

ORPHANS WANTED!

AUDITIONS ANNOUNCED FOR ORPHAN ROLES IN MUSICAL “ANNIE”

Singapore, Monday 14 May 2012-Singapore’s aspiring young actresses will have the opportunity to audition for the roles of the orphans in the forthcoming UK production of the musical **ANNIE**, which opens at the Sands Theater, Marina Bay Sands, on 10 July 2012.

The producers, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions in partnership with BASE Entertainment Asia, today announced details of the auditions taking place on 2nd and 3rd June, and called for girls aged six to 14 who can sing, dance and act to register their interest by downloading the form from www.baseentertainmentasia.com/annie and emailing to Anniethemusical@srt.com.sg by May 27th 2012.

The show’s director and choreographer Roger Hannah, will be flying from the UK to Singapore for the auditions, and will be looking for three sets of nine orphans –the small and cute Molly, the ‘Tom-boy’ characters Pepper and July, as well as Kate, Duffy, Violet, Eleanor, Rosie and Becky. Each character must measure no more than 5’2” or 157cm in height.

Milan Rokic, Managing Director of BASE Entertainment Asia said, “We are really excited to be involved with Lunchbox Theatrical Productions and Singapore Repertory Theater in finding the right talent for this big International production coming to Singapore. This is a tremendous opportunity for children in Singapore to be offered the chance to perform in a large Broadway show. We look forward to finding local talent and growing their careers in what will be a spectacular introduction, via **ANNIE**, to The Arts and Broadway productions.”

The role of Annie will be played in rotation by three UK-based children who will tour with the production.

ANNIE has become one of the best-loved family musicals of all time. The show boasts one of Broadway’s most memorable scores, with the orphans performing some of the best tunes including *It’s The Hard Knock Life*, *You’re Never Fully Dressed Without A Smile* and *A New Deal for Christmas*. Plus there’s fantastically visual choreography, a side-splittingly funny script and, of course, the adorable dog Sandy.

“A musical that tugs at your heartstrings”

The Times, UK

Successful candidates will be joining Britain’s hilarious star of stage and screen Su Pollard, who plays Miss Hannigan, the dastardly gin-soaked Principal of the New York Orphanage, as well as David McAlister, a veteran of the West End stage and TV dramas, who will play the role of the kindly billionaire businessman Oliver ‘Daddy’ Warbucks.

Producer James Cundall, Chief Executive of Lunchbox Theatrical Productions said, “For young actresses to have the chance to star on stage with actors of this calibre in an international production will be a dream come true and the chance of a lifetime. Early in her acting career the

Hollywood star Catherine Zeta Jones appeared as an orphan in the London production of **ANNIE** so you never know where an opportunity such as this could take you!"

Su Pollard is best known for her brilliantly funny portrayal of Peggy in the hit BBC TV series *Hi-de-Hi!* The BAFTA Award-winning comedy was a prime time favourite on UK television for eight years in the 1980s, turning its cast into household names, and is still frequently repeated on TV channels around the world as a 'classic' sit-com. As well as countless other TV roles, Su has appeared in numerous musicals and plays in London's West End (*Godspell, Me and My Girl, Shout!*) and around the UK (*Grease, Little Shop of Horrors*), and has performed her own cabaret show *The Su Pollard Show* on a UK tour, in New York City and on board the QEII cruise liner. Most recently Su has been performing the role of Miss Hannigan to great acclaim in the UK, and in 2010 was nominated for Best Leading Lady in a musical for her portrayal.

David McAlister has enjoyed success in nearly every area of the entertainment industry from opera at Covent Garden (Franco Zeffirelli's *Pagliacci*) to his own cabaret show at London's Ritz Hotel; from TV comedy (*Harry Enfield & Chums*) to TV classics (*Brideshead Revisited*); from radio drama (*The Archers, The Lord of the Rings*) to TV drama (*The Bill, Miss Marple, Doctor Who*); from film (*Who Dares Wins*) to the hugely popular British TV soaps including *Eastenders, Emmerdale* and *Hollyoaks*, for which he was nominated Best Villain.

His West End performances include the lead role in *The Mousetrap, A Month in the Country* with Ingrid Bergman, *The Sound of Music* and the lead role of Noel Coward opposite Joanna Lumley in *Noel & Gertie* at London's famous King's Head Theatre. He has a vast array of regional UK theatre credits, and since his first acclaimed performance in the role of Daddy Warbucks in 2007, David has now completed five nationwide tours of **ANNIE**.

