



CYGNET THEATRE COMPANY

7202 El Cajon Blvd., Ste B • San Diego, CA 92115

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CYGNET RETURNS TO THE BEGINNING FOR THEIR FINAL SHOW AT THE ROLANDO THEATRE, *HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH*

SAN DIEGO, CA – In August of 2003, Cygnet Theatre threw open its doors with a production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Now, as Cygnet prepares to leave its original home and focus on the recently renovated Old Town Theatre, the company will once again present the glam-rock musical, written by John Cameron Mitchell with Music and Lyrics by Stephen Trask. The new production will be directed by James Vasquez and star Matthew Tyler as Hedwig. *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* runs **June 3 through August 9, 2009** on Cygnet Theatre's Rolando Stage. **Press Opening is June 6 at 8pm.**

Artistic Director Sean Murray recently reminisced about Cygnet's opening and the original production of Hedwig. "When we first put hammer to drywall and carved out the Rolando Theatre from the Actor's Asylum in 2003, Hedwig was our leading lady. No one had heard of us, how could they have? We had not done anything yet! We were tucked in a corner of the Aztec Village Mall in Rolando, near SDSU. Who would find us? But the power of Hedwig brought people to us and set us off on our journey."

Hedwig and the Angry Inch tells the story of Hedwig Schmidt, the wanna-be rock headliner and her search for identity, love and her "other half." The show was originally presented at the Westbeth Theatre Centre on 27 February 1997. It opened off-Broadway at the Jane Street Theatre in February 1998 and quickly became a cult hit, winning a Village Voice OBIE Award, an Outer Circle Award and nominated for four Drama Desk Awards. In 2001, New Line Cinemas released the feature film version of *Hedwig*, which won two awards at the Sundance Film Festival.

James Vasquez will helm the current production. His previous Cygnet credits include associate director and choreographer for *A Little Night Music*, choreographer for *The History Boys* and *Arcadia*, and the role of Miss West Coast in *Pageant*, which he also staged with Sean Murray. Other credits include co-director of *Back to Bacharach & David* at North Coast Rep, assistant choreographer for *Paramour* at the Old Globe. He has appeared as Grandpa Who in the Old Globe's production of *Dr. Suess's How the Grinch Stole Christmas* for the last several years.

Matthew Tyler will make his Cygnet debut in the title role of Hedwig. He recently appeared as Chauvelin in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the Welk Resort. Other credits include *The Phantom of the Opera* in London, and a European tour of *The Rocky Horror Show*.

Katie Alexander will also make her Cygnet debut as she takes on the role of Hedwig's band mate and spouse, Yitzhak. Ms. Alexander is currently working on her MFA at San Diego State University where she has performed in *Musical of Musicals* and *A Class Act*.

Billy Thompson, another SDSU MFA Candidate, will serve as musical director. Mr. Thompson wrote the music and served as co-director and musical director for *Invasion! the musical* (Book and Lyrics by Aaron Matijasic) for which he received two LA Weekly Awards, Best Original Music and Best Musical Director.

Hedwig's Band will be made up of guitarist **Erik Enstad**, drummer **Andrew Hoffman**, pianist **Kris Korsgaden** and bassist **Zach Pyke**. Andrew Hoffman and Zach Pyke both recently played for Stone Soup Theatre's production of *tick, tick... Boom!*

The production team includes scenic designer **Sean Murray**, lighting designer **Eric Lotze**, sound designer **George Ye**, costume, wig and hair designer **Peter Herman**, properties designer **Bonnie L. Durben** and stage manager **Marjorie Ann Wood**.

Performances of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* are Wednesdays at 7:30pm, Thursdays and Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 6pm and 10pm, and Sundays at 7pm. There will only be an 8pm performance on Saturday June 6. Cygnet's Rolando Stage is located at 6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste N, San Diego, CA 92115. Tickets are \$24 - \$36. Discounts are available for seniors, students and military.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting Cygnet's website at www.cygnettheatre.com or calling the box office at **619-337-1525**. Tickets can also be purchased in person by visiting Cygnet's main box office located at the Old Town Theatre, 4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

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Cygnet Theatre Company is a 501(k) non-profit organization founded in 2002 by Artistic Director Sean Murray and Executive Director Bill Schmidt. In 2003, Cygnet renovated a storefront at 6663 El Cajon Blvd in the Rolando area into a 157-seat theatre. Cygnet has received over 40 awards and grown to one of the most highly regarded theatre companies in the San Diego area. In December 2007, Cygnet was awarded a 10-year lease by State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Concessions and Reservations Division of the Old Town Theatre. Located in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, the 248-seat venue was renovated during the summer and fall of 2008 and re-opened in November.

CYGNET THEATRE FACT SHEET

HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH

WHAT: Cygnet Theatre Company presents *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*.

WHERE: Cygnet Theatre – Rolando Stage
6663 El Cajon Blvd, Ste N, San Diego, CA 92115

WHO: Text by John Cameron Mitchell
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Trask

Director: James Vasquez
Properties Designer: Bonnie Durben^o
Costume, Wig and Hair Designer: Peter Herman^o
Lighting Designer: Eric Lotze^o
Scenic Designer: Sean Murray
Stage Manager: Marjorie Ann Wood
Sound Designer: George Yé^o

CAST: Matthew Tyler* (*Hedwig*)
Katie Alexander (*Yitzhak*)
Erik Enstad (*Guitar*)
Andrew Hoffman (*Drums*)
Kris Korsgaden (*Keyboards*)
Zach Pyke (*Bass*)

DATES: Previews begin: Wednesday, June 3, 2009
Press Opening: Saturday, June 6, 2009
Closes: Sunday, Aug 9, 2009

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30pm.
Friday at 8:00pm.
Saturday at 6:00pm and 10:00pm.
Sunday at 7:00pm.

PRICES: Range from \$24-\$40
Previews: \$24
Wednesday Evening and Sunday Evening: \$32
Thursday, Friday Evening and Saturday Twilight: \$34
Saturday Night: \$36
Opening Night: \$40
*Discounts are available for seniors, students, active-duty military and groups.
There are no Wednesday performances during previews.*

HOW: Phone: (619) 337-1525
Online: www.cygnettheatre.com
In Person: Old Town Theatre - 4040 Twiggs St., San Diego, CA 92110

* Member of Actors Equity Association, ^oResident Artist

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