



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

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A STAR IS HATCHED!

THE OLD GLOBE PRESENTS NEW HIT MUSICAL *LUCKY DUCK* **FROM THE COMPOSER OF *DREAMGIRLS* AND *SIDESHOW*;**

2002 TONY AWARD®-WINNER JOHN RANDO TO DIRECT

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present the hip new musical *Lucky Duck*, with music by **Henry Krieger** (*Dreamgirls*), lyrics by **Bill Russell** (*Side Show*, *Pageant*), and book by **Bill Russell** and **Jeffrey Hatcher** (author of the Theatre's acclaimed productions of *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*, *Smash* and *Scotland Road*). This exciting production will be directed by 2002 Tony Award-winner and the Globe's 2004 Shiley Artist-in-Residence **John Rando** (*The Taming of the Shrew*, *All in the Timing*) and will run in the Old Globe Theatre **July 10 – August 15, 2004**.

From the creative team behind the Broadway hits *Dreamgirls* and *Side Show* comes the delightful musical *Lucky Duck*, an uproarious new adaptation of "The Ugly Duckling." This rollicking production follows homely songbird Serena from her "fowl" days of barnyard mockery to her triumphant success as a supermodel swan. Viewed as an odd duck by her family, Serena flees the farm to seek her special destiny in the big city. With the help of some unexpected animal allies, she soon comes out of her shell, and decked out in high fashion feathers, she enters a national singing contest with her heart set on the championship and a date with the prince! As her journey progresses, she discovers that beauty is only feather deep, and she must find her own voice to succeed.

Although based on a children's story, *Lucky Duck* is aimed at adult audiences and features a hot pop score by Henry Krieger and Bill Russell, filled with R&B, gospel and plenty of Broadway-style showstoppers. Russell and Hatcher have put together a story overflowing with humor, heart and deliciously punny wordplay. Directed by John Rando, the 2002 Tony Award-winner for his direction of the hit Broadway show *Urinetown*, this wonderfully zany, adult musical comedy is a celebration of rock, blues, jazz and swing that will have audiences dancing in the aisles.

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The cast for *Lucky Duck* includes: **Stephen DeRosa** as King/Cop/Thomas Turkey/Armand Delo/Georgio Grouse; **Marcy Harriell** as Serena; **J. Elaine Marcos** as Mildred Mallard/Daphne Duck/Pig #3/Stylist/Verblinka/Darlene; **David McDonald** as Wolf/Charlie Crowe; **Mary Beth Peil** as Mrs. Mallard/Galinda/Queen/Leda; **J. Robert Spencer** as Drake/Rooster Bob; **Andre Ward** as Carl Coyote/Free Range Chicken/Pig #2/Reporter; **Todd Weeks** as Clem Coyote/Free Range Chicken/Mr. Baa/Pig #1/Reporter #2; and **J.B. Wing** as Millicent Mallard/Sally Storkola/Wren/Makeup Artist/Ruta/Chicken Little/Lisa.

The production team for *Lucky Duck* includes: **John Rando**, director; **Henry Krieger**, composer; **Bill Russell**, lyricist and co-author; **Jeffrey Hatcher**, co-author; **Rob Odoriso**, scenic designer; **Gregg Barnes**, costume designer; **Michael Gilliam**, lighting designer; **Paul Peterson**, sound designer; **Casey Nicholaw**, choreographer; **Sam Davis**, music director; **Harold Wheeler**, orchestrations; **Julie Baldauff**, stage manager.

Henry Krieger and **Bill Russell** have provided *Lucky Duck's* hot pop score, incorporating touches of R&B, gospel and old fashioned Broadway-style showstoppers. Krieger made his Broadway debut with *Dreamgirls*, which ran for four years and won six Tony Awards. Other Broadway credits include *The Tap Dance Kid* and *Side Show*, which received four Tony nominations. Russell wrote the book and lyrics of *Side Show*, which earned him two Tony Award® nominations. He also co-authored the book and lyrics for *Pageant*, which ran for over a year off-Broadway and received productions throughout Japan, Australia and the US, including a sold-out run at San Diego's North Coast Repertory Theatre last year. Other credits include *Elegies for Angels*, *Punks and Raging Queens*, *Fortune* (book and lyrics) and *The Texas Chainsaw Musical* (co-author, book and lyrics).

Jeffrey Hatcher's work has been produced often at the Globe, including Season 2002's acclaimed production of *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*, as well as *Smash* and *Scotland Road*. He also served as the institution's Shiley Artist-in-Residence in 2002. Additional plays include *Work Song*, *Three Viewings*, *Sockdology*, *Miss Nelson is Missing*, *The Turn of the Screw*, *Bon Voyage* and others, which have been produced extensively in New York and at regional theatres throughout the country. A 1989 recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, Hatcher has been chosen several times to participate in the O'Neill Center's National Playwrights Conference; has received grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Rosenthal New Play Competition, the W. Alton Jones Foundation, and the McKnight Foundation; and was elected to New Dramatists in 1992. In addition to plays, he has written a book, *The Art & Craft of Playwriting*, as well as scripts for the Peter Falk television series *Columbo*.

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John Rando's Broadway credits include the hit musical *Urinetown*, for which he won the 2002 Tony Award for Best Direction of a Musical, Neil Simon's *The Dinner Party* (also at the Mark Taper Forum and the Kennedy Center), *A Thousand Clowns*, and *Dance of the Vampires*. Rando achieved prominence in New York directing several of David Ives' comedies, including *Polish Joke* at Manhattan Theatre Club, *Mere Mortals* and *Ancient History/English Made Simple* at Primary Stages, as well as *Lives of the Saints* at the Philadelphia Theatre Company and the Berkshire Theatre Festival. Additional New York credits include *The Pajama Game*, *Do Re Mi* and *Strike Up the Band* for City Center Encores!, *When Ladies Battle*, *The Venetian Twins* and *Twelfth Night* at the Pearl Theatre Company, *Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight* at the Promenade Theatre, and *Fortune's Fools* at the Cherry Lane Theatre. For The Old Globe he has directed the Festival 2002 hit *The Taming of the Shrew*, as well as *All in the Timing*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* and *Sylvia*.

Tickets for *Lucky Duck* and subscriptions for The Old Globe's 2004 Summer Festival, including ***The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*** in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage (June 12 – July 18) and the Summer Shakespeare Festival, including ***Antony and Cleopatra***, ***As You Like It*** and ***The Two Noble Kinsmen*** playing in repertory in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre (June 25 – Oct 3), are available by calling the Globe's Ticket Services Department at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, by visiting the box office in Balboa Park, or on our website at www.TheOldGlobe.org.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for over 68 years. The Globe produces a year-round season of 12-14 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride's Crossing and Damn Yankees, have been developed at the Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O'Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, The Old Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.