ian and Pieter Toerien and by special arrangement with The Really Useful Group.

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TICKETING AND SHOW INFORMATION

SEASON:

From 23 February 2018

PERFORMANCE TIMES:

Tuesday to Friday: 8:00pm

Saturday: 2:00pm and 8:00pm

Sunday: 1:00pm and 6:00pm

TICKET PRICE:

From \$55*

* Excludes the booking fee of SGD\$4 per ticket

BOOKINGS:

INTERNET: www.MarinaBaySands.com/ticketing or www.sistic.com.sg

PHONE: +65 6688 8826

IN PERSON AT:

Marina Bay Sands Box Offices (Museum, Theatres, SkyPark, Retail Mall and Hotel Tower 1 Lobby). For more information please log onto – www.MarinaBaySands.com

ABOUT BASE ENTERTAINMENT ASIA

Base Entertainment is a live entertainment company with offices New York, Las Vegas, Houston and it opened its Asia headquarters in Singapore in 2010. Base Entertainment Asia has since become the largest presenter of live theatre entertainment in Southeast Asia. It is the resident developer, producer, programmer and manager of live entertainment at Singapore's Mastercard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands.

The company has presented over 150 of the world's most recognised shows of varied genres in Singapore; musicals – The Phantom of the Opera, Disney's The Lion King, Wicked, Jersey Boys, Cats, My Fair Lady, Annie, Mamma Mia!, The Sound of Music, Blue Man Group, Chicago, Sister Act; stage magic- The Illusionists, Cosentino: Anything Is Possible; circus – Le Noir, Cirque Adrenaline, Cirque Eloize; concerts- Michael Bolton, Bjorn Again, Cliff Richard, AR Rahman, Air Supply, Elvis Costello, The Village People and Bjorn Again, The Simon & Garfunkel Story; performing arts – Cavalia; classical concert – The Music of John Williams, The Music of Hans Zimmer VS John Williams; ballet – Giselle, Superstars of Ballet Gala; comedy – Laugh You Long Time; children – Disney Live, Hi-5, Disney in Concert.

In 2016, Base Entertainment Asia launched BasXclusive, the client services and group sales division.

Along with supporting international content, it is part of Base Entertainment Asia's on-going efforts to give Asian content a platform to showcase their talent – Kabuki (Ebizo, Takizawa), Cai Xiao Hu, Kit Chan, The Lee Kuan Yew Musical and more. In 2016, Base Entertainment Asia started its arts education, the Applause Program. The company collaborated with leading arts and entertainment talents from around the world to develop the Musical Theatre Workshop for Singapore's aspiring artists. The Musical Workshop is not only an opportunity for performers to refine their skills but also

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for anyone with a passion for the arts to learn skills for being on stage and to meet others who share the same passion and interest. Base Entertainment Asia conducts these workshops annually.

Base Entertainment Asia pursues a 360-degree approach in its consideration of entertainment property production and development – creative value, audience appeal, differentiation of product, assessment of market competition, anticipated show performance, commercial viability and investment yield. Base Entertainment Asia regularly consults on entertainment properties and productions across the globe and has capabilities of managing entertainment venues worldwide.

ABOUT DAVID ATKINS ENTERPRISES

David Atkins Enterprises (DAE) is one of the world's leading Event and Production Companies. Based in Sydney and headed by David Atkins OAM, DAE has been producing international ceremonies, musicals, arena events and live productions all over the world for over 25 years. As well as co-producing a number of theatre shows and musicals with Lunchbox Theatrical Productions, DAE created and produced White Night Melbourne and White Night Ballarat in 2017, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 24th Men's Handball in Qatar in 2015, the Gold Coast Flag Handover at the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, Opening Ceremony of the Rugby World Cup in Auckland in 2011, the Outdoor Opening Ceremony of World Expo 2010 in Shanghai China, the Opening, Closing and Victory Ceremonies of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games, and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

