



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

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OLD GLOBE CELEBRATES 10TH YEAR OF SAN DIEGO'S

FAVORITE HOLIDAY TRADITION:

DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!

***2007 PRODUCTION TO FEATURE NEW SONGS AND UPDATES
TO BELOVED ANNUAL PRODUCTION***

TICKETS ON SALE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 AT 10:00AM

***SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDE 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING ON
NOVEMBER 25; GRINCH FAMILY EXPERIENCE ON DECEMBER 2***

San Diego – Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch of the Tony Award®-winning Old Globe are pleased to present the 10th anniversary production of San Diego's premiere holiday event, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, book and lyrics by Timothy Mason, music by Mel Marvin, and directed by Jack O'Brien, playing **November 25 – December 30, 2007** (press/opening night: **Friday, November 30 at 7:30pm**). *The San Diego Union-Tribune* will once again serve as a **Presenting Sponsor** of the production.

The 10th anniversary production will feature a number of major revisions, including three new songs, among them a duet between Young Max and Old Max entitled "**This Time of Year**," full company number entitled "**It's the Thought that Counts**," as well as the delightful carol, "**Fah Who Doraze**," from the popular animated version of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, Other changes to the show include expanded dance sections in the children's song "Whatchamawho," a redesigned costume for the Grinch, and many significant changes to the book of this beloved musical.

"The tenth year celebration gave us the opportunity for the Globe to make these exciting improvements and give the show new life as it celebrates a decade in San Diego," said Spisto. "Over the summer Jack O'Brien and the entire original creative team came together for an intensive two-week workshop at the Globe, where they developed the new material. Jack spent several months preparing for the workshop with the show's authors, and the time spent this summer was incredibly productive."

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Launched in 1998, the Globe has performed this family favorite year after year, having played to over 350,000 children and adults. “Now in its 10th wonderful year at the Globe, Dr. Seuss’ *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* has established a permanent place in the hearts of San Diegans,” said Globe Executive Director Louis G. Spisto. “We thank Audrey Geisel (a.k.a. “Mrs. Dr. Seuss”) for her generous support of this production which has become a timeless holiday classic in the San Diego community. Those who’ve loved the Grinch in previous years will love it even more this year; and for those who haven’t experienced this classic tale live on stage, now is the time!”

Individual tickets go on sale **Sunday, September 23 at 10:00am** and will be available by phone at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, on the Globe website at **www.TheOldGlobe.org**, or by visiting the box office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Ticket prices range from \$39 to \$59 for adults and from \$19 to \$31 for children (3-17 years).

How the Grinch Stole Christmas! will return to Broadway this fall, following last year’s sold-out success, running at the St. James Theater November 1, 2007 – January 8, 2008. This annual Globe holiday favorite production transferred to New York in 2006 to major critical and popular acclaim. The original creative team joined forces again for the Broadway production, including O’Brien, who served as Production Creator and Supervisor, scenic designer John Lee Beatty, costume designer Robert Morgan, lighting designer Pat Collins, and choreographer John DeLuca.

The Globe is also pleased to announce its second annual **Christmas Tree Lighting** ceremony on **Sunday, November 25 at 6:00pm** on the Globe Plaza. Continuing the tradition that began last year, the ceremony will kick off the holiday season in conjunction with the presentation of *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*. Designed by Grinch scenic designer **John Lee Beatty**, this unique tree will be built in the center of the Globe Plaza and remain for the run of the show. This fun family event will feature a special live performance by members of the *Grinch* cast, and a delightful holiday snowfall on the Globe Plaza. Additionally, **STAR 94.1** radio personalities Laura Cain and Little Tommy will serve as emcees. Tickets to this free event are available through Star 94.1 Radio. Tree Lighting tickets are also available to patrons who purchase tickets to the 4:30pm performance of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* on November 25.

Another special event tied to *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* will be the fifth annual **Grinch Family Experience**, a delightful family gala created to help raise money for the Globe’s education and outreach programs, while offering an exciting day of hands-on theatre activities for children and families. The celebration takes place on **Sunday, December 2**, beginning at 11:00am in the Globe’s rehearsal halls in Balboa Park. The event includes a special buffet lunch, followed by a puppet show and a delightful performance by the children in the *Grinch* cast, as well as “Grinchy” crafting activities where children can make fun holiday items. At 2:00pm patrons attend a performance of *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* in the Old Globe Theatre. VIP ticket holders receive complimentary valet parking, priority seating, a photo with the cast and much more. VIP tickets are \$175 for children and \$300 for adults. Tickets are \$100 for children and \$150 for adults. For more information, please contact The Old Globe at (619) 231-1941, x2317.

Additionally, the Globe will host its annual **Seussabration** event, which brings 600 first-graders from Title One San Diego County schools to the Globe to attend *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* as part of **The Grinch Children's Initiatives**. This year's Seussabration will take place on **Wednesday, November 28, from 10:30am to 1:00pm** and includes lunch and a special performance of the Globe's annual holiday production. Through The Grinch Children's Initiatives, more than 600 children are invited to participate in an ongoing project to read six books before the day of the celebration on November 28. The program also provides a free book to every child who successfully completes his or her reading list.

As part of The Grinch Children's Initiatives, the Globe's Education Department also offers a free workshop, providing information, insights and additional resources to teachers involved in the matinee series and Seussabration, to help maximize the learning experience for their classes. The Old Globe also provides more than 4,000 free tickets to *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* for underserved San Diego children, in order to share the magic of this wonderful holiday story with those who may not otherwise be able to attend. The tickets are distributed to more than 40 Title One San Diego County Schools during a series of 10:30am matinees (the Grinch Children's Matinee Series) throughout the run of the show. In addition, all children's (ages 3-17) tickets to *Grinch* performances are offered at a substantial discount off the regular adult price.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award® -winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 71 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe's 2007/2008 Season include the world premiere musical, A Catered Affair, written by Harvey Fierstein and John Bucchino, the West Coast Premiere of Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's Oscar and the Pink Lady, the 10th Anniversary production of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, In This Corner, by Steven Drukman, Howard Korder's Sea of Tranquility, as well as the world premieres of The Band Wagon and Beethoven, As I Knew Him. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.