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**GUTHRIE THEATER PRESENTS THIS SUMMER'S MUST-SEE MUSICAL
GUYS AND DOLLS
A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY**

**Previews begin Saturday, June 22; Opening on Friday, June 28;
Playing through Sunday, August 25 on the Wurtele Thrust Stage**

(Minneapolis/St. Paul) — The Guthrie Theater (Joseph Haj, artistic director) today announced casting for ***Guys and Dolls***, directed by **Kent Gash** in his Guthrie debut. In the city that never sleeps, a colorful, comic world of personalities was imagined by writer Damon Runyon and packaged into the iconic American musical by Frank

Loesser (music and lyrics), Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows (book). Known for its musical score and vibrant cast of New York City characters, *Guys and Dolls* is considered a perfect musical comedy.

Guys and Dolls will run June 22 – August 25, 2019, on the Wurtele Thrust Stage. Single tickets start at \$15 for preview performances (June 22–27), and regular ticket prices range from \$34 to \$93. Tickets are on sale now through the Box Office at 612.377.2224, 1.877.44.STAGE (toll-free) or online at guthrietheater.org. Post-play discussions and access services (ASL-interpreted, audio-described and open-captioned performances) are available on select dates and by request.

New York City's infamous gambler Nathan Detroit has set his sights on the biggest craps game of his career while Adelaide, his fiancée of 14 years, longs for a wedding. Master gambler Sky Masterson woos missionary Sarah Brown despite the obvious problems inherent in their relationship. Gambling in luck and love from Times Square to Havana, this classic musical boasts colorful characters and a brassy score, featuring "Luck Be a Lady," "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat" and "Adelaide's Lament." It's a surefire win.

Damon Runyon was an iconic sports writer and columnist known for his numerous short stories that highlighted the Prohibition era on Broadway. Based on several of these stories, including "The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown," *Guys and Dolls* hooks audiences with a daring, unrelenting narrative that is rough and subtle at the same time. Originally described in the program as a "fable," this production opened on Broadway in November 1950 and became one of the biggest successes in theater history, running 1,200 performances and winning five Tony Awards in 1951, including Best Musical and Best Book.

Guys and Dolls has been frequently revived around the world, including several times on Broadway. The Guthrie previously produced the musical during its 1983–1984 Season. "When we started talking about this title, [director] Kent Gash immediately came to mind, and I'm thrilled for all of us and our audiences to experience his exciting storytelling as executed by a truly stunning company of artists," Artistic Director Joseph Haj recently told the staff, cast and creative team.

"It's fast, funny and there's color, rhythm, drive and energy, but what has made *Guys and Dolls* last is the truth of its heart," said Gash. "It's a celebration of people realizing their capacity to love. There's a soul in *Guys and Dolls* that often doesn't get revealed. In what starts as the payoff of a bet, something actually happens. There's a spiritual shift that I hope we're able to achieve." Gash continued, "Hopefully the act of seeing the show leaves us all a little different than when we came in and reminds us of our capacity for love, joy, generosity, kindness and good humor."

