

For Immediate Release Media Contact: Joanna Loughran Joanna@sdmt.org / 323-823-9121

SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE Man Of La Mancha at the Horton Grand Theatre

San Diego Musical Theatre has long awaited an opportunity to tell the inspiring story of a man determined to protect all that is good and true, and not be afraid in the face of grave adversity. Based on the classic 17th century novel "Don Quixote," by Miguel de Cervantes, *Man of La Mancha* remains one of the most enduring musicals of all time winning over both audiences and critics since it first appeared on Broadway.

Presented as a play within a play, *Man of La Mancha* is a poignant story of a dying old man whose impossible dream takes over his mind. Cervantes, an utter failure as a playwright, poet and tax collector for the government, has been thrown into prison during the Inquisition. There his fellow prisoners confiscate his meager possessions, one of which is the uncompleted manuscript of a novel called "Don Quixote." Cervantes, seeking to save it, proposes to offer a novel defense in the form of entertainment. The "court" agrees and before their eyes, donning makeup and costume, Cervantes and his faithful manservant transform themselves into Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. They play out the story with the participation of the prisoners as other characters who soon understand that Cervantes' dream offers them hope and redemption. His dream is Everyman's dream. His tilting at windmills is Everyman's great adventure. *Man of La Mancha* speaks for humankind.

Most notable songs in this beautiful piece include "Little Bird", "It's All the Same", "Dulcinea", "I Really Like Him", and "The Impossible Dream". At the helm of the SDMT orchestra is Don Le Master, who is most inspired by the style of the arrangements that frame the story so eloquently utilizing symphonic as well as driving, Latin-pop styles.

"Although "Impossible Dream" is one of the most well known and recognizable songs in history, the music simply accentuates the story of Don Quixote and is there to support it, not unlike a supporting actor." *Don Le Master*

Joining the SDMT creative team for the first time is the award winning Director and Choreographer, Scott Thompson. Scott has directed the show before and has a passion for the story and message in this timeless musical.

"Man of La Mancha is about unbridled idealism. Idealism in the face of facts that suggest the absolute opposite, cynical point of view. I think that in this complicated modern world, there are lessons to be learned from both the idealistic point of view and certainly the cynical. And I think telling this story, and its lessons are extremely topical as we face these issues of fact, truth and hope in our daily news cycle" Scott Thompson

September 27th - October 27th, 2019 at the Horton Grand Theatre in San Diego's Gaslamp district. For more information on *Man Of La Mancha* and SDMT's 2019 Season, call the box office at (858) 560-5740 or visit www.sdmt.org.

SEE FACT SHEET BELOW

Man Of La Mancha FACT SHEET

What: *Man Of La Mancha*Written by Dale Wasserman
Music by Mitch Leigh
Lyrics by Joe Darion

Directed and staged by: Scott Thompson

Musical Director: Don LeMaster

When: September 27th - October 27th

Press Opening: Saturday, September 28 at 8:00 PM

Closing: Sunday, October 27th at 2:00 PM

Performance Schedule:

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM Thursdays at 7:30 PM Fridays at 8:00 PM Saturdays at 8:00 PM Sundays at 2:00 PM

Where: The Horton Grand Theatre - 444 Fourth Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

MAN OF LA MANCHA CAST

Don Quixote - Robert J. Townsend*

Sancho- Jeffrey Landman*

Aldonza - Natalie Rose Havens

Dr. Carrasco (The Duke) - Michael Thomas-Visgar

The Padre - Joseph Grienenberger

Antonia - Francesca Sola

The Housekeeper - Bethany Slomka

The Barber/Mule - Hanz Enyeart

Pedro - Evan White

The Innkeeper/The Governor - Bill Bland

Captain of the Inquisition - Brian Doig

Anselmo - Gerardo Flores Tonella

Jose - Cody Ingram

Juan - Edgar Diaz-Gutierrez

Paco/Mule - Max Cadillac Tenorio - Timothy L Cabal

Maria - Eve Jack

Fermina - Liliana Rodriguez

*Indicates member of Actor's Equity Association

Who:

Director: **Scott Thompson^**Music Director: **Don LeMaster**

Set Design: Candlelight Pavilion Theatre

Lighting Design: Michelle Miles
Sound Design: Jon Fredette
Costume Design: Janet Pitcher
Wig & Hair Design: Peter Herman
Properties: Heather Longfellow

Production Manager: Ron Christopher Jones

Managing Director: Neil Dale

Technical Director: Steve Longfellow

Stage Manager: Paul Morgavo

[^] Indicates member of the society of Stage Directors and Choreographers union

Ticket Information:

Tickets range from \$30 - \$70. Tickets for *Man of La Mancha* are on sale now.

Box Office Information:

Phone: 858-560-5740 Online: www.sdmt.org

In Person: Tickets can be purchased at SDMT's Administrative Office located at 4650

Mercury Street, San Diego, CA 92111.

Website: www.sdmt.org

ABOUT SDMT - Founded in 2006, San Diego Musical Theatre is dedicated to passionately producing and providing musical theatre that ignites the human spirit.