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For Immediate Release

FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL RESCHEDULED TOUR CAST ANNOUNCED

Following two critically acclaimed tours and huge popular demand, *Footloose The Musical* is back and better than ever! The musical which was postponed in 2020 is set to burst back onto stage in 2022 opening in the UK at the Theatre Royal Plymouth on 14 Feb following 3 weeks in Zurich before an extensive UK tour.

Selladoor Productions confirms today that the previously announced Darren Day will remain in the role of Reverend Moore and will be joined on stage by newly cast Dancing on Ice Winner and Theatre star Jake Quickenden.

Jake first hit our screens in *The X Factor* in 2012 and again in 2014 where he went through to the live shows followed by appearances on *Chart Show TV*, *ITV's Kellys Heroes*, as a regular panelist on *Big Brothers Bit On The Side* and as a contestant on *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here*. Following his win of the 2018 season of *Dancing on Ice* Jake has most recently been seen in hit TV show *Hollyoaks*. Jake is no stranger to the stage having performed in the title role of *Peter Pan* at Blackpool Opera House; also touring with the *Dreamboys* and appearing in Pantomime. He most recently starred in the acclaimed 50th anniversary production of *Hair the Musical*.

Jake says: "I can't wait to get out on Tour with *Footloose*, after such a strange and difficult time we will finally be able to join our friends and family in the theatre for a truly feel-good night out. This show is packed full of amazing 80's hits I can't think of a better tonic for 2022"

Jake will join Musical Theatre favourite Darren Day in the production. Following his first starring theatre role in *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* Darren has enjoyed an extensive career in the West End including *Summer Holiday*, *Copacabana* and *Grease*. Tours include *Alfie*, *Carousel*, *Great Expectations*, *Godspell*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *We Will Rock You* and many more – most recently *Mame*, *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert*, *Rita Sue and Bob Too* and new musical *Bumblescratch* at the Adelphi Theatre, Darren can be seen later this year in the role of Billy Flynn in smash-hit musical *Chicago*. His TV career has included roles in Sky's *Stella*, *Hollyoaks* and *Holby City*, as well as many presenting appearances. Darren was a finalist in the 2016 series of *Celebrity Big Brother*. Recent feature films include *White Island*, *Name of the Game*, *Rudy and Demon Eye* as well as *The Krays - Dead Man Walking*. Darren is also an established recording artist and has made guest appearances as a singer on a wide range of television shows.

Having been previously cast in the 2020 tour which was postponed due to Covid 19 Darren tells us:



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"I am so delighted to be able to stay with the tour of Footloose for the 2022 tour. I was a teenager in the 80's, which is such an impressionable age for movies and music. This is one of the most iconic films and soundtracks from my teenage years. I can remember hearing Footloose on the radio for the first time and thinking... what a tune! I'm really looking forward to seeing you there"

City boy Ren thinks life is bad enough when he's forced to move to a rural backwater in America. But his world comes to a standstill when he arrives at Bomont to find dancing and rock music are banned. Taking matters into his own hands, soon Ren has all hell breaking loose and the whole town on its feet.

Based on the 1980s screen sensation which took the world by storm, Footloose The Musical sizzles with spirit, fun and the best in UK musical talent. With cutting edge modern choreography, you'll enjoy classic 80s hits including *Holding Out for a Hero*, *Almost Paradise*, *Let's Hear It For The Boy* and of course the unforgettable title track *Footloose*.

Footloose The Musical will be presented by Selladoor Productions and Runaway Entertainment with casting by Debbie O'Brien, and will be directed by Racky Plews, with choreography from Matt Cole, musical supervision by Mark Crossland and design by Sara Perks with lighting design from Chris Davey and sound design from Chris Whybrow. Further casting will be announced soon.

Everybody cut loose for a night of dazzling excitement music and dancing! **Tickets are on sale now at Theatre Royal Plymouth for 14 – 19 February 2022 [here](#)** – for full listings visit www.footloose-musical.com follow on social media @FootlooseTour #EverybodyCutLoose.

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on mediaandcommunications@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439

ABOUT JAKE QUICKENDEN

Jake hails from Scunthorpe. Music and Sport have always been his life. He played for Scunthorpe under 16's until a broken leg put paid to those plans for a while. By that time, Jake had started writing his own songs, and the music was edging to the forefront.