The cast of *Guys and Dolls* includes **Mathias Anderson** (Guthrie: *South Pacific*; *The Music Man*; *Little House on the Prairie*) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Robert O. Berdahl** (Guthrie: *Cyrano de Bergerac*; *A Christmas Carol*; *The Royal Family*) as Lt. Brannigan/Waiter/As Cast, **Katie Bradley** (Guthrie: *A Christmas Carol*; *South Pacific*) as Mimi/Ensemble/As Cast, **Isis Bruno** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Trevor Bunce** (Guthrie: debut) as Swing, **Fernando Collado** (Guthrie: *Cyrano de Bergerac*; *West Side Story*) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Taylor Collier** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Gabrielle Dominique** (Guthrie: *West Side Story*) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Tara Forseth** (Guthrie: debut) as Swing, **Andy Frye** (Guthrie: *West Side Story*) as Angie the Ox/As Cast, **Rodney Gardiner** (Guthrie: *Metamorphoses*) as Nathan Detroit, **Mark Andrew Garner** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Jon Andrew Hegge** (Guthrie: *A Christmas Carol*; *The Critic*/*The Real Inspector Hound*; *1776*) as Harry the Horse/As Cast, **Olivia Hernandez** (Guthrie: debut) as Miss Sarah Brown, **Caroline Innerbichler** (Guthrie: *Little House on the Prairie*) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Jeremiah James** (Guthrie: debut) as Sky Masterson, **Justin Keyes** (Guthrie: *The Cocoanuts*) as Nicely-Nicely Johnson, **Marty Lauter** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Joel Liestman** (Guthrie: *Cyrano de Bergerac*; *West Side Story*; *A Christmas Carol*) as Benny Southstreet/As Cast, **Renni Anthony Magee** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Andrea Mislan** (Guthrie: *Cyrano de Bergerac*; *West Side Story*) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Eric Morris** (Guthrie: debut) as Rusty Charlie/Ensemble/As Cast, **Peter Thomson** (Guthrie: *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*; *Trouble in Mind*; *To Kill a Mockingbird*) as Arvide Abernathy/As Cast, **Angela Timberman** (Guthrie: *As You Like It*; *The Royal Family*; *A Christmas Carol*) as Joey Biltmore/Agatha/Ensemble/As Cast, **Janet Hayes Trow** (Guthrie: *Roman Holiday*) as Martha/Ensemble/As Cast, **Adam Vanek** (Guthrie: debut) as Ensemble/As Cast, **Regina Marie Williams** (Guthrie: *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*; *A Christmas Carol*; *The Bluest Eye*) as General Matilda B.

Cartwright/As Cast, **Karen Wiese-Thompson** (Guthrie: debut) as Big Jule/As Cast, **Kirsten Wyatt** (Guthrie: debut) as Miss Adelaide and **Phil Young** (Guthrie: *West Side Story*; *Big White Fog*) as Swing.

The creative team for *Guys and Dolls* includes **Kent Gash** (director), **Dell Howlett** (choreographer), **J. Oconer Navarro** (music director), **Jason Sherwood** (scenic designer), **Kara Harmon** (costume designer), **Dawn Chiang** (lighting designer), **Hidenori Nakajo** (sound designer), **Darryl Ivey** (orchestrator), **Denise Prosek** (associate music director), **Aaron Preusse** (fight director), **Carla Steen** (dramaturg), **Dawn-Elin Fraser** (voice and dialect coach), **Lori Lundquist** (stage manager), **Jason Clusman** (assistant stage manager), **Nate Stanger** (assistant stage manager), **Sheena Janson Kelley** (assistant director) and **Tara Forseth** (assistant choreographer/dance captain).

Kent Gash (director) is an American director, choreographer, actor and professor. He directed the acclaimed world premiere of Robert O'Hara's *Barbecue* at The Public Theater and is the co-author and director of *Langston in Harlem*, which received four 2010 AUDELCO Awards, including Best Musical. Other New York productions include the Off-Broadway premiere of *Miss Evers' Boys*, *Call the Children Home* for Primary Stages, York Theatre's presentation of Duke Ellington's *Beggar's Holiday* and the Off-Broadway revival of Samm-Art Williams' *Home*. Gash has directed across the country at Ford's Theatre (where his production of *The Wiz* was nominated for 13 Helen Hayes Awards, including Best Musical and Best Director), Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Trinity Repertory Company, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cleveland Play House, Denver Center Theatre Company, Sundance Institute and Hartford Stage.

Gash is the founding Director of NYU Tisch School of the Arts' New Studio on Broadway. He is the former Associate Artistic Director of Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia, where he directed and choreographed many productions, and the former Associate Artistic Director of the Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

His work on this production is dedicated to composer and musical director Darius Smith.

This production of *Guys and Dolls* is sponsored by RBC Wealth Management.

THE GUTHRIE THEATER (Joseph Haj, artistic director) was founded by Sir Tyrone Guthrie in 1963 and is an American center for theater performance, production, education and professional training, dedicated to producing the great works of dramatic literature and cultivating the next generation of theater artists. Under Haj's leadership, the Guthrie is guided by four core values: Artistic Excellence; Community; Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; and Fiscal Responsibility. The Guthrie produces a mix of classic and contemporary plays on three stages and continues to set a national standard for excellence in theatrical production and performance, serving nearly 400,000 patrons annually. In 2006, the Guthrie opened a new home, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Jean Nouvel, located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Open to the public year-round, it houses three state-of-the-art stages, production facilities, classrooms, full-service restaurants and dramatic public lobbies. guthrietheater.org

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