



Media Contact: Susan Clausen
Clausen Communications
theatersusan@gmail.com | 619-933-0038
For Immediate Release

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS 2021/2022 SEASON

A super-sized season of offerings including the world-famous comedy troupe The Second City, a Tony and Olivier Award winning play, 3 exciting new plays by incredible and diverse writers, a Herbert Siguenza world premiere, and a musical adaptation of one of Shakespeare's best stories.

San Diego, CA (July 27, 2021) – San Diego Repertory Theatre (San Diego REP) announced today the lineup for its 2021/2022 season and return to in-person performance at the Lyceum Theatre. For its super-sized 46th season, San Diego REP invites audiences to go on a trip that flips *The Grapes of Wrath* on its head as the Joads head back to Oklahoma in ***Mother Road***; to laugh their heads off with ***She the People*** by The Second City; to dive deep into the mystery and adventure of the 2015 Tony Award-winner for Best Play, ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***; to take a journey of self-discovery, with a hilarious surprise visitor in ***The Great Khan***; to spend Passover with the Levi-Katz family in the JFest favorite ***In Every Generation***; to dance the night away and find true love with a musical adaptation of ***Twelfth Night***; to head for the stars on a hilarious intergalactic adventure penned by Playwright-in-Residence Herbert Siguenza, ***Isaac Asimov Grandmaster Funk***; and to finish the season with one of the biggest and best offerings San Diego REP has brought to the stage in its 46 year history, to be announced later. Season 46 tickets are currently available by subscription only and can be purchased by calling the box office at (619) 544-1000.

"At San Diego REP, we wake up each morning, excited to experience that moment when art allows us to become bigger than ourselves; that moment where truth opens our eyes to the world; that moment where we see each other in all of our spectacular oneness and wholeness simultaneously," said **REP Artistic Director Sam Woodhouse**. "There is nothing like the transformative experience of sharing an unforgettable story in a room with your neighbors, live and in person. Our family of first class theatre artists is thrilled to welcome our patrons back into the Lyceum theatre with our arms and hearts wide open."

"Our new 21-22 season offers a majestic sweep of eight entertainments that seek to uplift us through the healing power of laughter and empathy. We can't wait to share it with you," said **REP Managing Director Larry Alldredge**. "Our commitment to honestly and bravely exploring our ever-evolving American culture is stronger than ever. Artistic virtuosity and diversity is once again ready to rumble on the stages of the Lyceum theatre."

Inspired by John Steinbeck's masterpiece *The Grapes of Wrath*, ***Mother Road*** (October 7 – 31, 2021) by **Octavio Solis**, directed by Woodhouse, opens the season and flips a literary classic on its

head. This imagined sequel to one of the greatest American novels ever sees the Joads return to Oklahoma and reckon with what it means to be American in the 21st-century Western United States.

The second offering of the season is the high octane, fearlessly funny, ***She the People*** (November 17 – December 5, 2021), with the world famous comedy company **The Second City** setting up shop in The Lyceum in November and December. With rave reviews in Chicago, DC and Toronto, this hilarious comedy showcase directed by **Carly Heffernan** satirizes the reality of being a woman in this wild world, exploding the myths and misrepresentations surrounding bachelorettes, Beyoncé, the 2020 election and much more. *The Washington Post* called it a “funny, fiercely political sketch-comedy show” and the *Chicago Tribune* called it “empowering entertainment.”

REP Associate Artistic Director Todd Salovey will direct the 2015 Tony Award-winner for Best Play, ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** (January 6 – 30, 2022). This widely beloved play is the winner of 7 Olivier Awards and 5 Tony Awards, and has consistently been one of the most-produced plays every season since its premiere.

Fresh from a well-received reading in San Diego REP’s Black Voices 2021 Play Reading Series, ***The Great Khan*** (March 3 – 27, 2022) by **Michael Gene Sullivan** is getting a full production in the theatre’s 46th season. A hilarious, moving, and deeply profound story about claiming your identity and telling your story might just have a few surprises in store for REP audiences. Sullivan, hailed as a voice in American theatre that audiences need to know, brings his story to The REP in March of next year.

One of the annual Lipinsky Family San Diego Jewish Arts Festival’s most well-loved readings in recent history, ***In Every Generation*** (May 26 – June 19, 2022) by **Ali Viterbi** tells the story of one family’s Passover celebration; in this case, one family over many millennia. Join the Levi-Katz family as they share stories, eat (vegan) brisket and matzah ball soup, and grapple with questions of the past.

Named one of the best theatrical productions of 2018 by *Time*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, and the *Washington Post*, ***Twelfth Night*** (July 28 – August 21, 2022) will have audiences dancing in the aisles and finding love in the mysterious land of Illyria. Conceived by **Kwame Kwei-Armah** and **Shaina Taub**, with infectious music and lyrics by Taub, this musical adaptation of Shakespeare’s timeless classic about mistaken identity and true love is certain to be one of the highlights of the year. Presented in partnership with San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts, Artistic Director Sam Woodhouse directs, with choreography by San Diego legend **Javier Velasco**.