ABOUT DAVID IAN PRODUCTIONS

David Ian has produced theatre shows all over the world. He is the recipient of five Olivier awards and two Tony nominations. His credits include: *Grease, Saturday Night Fever, The King and I, West Side Story, Singin' in the Rain, Ain't Misbehavin', Anything Goes, The Producers, Defending the Caveman, Guys and Dolls, Daisy Pulls It Off, The Sound of Music, La Cage aux Folles, Sweet Charity, Flashdance, Gypsy, The Shawshank Redemption, The Phantom of the Opera (Las Vegas), My Fair Lady, Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, Chess, The Rocky Horror Show, Cats, Chicago, Dr Dolittle, Starlight Express, Seminar, Steel Magnolias, Ghost the Musical, Priscilla Queen of the Desert, The Bodyguard, Jersey Boys, Annie, Xanadu* and *Show Boat*.

ABOUT LUNCH BOX THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Founded in Hong Kong in 1992 by James Cundall, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions has established an unrivalled reputation for producing top quality international entertainment across five continents, and is now headquartered in the United Kingdom with companies in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore and The Philippines.

Productions include musicals such as *Cats, The Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables, Wicked, Mamma Mia, West Side Story* and *Chicago*; spectaculars such as *Riverdance* and *Cirque du Soleil's Alegria*; boutique shows such as *Stomp, Tap Dogs, Slava's Snowshow, Potted Potter, Circus Oz* and Barry Humphries' Farewell Tour '*Eat, Pray, Laugh!*'; musical concerts including *Thriller Live, The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber* and *Abba Mania*; international artists Jamie Oliver, Rick Stein and Elaine Paige; plays such as *The Woman in Black, The Mousetrap* and *The 39 Steps*; children's shows *Thomas the Tank Engine* and *Barney's Space Adventures*; events such as Yorkshire's *Winter Wonderland* (an outdoor Christmas ice rink and funfair in York, UK) and *The Last Night of the Proms* for the Hong Kong Handover; and The Imperial Ice Stars' productions of *The Sleeping Beauty on Ice, Swan Lake on Ice, Cinderella on Ice* and *The Nutcracker on Ice*.

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As well as producing this portfolio of shows, James Cundall spent the first five months of 2010 based in Shanghai, as Producer of the Outdoor Opening Ceremony of Expo 2010 Shanghai China, on behalf of David Atkins Enterprises.

In addition to *EVITA* in Singapore, future productions for 2017/18 include: *The Naked Magicians*, *ABBA Mania* and *Cats* in Hong Kong; *The Play That Goes Wrong* in New Zealand; *Wicked* in Zurich; *The Sound of Music* in Manila and Singapore; *The Bodyguard* in Australia; *Mark Vincent LIVE* in Australia and *Cinderella on Ice* in South Africa and at Hyde Park Winter Wonderland, UK.

MARINA BAY SANDS PTE LTD

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 and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

MASTERCARD (NYSE: MA)

www.mastercard.com, is a technology company in the global payments industry. We operate the world's fastest payments processing network, connecting consumers, financial institutions, merchants, governments and businesses in more than 210 countries and territories. MasterCard's products and solutions make everyday commerce activities – such as shopping, traveling, running a business and managing finances – easier, more secure and more efficient for everyone. Follow us on Twitter **@MasterCardAP**, join the discussion on the **Cashless Pioneers Blog** and **subscribe** for the latest news on the **Engagement Bureau**.

THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP

The Really Useful Group is Andrew Lloyd Webber's theatre producing and rights licensing company and controls the theatrical rights for all of Andrew's works, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Evita* and *School of Rock*. The Really Useful Group reached over 20 million people across the globe last year from live theatre and concert audiences, cinema-goers, television viewers and music fans, to social media and art lovers.

2017 sees The Really Useful Group continue to work across film, television and theatre as it produces and develops new projects and partnerships worldwide alongside its ongoing work in education, amateur licensing and music publishing.

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