When he was younger Jake had begun to show real music flair and his parents bought him a keyboard and later a guitar. As a youngster he grew up listening to his father's favourite groups, Johnny Cash and The Beatles.

However, a second chance at football presented itself and he was invited to trial in Australia for the 'Sunshine George Cross' Team and also 'Bentley Greens'. This culminated with Jake flying out to Melbourne and playing for two seasons there.

He enjoyed the life in Australia, but unfortunately his father had been taken ill and he



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returned to the UK. On his return, he took up golf and continued with various sports as well as working as a lifeguard in a local swimming centre. Jake's singing, writing and performing were beginning to become a big part of his life his musical influences were and still are, Usher, Craig David, Ben Howard, Damien Rice, Matt Corby and Ed Sheeran.

His family had suggested that he audition for X Factor in 2012, however, when Jake saw the massive queues, he very nearly turned back, but stayed and not only got through the first stages, but eventually won a coveted spot on Nicole Scherzinger's team going through to Judges Houses! (Gary Barlow had commented at the audition, "Love your voice" and "love your image", Unfortunately, he didn't make it to the Live Shows but this was not the end of X Factor for Jake though! With management on board they secured Jake a TV opportunity as a presenter for Chart Show Dance, and Chart Show TV. It was an exciting week when he was the anchor man for Chart Show Dance TV from Ibiza. This led to Jake co-hosting The Chart Show TV on a regular basis, including presenting from Wireless Music Festival backstage.

A second opportunity for X Factor hotly followed, where he was eventually chosen by Mel B for Judges Houses and this time won a coveted spot through to Live Shows. With his then surprise early vote off from X Factor, Jake's management immediately contacted, 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here'. The production team were preparing to fly out to commence filming the 2015 TV series, and at the last hour, the producers agreed to see Jake. Excitingly, the TV producers saw the same entertaining flair in Jake as his management did. After contracts were signed, it was a rush to fly him out to Australia which culminated with him reaching the exciting final.

Summer 2015 saw Jake release his first EP titled 'I Want You', followed by his own UK live tour, alongside his ever growing TV commitments. He became a regular guest on ITV Lorraine & Loose Women also a regular panellist on Big Brothers Bit On The Side. In 2015 Jake fronted the 'Children In Need Campaign' alongside Rylan Clark and Ashley Roberts. 2016 saw Jake continuing his charity commitments, including a trek across Iceland for the NSPCC.

Fitness has always been very important to Jake which led him to being an ambassador for Holland and Barrett.

Jake released new music from his six track EP, 'New Chapter' early summer 2016 and included two terrific dance remixes. This EP he toured in the UK at the end of the year.

A co presenting slot alongside 'Lorraine' on her ITV Morning TV Show was a real opportunity for Jake at ITV. Not only was he 'Jungle Jake' talking to guests re I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here, he was also thrilled to be asked to travel the Country presenting Lorraine's very Special 'Kelly's Hero Awards 'to really deserving (unsuspecting!) people, and dovetailing it all via links into the Lorraine Studio. This was all absolutely live TV and Jake really enjoyed it and felt very at home on this type of outside broadcast. Alongside other TV work, Channel 4's 'The Jump', asked Jake to fly out to the mountains ready to step in if needed. He really enjoyed all the training, learning to ski.

Spring 2017 saw Jake heading up a major press Charity Campaign for The British



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Heart Foundation.

Time in the recording studio followed with him writing new songs, and June 2017 saw the release of 'Ineffable' followed with 'Black Mirror' released September.

Acting has continued to be a major interest for Jake and to that end, he was treading the boards in December 2017, appearing alongside Jennifer Ellison, starring in the musical, produced by Selladoor, 'Peter Pan a Musical Adventure', at Blackpool Opera House.

2018 started an amazing year, as after an intense final showdown against Coronation Street's Brooke Vincent and Sportsman Max Evans, Jake won ITV's very popular series 'Dancing On Ice' 2018. This followed with a Superb Nationwide 'Dancing On Ice Tour', and many TV presenting slots on ITV Lorraine continued. At the end of the year he played a Handsome Prince in the stage production 'Cinderella'

2019 continued many, Lorraine, Loose Women & Jeremy Vine TV appearances including Jake competing on Ninja Warrior UK. The most exciting opportunity for 2019 has been (with Jake very much coming into his own) winning the starring role as Berger in the Selladoor produced, seven month nationwide touring stage musical, 'Hair'.