San Diego audiences love the wildly entertaining writing of Herbert Siguenza. His latest play ***Isaac Asimov Grandmaster Funk*** (September 8 – October 2, 2022) is a sci-fi fantasy told in the key of funk. Acclaimed director **Thomas W. Jones II** brings his audacious imagination to the staging of this intergalactic comedy that features Siguenza in the role of the king of 20th century science fiction.

The theatre’s eighth and final subscription show of the 2021-22 season (October 20 – November 13, 2022) will be an absolute showstopper! Directed by Artistic Director Sam Woodhouse, this final offering of the season is shaping up to be one of the most exciting presentations by The REP in 46 years of bringing intimate, provocative, inclusive theatre to San Diego. Stay tuned for more information soon!

Season 46 Calendar: *Mother Road* (October 7 – 31, 2021); *She the People* (November 17 – December 5, 2021); *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (January 6 – 30, 2022); *The Great Khan* (March 3 – 27, 2022); *In Every Generation* (May 26 – June 19, 2022); *Twelfth Night* (July 28 – August 21, 2022); *Isaac Asimov Grandmaster Funk* (September 8 – October 2, 2022); *TBA* (October 20 – November 13, 2022).

Tickets to Season 46 are currently available by subscription only. For more information or to purchase a subscription, please call the box office at (619) 544-1000. Single tickets will be available August 1 at www.sdrep.org. Dates subject to change.

ABOUT SAN DIEGO REP'S 2021/2022 SEASON

Mother Road

A CLASSIC REIMAGINED

October 7 – 31, 2021 | On the Lyceum Stage

Press opening: Wednesday, October 13 at 7:00 p.m.

By Octavio Solis

Directed by Sam Woodhouse

William Joad is at the end of his life and in need of a blood relative to inherit the family farm in Oklahoma. He's shocked to discover the only surviving descendant of Tom Joad, the resilient protagonist from *The Grapes of Wrath* who headed west for a better life, is a Mexican-American man named Martín Jodes. Full of heart, humor, love and loss, the Joads' epic journey reverses as Martín returns to Oklahoma to claim what is rightfully his and create a better life for his friends, family and himself. Director Sam Woodhouse—whose family is from Oklahoma—joins forces with Octavio Solis, one of the most prominent Latinx playwrights in our country. Together, this pair presents a powerful new play, deftly exploring the intersection of people and cultures in America today.

"Solis is now one of the best-known and most-produced Latinx contemporary playwrights in the U.S." –*American Theater Magazine*

"A rich and powerful narrative that has a compelling unity" –*Mail Tribune*

She the People

FROM THE WORLD FAMOUS COMEDY COMPANY

November 18 – December 5, 2021 | On the Lyceum Stage

Press opening: Thursday, November 18 at 8:00 p.m.

By The Second City

Directed by Carly Heffernan

After rave reviews and extended engagements in Chicago, Toronto and DC, *She the People* is coming to our Lyceum Stage. This high-octane show is entirely created, designed and performed by the fearlessly funny women of world-famous comedy mecca, The Second City. *She the People* satirizes the reality of being a woman in this wild world, exploding the myths and misrepresentations surrounding bachelorettes, Beyoncé, the 2020 election and much more. *The Washington Post* called

She the People a “funny, fiercely political sketch-comedy show” and the *Chicago Tribune* called it “empowering entertainment.”

“Bring everyone you know to see She the People” -Broadway World

“One of the funniest revues Second City has produced in the past 20 years” -Chicago Sun-Times

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

2015 TONY AWARD WINNER FOR BEST PLAY

January 6 – 30, 2022 | In the Lyceum Space

Press Opening: Wednesday, January 12 at 7:00 PM

By Simon Stephens

Directed by Todd Salovey

Christopher is a 15-year-old boy with an extraordinary brain. He is exceptional at mathematics, incapable of lying, detests being touched, and distrusts strangers. Suspected of killing his neighbor’s dog with a garden fork, he is determined to find the true culprit. At seven minutes after midnight, Christopher’s detective work leads to an earth-shattering discovery as he bravely embarks on a deeply personal quest that upturns his world. Based on the international bestselling novel by Mark Haddon—which was inspired by a Sherlock Holmes tale—*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* has won 7 Olivier Awards and 5 Tony Awards, including ‘Best Play.’

“This is the whole package, a rare case of family entertainment that speaks to the heart and brain.” - New York Post

“...a profound emotional impact.” -Variety

The Great Khan

FEATURED IN OUR BLACK VOICES 2021 READING SERIES

March 3 – 27, 2022 | In the Lyceum Space

Press Opening: Wednesday, March 9 at 7:00 PM

By Michael Gene Sullivan

Jayden, an African American teenager, just wants to be his game-playing, nerdy self. But after he saves a girl, Ant, from a sexual assault, he and his mother are forced to move to keep him safe from the boys who attacked her. While Jayden debates with himself if he should toughen up, Ant tries to reject the tough Black girl persona she has adopted. Both are trying to figure out how to define themselves in a culture that insists on seeing them as forever dangerous. Oh, and then Genghis Khan shows up.

