

CAPA

FIFTH THIRD BANK
BROADWAY  **COLUMBUS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2011

COLUMBUS IS GETTING A MAKE-OGRE



TO PLAY JANUARY 10-15 AT THE OHIO THEATRE

DreamWorks Theatricals and NETworks Presentations, LLC. are pleased to announce that *Shrek the Musical* with book and lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire and music by Jeanine Tesori, will play the Ohio Theatre for one week only, January 10-15.

Tickets for *Shrek the Musical* begin at \$28 and are available at the Ohio Theatre Box Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. Orders for groups of 20 or more may be placed by calling (614) 719-6900. Performance schedule, prices, and cast are subject to change without notice. Groups of 10 or more should call 614-719-6900.

The performance schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, January 10, 8pm
Wednesday, January 11, 8pm
Thursday, January 12, 8pm
Friday, January 13, 8pm
Saturday, January 14, 2pm & 8pm
Sunday, January 15, 1pm & 6:30pm

An entirely new musical which opened on Broadway in December 2009, *Shrek the Musical* is based on the story and characters from William Steig's book *Shrek!*, as well as the DreamWorks Animation film *Shrek*, the first chapter of the Shrek movie series.

Shrek the Musical tells the story of a swamp-dwelling ogre who goes on a life-changing adventure to reclaim the deed to his land. Joined by a wise-cracking donkey, this unlikely hero

fighters a fearsome dragon, rescues a feisty princess, and learns that real friendship and true love aren't only found in fairy tales.

The role of everyone's favorite swamp-dwelling ogre, Shrek, will be played by Lukas Poost. Columbus' own Liz Shivener will return home to play the feisty Princess Fiona. André Jordan is Shrek's lovably annoying best friend Donkey, and Merritt David Janes plays the vertically challenged villain Lord Farquaad.

Rounding out the cast of misfit fairy tale characters, the peoples of Duloc, and Far, Far Away are Willie Dee, Annie Fitch, Susan Leilani Gearou, Kelly Teal Goyette, Alexa Kerner, Rachel Khutorsky, Schuyler Midgett, Lyonel Reneau, Adam Steiner, Erin Sullivan, Chase Todd, Sarah Tranchina, Nadia Vynnytsky, Ryan Everett Wood, Chris Woods, Luke Yellin, Ian Frazier, Mara Gabrielle, Ryan Rubek, and Laura Smith.

"We are thrilled to send *Shrek the Musical* to theatres across the country," said Bill Damaschke, President of DreamWorks Theatricals, "and for American families to experience their favorite ogre and fairy tale creatures live on stage."

Shrek the Musical features a book and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize® winner David Lindsay-Abaire (*Rabbit Hole, Good People*), music by Olivier Award-winner Jeanine Tesori (*Thoroughly Modern Millie, Caroline, or Change*). *Shrek the Musical* is directed by Stephen Sposito who recently served as Associated Director of the current Broadway revival *How To Succeed In Business* starring Daniel Radcliff. Sets and costumes are based on the Tony Award®-winning designs by Tim Hatley (*Private Lives, Spamalot*), and Chris Bailey will recreate the original choreography by Josh Prince (*The Bridge Project, The Jerry Springer Opera*).

Shrek the Musical was initiated when Sam Mendes, a big fan of the first Shrek film, suggested the idea of creating a musical to DreamWorks Animation's Jeffrey Katzenberg around the time the second film was in production. The musical is produced by NETworks Presentations, LLC.

NETworks Presentations, LLC (*Producer*) was founded in 1995 by Kenneth Gentry, Seth Wenig, and Scott Jackson. NETworks has produced and managed more than 80 national and international touring productions. Previous productions include *Little Women* starring Maureen McGovern; *Cinderella* starring Eartha Kitt and Deborah Gibson; *Fosse* starring Ben Vereen and Ruthie Henshall; *The Light in the Piazza*; *My Fair Lady* co-produced with Cameron Mackintosh; *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma!*; *Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake*; *Annie*; *Hairspray*; *The Wizard of Oz*; *Handel's Messiah Rocks*; *Spring Awakening*; *A Chorus Line*; and many others. Joining returning productions of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific* based on Lincoln Center Theater Production, *Blue Man Group* national tour and The New 25th Anniversary Tour of *Les Misérables* this season are *Shrek The Musical*, Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins*, and Lincoln Center Theater production of *War Horse* touring the US.

The chart-topping original Broadway cast album for *Shrek the Musical* is available on Decca Broadway.

CALENDAR LISTING

CAPA and Broadway in Columbus present *SHREK THE MUSICAL*

January 10-15

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

Shrek the Musical, based on the Oscar®-winning DreamWorks film that started it all, brings the hilarious story of everyone's favorite ogre to life on stage. In a faraway kingdom turned upside down, things get ugly when an unseemly ogre—not a handsome prince—shows up to rescue a feisty princess. Throw in a donkey who won't shut up, a bad guy with a SHORT temper, a cookie with an attitude, and more than a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there one on hand... and his name is Shrek. Featuring a terrific score of 19 all-new songs, big laughs, great dancing, and breathtaking scenery, *USA Today* proclaims *Shrek the Musical*, "Altogether irresistible. A big fat hit!" Tickets start at \$28 and can be purchased at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase by phone, please call (614) 469-0939 or (800) 745-3000. www.capa.com

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About CAPA

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent, historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, and Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a not-for-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment in operation for more than 40 years. For more information, visit www.capa.com.