Jake also had the opportunity to join Hollyoaks as a guest actor with the TV show's massive autumn storyline which he enjoyed immensely.

The end of the year found Jake performing as Danon in another super theatre production of 'Beauty and the Beast' which was staged during December 2019.

At the start of 2020 Jake was presenter and host on Kristina Rhianoff's "Dance to The Music' national theatre tour. He also continues proudly on his Ambassador role with The Special Olympics Great Britain.

Owing to these unprecedented times Jake released a track called 'Quarantine song' to raise money for the NHS. The song is about life in quarantine and lyrics tell people what they need to do to stay safe in order for the world to get through this. It reached number 9 in The Official UK Top 40 UK Singles Chart. A super result towards NHS donated monies. This was followed in December 2020 by a super Christmas single in aid of the Charity Sarcoma UK

This arose hot on the heels of Jake's TV appearances with The Full Monty (On Ice) with ITV, where alongside skating he sang 'Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas' live, which brought the house down. In November and December 2020 Jake was pleased to be asked to perform in a Covid safe production at Liverpool's M & S Arena.

2021 commenced with Jake and his partner Sophie featuring in the Super MTV series 'Celebrity Bumps'.

In April he released a super brand new single titled 'When I'm Gone' which was very well received, making its debut at Number 2 in the National Top 40. His latest track 'Love Don't Feel The Same has climbed to Number 1 on I Tunes. More good music is planned for over the coming months. Jake has now been secretly recording a major stunning popular national Television show to be aired Summer 2021...

ABOUT DARREN DAY

Darren's first starring theatre role was as Joseph in *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in the West End at the London Palladium on tour internationally. His West End career also includes Don in *Summer Holiday*, Tony in *Copacabana* and Danny in *Grease*. On tour, he has played Alfie in *Alfie*; Billy Bigelow in *Carousel*; Pip in *Great Expectations*; Jesus in *Godspell*; FranknFurter in *The Rocky Horror Show*; Cornelius Hackle in *Hello Dolly* and Khashoggi in the Queen Musical *We Will Rock You*. He toured nationally in the acclaimed *Brother Love's Travelling Salvation Show* and played American author Paul Sheldon in an international production of Stephen King's *Misery*, which was nominated for a Time Out theatre award. He was then nominated for a Best Actor award for his role as Gideon in the acclaimed London production of *The Last Session*. Most recent roles include Beauregard in *Mame*, Smee in *Qdos' Peter Pan*, Tick/Mitzi in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, Bob in *Rita Sue and Bob Too*, and Melbourne Bumblecratch in the preview of the new musical *Bumblecratch* at the Adelphi Theatre.

Darren has numerous television presenting appearances, including several years on series such as *Just Kidding*; *Don't Try This at Home*; *Clockwise*; *Teen Win Lose or Draw* and *You Bet!* He twice presented *The Children's Royal Variety Performance*. Darren is also known for the vocal impersonations that form part of his solo show, *Darren Day in Concert*, which toured the UK and internationally throughout 2017.

Darren is also an established recording artist, and has made guest appearances as a singer on a wide range of television shows, including *The Royal Variety Performance*. He released the album *Summer Holiday* and the single *Young Girl*, which reached the top 20 – both produced by Simon Cowell. His cast albums include *Godspell*, *Great Expectations* and *The Last Session*. In 2010, he recorded the Queen hit, *Only the Good Die Young* in aid of *The Soldiers Charity*. He recently released an album of his favourite musical theatre songs, *This is the Moment*.

In television, Darren has played a wide variety of roles. In 2017, he joined the cast of the Sky TV comedy drama *Stella* as wayward brother-in-law Will Morgan. Prior to that, he played *Hollyoaks* bad-lad Danny Houston. Other television roles include Michael Evans in *Holby*; Graham Watts in *Crime Stories*; David Wilde in *Doctors*; Jeff Slade in *The Bill*; Jonathan Adams in *Mile High*; Arthur in Harry Hill's satire *Extreme Soap* and Inman in one of *French and Saunders*. Darren was a finalist in the 2016 series of *Celebrity Big Brother*.

Recent feature films include *White Island*, *Name of the Game*, *Rudy* and *Demon Eye* as well as *The Krays - Dead Man Walking*.

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