“As one of the most active political playwrights in the country, Michael Gene Sullivan is certainly a voice you should know.” – Kent Nicholson, Playwright’s Horizons

In Every Generation

A JEWISH ARTS FESTIVAL AUDIENCE FAVORITE

May 26 – June 19, 2022 | In the Lyceum Space

Press Opening: Wednesday, June 1 at 7:00 PM

By Ali Viterbi

Directed by Todd Salovey

One family. One holiday. Four millennia. The Levi-Katz family celebrates Passover again and again - 1416 BCE, 1954, 2019 and 2050 to be exact! While the time, location, and language changes, the traditions stay the same. Over matzah ball soup and (vegan) brisket, this close-knit clan contends with questions of race, religion, and inter-generational trauma. The present echoes the past—and the past the present—as the family repeatedly reenacts the exodus from Egypt, each time asking themselves: must we define ourselves through trauma? Will we ever be free? And why is this night different from all other nights?

“...not only a very human family saga, but also a timely warning about the choices that American Jews face in the present moment.” -Howard Shalwartz (Founding Artistic Director, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company)

Twelfth Night

ONE OF THE BEST MUSICALS OF 2018

July 28 – August 21, 2022 | On the Lyceum Stage

Press Opening: Wednesday, August 3 at 7:00 PM

Conceived by Kwame Kwei-Armah & Shaina Taub

Music and Lyrics by Shaina Taub

Based on the play by William Shakespeare

Directed by Sam Woodhouse

Choreography by Javier Velasco

In association with San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts

This enchanting and soulful musical adaptation of Shakespeare’s romantic comedy of mistaken identity and self-discovery was named one of the best theatrical productions of 2018 by *Time*, *The Hollywood Reporter* and *The Washington Post*. When Viola is shipwrecked on the unfamiliar shores of Illyria, she assumes the role of her lost twin brother, setting in motion a hilariously complicated tangle of love and longing. Mischief and hijinks ensue. Love, in its many disguises, blooms in every corner. Viola discovers her true love and her true self. The non-stop musical score from critically – acclaimed musician Shaina Taub is radically inclusive – ranging from New Orleans jazz to Motown soul to Broadway show tunes to 80’s pop. “If music be the food of love, play on. Play on!”

“A joyous dazzlingly colorful musical.” – Time Out

Isaac Asimov Grandmaster Funk

A HERBERT SIGUENZA WORLD PREMIERE

September 8 – October 2, 2022 | In the Lyceum Space

Press Opening: Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 PM

By Herbert Siguenza

Directed by Thomas W. Jones II

The REP's award-winning Playwright-in-Residence Herbert Siguenza (*Bad Hombres/Good Wives, A Weekend with Pablo Picasso*) is back with a sci-fi fantasy told in the key of funk. In 1992, just as the prolific sci fi writer Isaac Asimov is embarking on his final chapter, surprise visitors from outer space intercede to help him re-envision what is possible. PFunk—a former resident of Earth—and his protégé Anita have travelled back to the deep well of interstellar inspiration that is Asimov. Together they hope to rewrite a better future for our planet and beyond. Siguenza plays the title role in this world premiere intergalactic comedy, which turns his Culture Clash-style hilarity towards a mash-up of imagination, robotics, space travel and Afro-Futurism, all fueled by an infectious '70's Funk soundtrack.

Siguenza is "inspired by rebels and change makers, not only as an actor but as a playwright and artist..." -San Diego Magazine

TBA

October 20 – November 13, 2022 | On the Lyceum Stage

Press Opening: Wednesday, October 26 at 7:00 PM

Directed by Sam Woodhouse

About San Diego Repertory Theatre

San Diego Repertory Theatre (San Diego REP) produces intimate, provocative and inclusive theatre. Founded in 1976, San Diego Repertory Theatre is downtown San Diego's resident theatre, promoting an interconnected community through vivid works that nourish progressive political and social values and celebrates the multiple voices of our region. The company produces and hosts over 550 events and performances year-round on its three stages at the Lyceum Theatre. Since moving to the Lyceum, The REP has produced 54 main stage productions by Latino playwrights, and more than 45 world premieres. The company has received more than 200 awards for artistic excellence from the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle, Patté Theatre Awards, NAACP, Backstage West, Dramalogue and StageSceneLA. In 2005, the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle presented The REP with the Craig Noel Award "For 30 Years of Artistic Dedication to Downtown and Diversity." San Diego Repertory Theatre feeds the curious soul. To learn more about San Diego Repertory Theatre, to purchase tickets, or make a donation, visit sdrep.org. Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (@SanDiegoREP).

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