About Broadway Across America

BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA (Producer), part of the Key Brand Entertainment family of companies which includes Broadway.com, is owned and operated by British theatre producer John Gore (CEO) and entertainment industry veteran Thomas B. McGrath (Chairman). Broadway Across America presents first-class touring musicals and plays across 40 North American cities. Broadway.com is the premier theater website for news, exclusive content, and ticket sales. Under the supervision of Beth Williams (CEO—Theatrical), Broadway Across America is also dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse theatre. Current Broadway productions include *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* starring Daniel Radcliffe and John Larroquette, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Jerusalem*, *Memphis*, and the West End production of *Million Dollar Quartet*. For more information, please visit BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com and Broadway.com.

Creative Biographies:

DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE (*Book & Lyrics*) was most recently nominated for two Tony Awards for his work on *Shrek the Musical*: Best Book of a Musical and Best Score (with composer Jeanine Tesori). Prior to that he was awarded the 2008 Ed Kleban Award as America's most promising musical theatre lyricist and the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for his play *Rabbit Hole*, which premiered on Broadway at MTC's Biltmore Theatre. *Rabbit Hole* also received five Tony Award nominations, including Best Play, and the Spirit of America Award. His other shows include *Fuddy Meers*, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Wonder of the World*, *High Fidelity* and *A Devil Inside*, among others. In addition to his work in theatre, David's screen adaptation of *Rabbit Hole*, stars Nicole Kidman and is directed by John Cameron Mitchell. David is a proud New Dramatists alum, a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and the Juilliard School, as well as a member of the WGA and the Dramatists Guild Council.

JEANINE TESORI (*Music*) has written four Tony-nominated scores for Broadway: *Twelfth Night* (Lincoln Center); *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (lyrics, Dick Scanlan); *Caroline, or Change* (lyrics, Tony Kushner), and *Shrek The Musical* (lyrics, David Lindsay-Abaire). The production of *Caroline, or Change* at the National Theater in London received the Olivier Award for Best New Musical. Her first musical, *Violet*, written with Brian Crowley, received the New York Drama Critics Circle Award in 1997. She has been the recipient of many other honors including Drama Desk and Obie Awards,

and was cited by ASCAP as the first woman composer to have “two new musicals running concurrently on Broadway.” She composed the music for the New York Shakespeare Festival’s *Mother Courage*, as translated by Tony Kushner, starring Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline. She has written songs for the movie *Shrek The Third*. Her film scores include *Nights in Rodanthe*, *Winds of Change*, *Show Business* and *Wrestling With Angels*. She composed songs for the movie Disney DVD releases *Mulan II*, *Lilo and Stitch II* and *The Little Mermaid III*. She has produced 60 CD’s for Silver-Burdett Ginn’s *Making Music* and the original cast albums for *Twelfth Night*, *Violet* and *Caroline, or Change*. Ms. Tesori, a Barnard graduate, is on the council of the Dramatists Guild. Her next project is a new musical with the playwright Lisa Kron.

STEPHEN SPOSITO (*Director*) is the Associate Director of the current Broadway revival of *How To Succeed In Business* starring Daniel Radcliff. Other credits include: *Promises, Promises* (Broadway); *Shrek The Musical* (Broadway); *Leap of Faith* (Ahmanson Theatre); *Parade* (Mark Taper Forum); *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Carnegie Hall); *Speech and Debate* (Roundabout Theatre Company); *81st Annual Academy Awards* (Production Coordinator). Graduate of The University of Michigan.

DREAMWORKS THEATRICALS was established in 2007 by DreamWorks Animation SKG, Inc (NASDAQ: DWA) to produce stage productions adapted works. Bill Damaschke serves as Chief Creative Officer of DWA. DWA is devoted to producing high-quality family entertainment through the use of computer-generated (CG) animation. DWA’s 2011 film slate features *Kung Fu Panda 2* and *Puss In Boots*. The Company has theatrically released a total of 22 animated feature films, including the franchise properties of *Shrek*, *Madagascar*, *Kung Fu Panda* and *How to Train Your Dragon*. *Shrek* was the winner of the first ever Academy Award for Best Animated Feature. Jeffrey Katzenberg serves as DWA’s CEO and was a co-founder of DreamWorks Studios in 1994. The Broadway production was nominated for eight Tony Awards, including Best Costume Design awarded to Tim Hatley. The production is currently playing in London’s West End.

WILLIAM STEIG (*Author of the book Shrek!*). Named the “King of Cartoons” by *Newsweek*, William Steig remains *The New Yorker*’s longest-running contributor, with more than 1,600 drawings and 117 covers to his name. He began writing and illustrating books for children at the age of 60. His work *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* earned him the Caldecott Medal, the highest honor bestowed on children’s picture books, but it was the 1990 fairy tale *Shrek!* That ultimately brought him his largest audience by inspiring one of the most successful film franchises in motion picture history. William Steig wrote and illustrated children’s books up until the last year of his life and died in 2003 at the age of 96.