CYGNET THEATRE REPRIZES CLASSIC HOLIDAY MUSICAL

'A Christmas Carol' Celebrates a Victorian Christmas with Original Music and Puppetry

SAN DIEGO, CA - Cygnet Theatre will continue its nine-year tradition of presenting a holiday show suitable for all ages. This season welcomes the return of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Adapted by Sean Murray with original score by Billy Thompson, this production is a re-imagined take on the original holiday classic featuring lively music, unique puppets and live sound effects. The fully staged production runs November 27 - December 27 at Cygnet Theatre in Old Town. Opening Night for Media is Saturday, December 5th at 8:00pm.

"This is a clever and sweet retelling of the classic tale complete with new music and songs performed live," explained Murray. "Our production kindles the imagination and vision of the audience, enriching the magic of the story."

He continues, "Every time I hear or read A Christmas Carol, I discover something new, or something else moves me. It's an endlessly creative tale. The magic of the show is that it launches holiday festivities and puts kids and adults alike in the mood for the season."

Murray and the creative team have embraced storytelling through the use of original puppetry, found objects, and innovative stagecraft. Cygnet Theatre will be transformed into a Victorian Christmas card thanks to the creativity of set designer Andrew Hull. Hull has previously designed sets for Gem of the Ocean, The Glass Menagerie, Private Lives, Bed and Sofa, The History Boys and Spring Awakening. Kyle Montgomery will serve as Lighting Designer. Costumes are by Jeanne Reith, and Peter Herman will provide wigs and makeup. Choreography is by Katie Whalley Banville. Original puppets designed by Michael McKeon. Patrick Marion will provide musical direction.

Tom Stephenson returns as Scrooge and is rejoined by the talented cast of Cygnet Theatre veterans including Maggie Carney (The Importance of Being Earnest, Travesties, Sons of the Prophet), Charles Evans, Jr. (Hay Fever, The Vortex, Dogfight), Melissa Fernandes (The Whale, Little Shop of Horrors, Assassins), Melinda Gilb (Dirty Blonde, Assassins), David McBean (Pageant, Fully Committed), and Patrick McBride (Travesties).

In addition to the regularly scheduled "Cygneture Events", Cygnet is holding its second annual pre-show Family Day on Sunday, Dec. 6th from 1-2 pm. Families will be able to enjoy cookie decorating, a coloring station, complimentary hot chocolate and more. A new event this year will be Military Appreciation Night on Saturday Nov. 28 from 7:00-8:00pm. As a thank you to military families, Cygnet will provide fun family-friendly pre-show activities.

Audiences will be invited to engage in the holiday spirit with photo ops at the lobby Christmas tree and pre-show sing-alongs from their seats. Performances are November 27 - December 27 at the Old Town Theatre. Show times are Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays at 3:00pm and 8:00pm, and Sundays at 2:00pm and 7:00pm.
For more information regarding tickets, please contact the box office at 619-337-1525 or visit www.cygnetheatre.com. Tickets may be purchased in person at the box office located at 4040 Twiggs Street. Discounts are available for previews, students, active-duty military, seniors and groups of 10 or more. Children 12 and under receive half-off tickets with each paid adult.

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL FACT SHEET

WHAT: Cygnet Theatre presents Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

WHERE: Cygnet Theatre
4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park

WHO: Based on a story by Charles Dickens
Adapted and Directed by Sean Murray
Composer: Billy Thompson°
Music Director: Patrick Marion°
Scenic Designer: Andrew Hull°
Costume Designer: Jeanne Reith°
Lighting Designer: Kyle Montgomery
   based on the original lighting design by R. Craig Wolf
Choreographer: Katie Whalley Banville°
Sound Designer: Matt Lescault-Wood°
Puppet Designer: Michael McKeon
Wigs and Makeup: Peter Herman°

CAST: Maggie Carney*
   Charles Evans, Jr.°
   Melissa Fernandes°
   Melinda Gilb**
   David McBean**
   Patrick McBride
   Tom Stephenson°
   *Member of Actors Equity Association, °Resident Artist

DATES: Previews begin: Friday, November 27
Press Opening: Saturday, December 5, 8:00pm
Closes: Sunday, December 27

Performance Schedule
   Tuesday at 7:30 pm (Dec. 22nd only)
   Wednesday & Thursday at 7:30pm (Thursday, Dec. 24 at 2:00 pm)
   Friday at 8:00pm (No performance on Dec. 25)
   Saturday at 3:00pm and 8:00pm
   Sunday at 2:00pm and 7:00pm

CYGNETURE EVENTS:
   Military Appreciation: November 28
   Social Media Night: December 4
   Opening Night: December 5
   Family Day at Cygnet: December 6
   Wine Tasting Night: December 10
   Theater on Tap & Friday Forum w/cast: December 11
Benefit for Special Needs Resource Foundation: December 12
Out Night, LGBT: December 16

PRICES: Prices start at $37
(Discounts are available for preview performances, children, seniors, students, active-duty military & groups)

HOW: By Phone: (619) 337-1525
Online: www.cygnettheatre.com
In Person: Old Town Theatre - 4040 Twiggs

ABOUT CYGNET THEATRE
Cygnet Theatre Company produces a year-round season of professional Off-Broadway-style theatre as well as thought-provoking and engaging educational programming. Cygnet is committed to maintaining high standards of artistic and fiscal integrity, and serves more than 40,000 patrons annually from San Diego and beyond. Cygnet performs its mainstage productions at the state-of-the-art theatre in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. An active member of the San Diego community, Cygnet has outreach programs serving tens of thousands of students and community members annually. For more information, visit www.cygnettheatre.com.

CYGNET THEATRE MISSION STATEMENT
Believing in the power of theatre to startle the soul, ignite debate and embrace the diversity of the community it serves, Cygnet Theatre Company is fearlessly committed to the dissection, examination and celebration of the human story through the medium of live theatre.

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