Inspired by the famous comic strip Little Orphan Annie which first ran in the New York News in 1924, **ANNIE** made its Broadway debut in April 1977 and played 2,377 performances before closing in 1983. The show won seven Tony Awards, including for Best Musical, Best Book (Thomas Meehan), Best Original Score (music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin), and Best Choreography.

"An irresistible show"

The Daily Telegraph, UK

From its Broadway beginnings to the classic film musical (released in 1982), this heart-warming rags-to-riches story of plucky young Annie's journey from the hard-knock New York orphanage to the luxurious home of billionaire businessman Oliver Warbucks, is a tale that has been told all over the world for decades.

Fifty million people of all ages have been delighted by two Broadway runs of **ANNIE**, two Australian tours, two West End stints, five National U.S. companies, two hit movies and dozens of international productions, playing seasons all over the world. This UK production of **ANNIE** has been seen by over 3 million people during the last 10 years of touring to every major city in Great Britain.

Now, 35 years after its Broadway debut, the timeless tale of Little Orphan Annie is back, giving a whole new generation the chance to experience a classic musical about never giving up hope. **ANNIE** is a delightful theatrical experience for any age.

ANNIE opens on 10 July 2012 for a limited run, and is presented in Singapore by Lunchbox Theatrical Productions Limited, in partnership with BASE Entertainment Asia.

“One of the most enchanting musicals I have ever seen”

Sunday Times, UK

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TICKETING INFORMATION

Sands Theater, Marina Bay Sands

10 July – 5 August

Day/Times	Premium	A Reserve	B Reserve	C Reserve	D Reserve
Tue - Fri: 7:30pm Sat: 1.30pm & 7.30pm Sun: 1:00pm & 5:00pm	\$175	\$145	\$125	\$95	\$65

FOR TICKET BOOKINGS:

THROUGH INTERNET: www.MarinaBaySands.com/Ticketing

- **BY PHONE:** 6688 8826
- **BOOK IN PERSON AT:** Marina Bay Sands Box Offices (Museum, Theaters, SkyPark, Retail Mall and Hotel Tower 1 Lobby). For more information please log onto our official website www.marinabaysands.com

ANNIE IS PRESENTED BY:

BASE ENTERTAINMENT

BASE Entertainment specializes in the development, production, programming and management of live entertainment properties and theatre operations. BASE develops, produces and manages intellectual properties which reach audiences through various platforms, including live, digital, broadcast and licensing. BASE Entertainment founders include Brian Becker and Scott Zeiger, who have 45 years combined experience in the live entertainment industry. The company has offices in Singapore, New York, Las Vegas, and Houston. Since their Asia office opened in Singapore in 2010 Base Entertainment has brought a wide array of live entertainment to Singapore's Marina Bay Sands' two theaters, including *Disney's The Lion King*, *Riverdance*, *A R Rahman*, *Thriller Live*, *Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, *Cirque EloizeID*, *Bar at Buena Vista*, The Imperial Ice Stars productions of *Swan Lake on Ice* and most recently BASE was the presenter of *WICKED*.

Media Contact

Amanda Osborne (+65) 90467009/ amanda@baseentertainmentasia.com

LUNCHBOX THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Headed by James Cundall, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions is one of Australasia's leading producers of live entertainment, and over the last two decades has created a reputation for bringing top quality international productions to audiences across five continents. Since 1998, Lunchbox Theatrical Productions has brought a wide array of live entertainment to Singapore, including *Riverdance*, *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *We Will Rock You*, *Chicago*, *Miss Saigon*, *Saturday Night Fever*, *Chitty*

Chitty Bang Bang, Stomp, ABBA Mania, Thriller Live, The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Elaine Paige, Bryn Terfel, David Helfgott, as well as The Imperial Ice Stars productions of The Sleeping Beauty on Ice, Swan Lake on Ice and Cinderella on Ice, to name just a few.

www.lunchbox-productions.com

Media contact

Maria Farrugia (+44) 1653 619650 / maria.farrugia@lunchbox-productions.com

Official Venue:

MARINA BAY SANDS

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit

www.marinabaysands.com

Media contacts

SarinaPushkarna(+65) 9298 5728/ Sarina.Pushkarna@marinabaysands.com

Gayathri Ramasamy (+65) 8468 6992/ Gayathri.Ramasamy@marinabaysands.com