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TRP Press Contact: Savanna Myszka, savanna.myszka@theatreroyal.com

For Immediate Release

THE ACCLAIMED NEW LONDON PALLADIUM PRODUCTION OF JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT COMES TO THE THEATRE ROYAL PLYMOUTH FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

PERFORMANCES BEGIN ON TUESDAY 26TH APRIL 2022

ALEXANDRA BURKE will star as Narrator reunited with JAC YARROW who will wear the Dreamcoat, following his critically acclaimed professional stage debut in the iconic lead role

Michael Harrison and the Really Useful Group are delighted to announce that direct from two triumphant seasons at The London Palladium, the sensational brand-new production of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* comes to the **Theatre Royal, Plymouth** from **Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th April. Alexandra Burke** reprises her celebrated role as Narrator, joining **Jac Yarrow** who is preparing to don the famous coat in the titular role on tour.

Alexandra Burke will play Narrator in the celebrated musical. Her many West End credits include the lead roles in *The Bodyguard*, *Sister Act, Chess* and *Chicago*. Alexandra first rose to fame winning *The X-Factor* in 2008, and has since gone on to sell over 5 million records. She'll also make her movie debut in the film *Pretty Red Dress* next year.

Jac Yarrow caused a sensation when he made his professional stage debut playing Joseph, following in the footsteps of a line of stars who have previously played the title character. His portrayal of Joseph won him unanimous acclaim and an Olivier Award nomination, with his rendition of *Close Every Door To Me*' regularly stopping the show with standing ovations.

Producer Michael Harrison says of today's announcement:

"After two sensational runs at The London Palladium, I am delighted to bring this joyous show to the **Theatre Royal, Plymouth** next spring as JOSEPH prepares to unite audiences and spread happiness across the UK. Our 'dream team' casting will enchant newcomers and longstanding fans alike. Alexandra Burke is confirmed to return to her much-applauded role as Narrator when we perform in **Plymouth,** having warmed the hearts of theatre-goers at the London Palladium this summer alongside Jac Yarrow whose spectacular debut in the title role has wowed audiences and critics alike. GO! GO! GO! JOSEPH!"



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Audiences and critics were unanimous in their acclaim for the legendary musical - the first major collaboration by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber – when it returned to the London Palladium in 2019 and again in 2021.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is directed by **Laurence Connor**. Laurence's credits include the acclaimed London production of *School of Rock* and the Tony-Award nominated production on Broadway, the recent London productions of *Miss Saigon* and *Chess*, the international arena tour of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and he is also the Co-Director of the new version of *Les Misérables* which has enjoyed worldwide success including Broadway, UK and US tours. He is the director of Andrew Lloyd Webber's new production of *Cinderella* at the Gillian Lynne Theatre.

JoAnn M Hunter (who has 20 Broadway shows to her credit, including *School of Rock* and *On A Clear Day You Can See Forever*) is the show's choreographer, set and costume design are by the award-winning **Morgan Large** with **Ben Cracknell** as Lighting Designer and **Gareth Owen** as Sound Designer.

Released as a concept album in 1969, the stage version of **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** has become one of the world's most beloved family musicals. The multi-award-winning show, which began life as a small-scale school concert, has been performed hundreds of thousands of times including multiple runs in the West End and on Broadway, international number one tours, and productions in over 80 countries as far afield as Austria and Zimbabwe and from Israel to Peru! The show features songs that have gone on to become pop and musical theatre standards, including *Any Dream Will Do, Close Every Door To Me, Jacob and Sons, There's One More Angel In Heaven* and *Go Go Joseph*.

Told entirely through song with the help of the Narrator, **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** follows the story of Jacob's favourite son Joseph and his eleven brothers. After being sold into hardship by the brothers, he ingratiates himself with Egyptian noble Potiphar, but ends up in jail after refusing the advances of Potiphar's wife. While imprisoned, Joseph discovers his ability to interpret dreams, and he soon finds himself in front of the mighty but troubled showman, the Pharaoh. As Joseph strives to resolve Egypt's famine, he becomes Pharaoh's right-hand man and eventually reunites with his family.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is produced by Michael Harrison.

Theatre Royal, Plymouth Performance Dates, Tuesday 26th – Saturday 30th April 2022

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For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on <u>public.relations@theatreroyal.com</u> / 01752 230439

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

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Director Laurence Connor Choreographer JoAnn M Hunter Set and Costume Designer Morgan Large Lighting Designer Ben Cracknell Sound Designer Gareth Owen Hair, Wig & Make Up Designer Richard Mawbey Musical Supervisor John Rigby Casting Director Stuart Burt Children's Casting Director Joanne Hawes

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.





