



For immediate release

Voices of the Amazon to make Asia debut

14 dancers, singers and musicians pay tribute to the beauty of the natural world and highlight the damaging effects of de-forestation

Singapore, April 11, 2017 – Base Entertainment Asia and Sisters Grimm present a passionate dance musical, *Voices of the Amazon*, which explores rainforest development to show the importance of preserving the unique ecosystem of the Amazon rainforest whilst embracing the true spirit of Brazil at the Mastercard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands.

Voices of the Amazon will be making its Asian premiere in Singapore and tickets are now on sale.

Set amidst the Brazilian rainforest, *Voices of the Amazon* follows Beleza, a water spirit, whose quest to cure her dying sister leads her into the heart of the Brazilian rainforest. To her shock and dismay, she discovers the forest is no longer as abundant in plants and natural medicines.

The show features a fusion of ballet, contemporary dance and capoeira and a sensational musical score containing sounds recorded from the Amazon rainforest, with music and songs performed in English and Portuguese. The show aims to highlight the damaging effects of deforestation, the loss of natural medicines and plants and the importance of sustainability.

Voices of the Amazon director Pietra Mello-Pittman and composer Ella Spira said, “We are so excited and it is such a great honour! This is the first time we have taken a show to Asia and it will be the Asian premiere for Voices of the Amazon. Singapore has a particular resonance with the show due to the primary rainforest within the city.”

Singapore is one of the only two cities in the world with a sizeable area of primary rainforests within its built-up area. Though the nature areas may not be large, it offers medicinal properties, home to a variety of flora and fauna, is part of its natural heritage, an escape for its people to relax and serves as a water catchment area and hence, should be protected and restored.

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Chief executive officer of Base Entertainment Asia Chantal Prudhomme said, “Though sustainable development in Singapore took root long before conservation became fashionable, the city-state is becoming an urban landscape where trees, rainforests and natural scenes have been replaced by buildings. With a show like *Voices of the Amazon*, audiences’ attention will be drawn to the importance of respecting the environment and learn the lessons that rainforests hold for the city as it aims to grow sustainably.”

Voices of the Amazon has been choreographed by Helen Pickett, in collaboration with Brazilian songwriters Danny Nascimento, Dito Martins and Julien Davis and percussionists Olodum. The show has lighting designed by Ben Cracknell, stage and costume designed by Temple Clark and sound designed by Adrian Rhodes. World Wildlife Fund, EDEN and Alexander Van Tulleken will provide scientific consultation.

Theater, film and television actor Jeremy Irons, who has also done extensive voice work, will be lending his voice to the *Voices of the Amazon* in a pre-recorded narration. Irons has one of the most varied international film careers, going beyond the expected costume dramas to offer award-winning performances as men of all eras and motives.

EDITOR’S NOTE:

Season Details

Voices of the Amazon

Season: From 28 July 2017

Venue: Mastercard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands

Performance Times:

Friday, 28 July 2017 – 8PM

Saturday, 29 July 2017 – 2PM & 8PM

Duration: TBC

92 mins (including interval)

Ticket Prices:

VIP – SGD135

A Reserve – SGD115

B Reserve – SGD85

C Reserve – SGD65

D Reserve – SGD45

Excludes booking fee of SGD4 per ticket

For bookings via:

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/ticketing

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For exciting ticket package options including accommodation at Marina Bay Sands please visit: www.marinabaysands.com/packages

Voices of the Amazon Synopsis:

The hero of Voices of the Amazon is Beleza, a beautiful water spirit of the Amazon. To save her dying beloved sister, Beleza must overcome many challenges, both her own internal demons and the external challenges she faces, that see her venture into an unknown, dangerous world away from her home.

As the narrator's voice calls up an ancient tale, audiences' skin will prickle with anticipation. As the curtain opens, they fall into lush blues, undulating waves of movement, two sister, Beleza and Flavia, playing in the eddies of the river. They remind of us the bond of family, the joy of sharing deep connection.

Then, Flavia, the wise and brave Flavia, falls ill. She will die unless her now timid sister journeys into the Amazon forest to find lifesaving plants. On this journey Beleza will find her power. She will find passion and courage – she will find herself. And she will save her sister.

The music will excite audiences' and they will fall in love with each new song. Voices of the Amazon has a live band of five musicians who will perform on stage and 10 performers from Brazil and the United Kingdom who will sing and dance.

About Sisters Grimm:

London-based production company, Sisters Grimm, formed in 2009, has an extensive history in all aspects of the magical world of the theatre gives them unique and fresh creative perspectives to ideate and execute theatrical production, film and brand communication across all channels in a seamless and integrated way.

The directors of Sisters Grimm, former Royal Ballet ballerina Pietra Mello-Pittman and the composer Ella Spira, both had careers working for a broad range of high calibre establishments including the Royal Ballet, Royal Opera House, BBC, BAFTA, Bacardi and Ministry of Sound.

Particularly through the 2014 sell out UK tour INALA, they have succeeded in creating a respectful cross cultural and multi-disciplined work, which maintains artistic integrity whilst being inherently commercial, maximising audience potential. INALA had a live reach of tens of thousands, PR reach of tens of millions and resulted in the employment of hundreds of people.

In their theatrical productions, they are particularly interested in finding contemporary ways of bringing cultural traditions into the modern day through their theatrical artistic productions maintaining high standards and absolute excellence at their core.

Sisters Grimm have been nominated for the Women of the Future Awards for Arts and Culture which is sponsored by AVIVA and Grammy-nominated Ella Spira is supported by PRS for Music Foundation for *Voices of the Amazon*.

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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; 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; stage magic- The Illusionist; circus – Le Noir, Cirque Adrenaline, Cirque Eloize; concerts - Michael Bolton, Bjorn Again, Cliff Richard, AR Rahman, Air Supply, Elvis Costello; performing arts – Cavalia; classical concert – The Music of John Williams; ballet – Superstars of Ballet Gala; children – Disney Live and Hi-5.

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 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. For more information please visit www.BASEentertainmentAsia.com

About 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

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About 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**

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