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For Immediate Release

**FULL CAST ANNOUNCED FOR
THE CHER SHOW
UK & IRELAND TOUR TO OPEN APRIL 2022
NOW IN REHEARSALS**

“All of us invent ourselves. Some of us just have more imagination than others.”

CHER

The producers of the brand new production of ***The Cher Show*** are delighted to announce the full cast joining **Debbie Kurup**, **Danielle Steers** and **Millie O’Connell**, all starring as Cher – Star, Lady and Babe respectively.

Lucas Rush will play Sonny, Jake Mitchell will play Bob Mackie, Sam Ferriday will play Greg Allman and Tori Scott will play Georgia. Joining them are Jordan Anderton, Jasmine Jules Andrews, Carla Bertran, Catherine Cornwall, Áine Curran, Sam Holden, Samantha Ivey, Aston Newman Hannington, Ingrid Olivia, Clayton Rosa, Chay Wills and Guy Woolf.

With book by Tony and Olivier Award-winning Rick Elice (*Jersey Boys*, *The Addams Family*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*), direction by Arlene Phillips (*Saturday Night Fever*, *Starlight Express*, *Grease*), choreography by Oti Mabuse (two-time *Strictly Come Dancing* champion) and costume design by Gabriella Slade (*Six*, *In The Heights*, *Spice World 2019 Tour*), the UK & Ireland Tour will open at Leicester’s Curve on 15 April 2022 and will continue through to 1 April 2023.

From a young child with big dreams, the shy daughter of an Armenian American truck driver, to the dizzying heights of global stardom, ***The Cher Show*** tells the incredible story of Cher’s meteoric rise to fame. Cher takes the audience by the hand and introduces them to the influential people in her life, from her mother and Sonny Bono, to fashion designer and costumier Bob Mackie. It shows how she battled the men who underestimated her, fought the conventions and, above all, was a trailblazer for independence.



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The musical is packed with 35 of her biggest hits, including 'If I Could Turn Back Time', 'I Got You Babe', 'Strong Enough', 'The Shoop Shoop Song' and 'Believe'.

With over 100 million record sales, an Academy Award®, an Emmy®, a Grammy®, three Golden Globes® and an award from The Council of Fashion Designers of America, Cher has influenced popular culture more than most. Her on-screen career started in 1971 with her weekly television show that attracted 30 million viewers a week, and went on to include starring roles in iconic films from *Moonstruck*, for which she won the Oscar for Best Actress, to *Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again!*, which prompted the New York Magazine to realise “every single movie—no matter how flawless—would be infinitely better if it included Cher.” Her ‘Farewell Tour’ became the highest grossing music tour in history – in true Cher fashion, she followed up her ‘Farewell Tour’ with two further sell-out, worldwide arena tours. She is the only artist in history to have a number one hit in the Billboard chart for six consecutive decades; an achievement that caused Vogue to deem her “eternally relevant and the ruler of outré reinvention”. She became known as the Queen of Reinvention.

In the 1990s, she established The Cher Charitable Foundation to support causes around the world. She has been a long-time donor and supporter of Habitat for Humanity, The Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and Keep A Child Alive, an organisation that helps to combat the AIDs epidemic. Most recently, she co-founded Free the Wild to help rescue Kaavan the Asian elephant from Islamabad zoo.

Written by Tony Award-winning Rick Elice, ***The Cher Show*** made its debut on Broadway in 2018 in a production that earned two Tony Awards and delighted fans from around the world. This new production will be the European premiere.

The Cher Show UK & Ireland Tour will have set design by Tom Rogers, musical supervision, orchestrations and arrangements by Rich Morris, lighting design by Ben Cracknell, sound design by Dan Samson, music production by Gary Hickeson, wigs, hair and make-up design by Sam Cox, associate direction by James Cousins, associate choreography by James Bennett, musical direction by Danny Belton and casting by Will Burton CDG.

The Cher Show UK & Ireland Tour is produced by ROYO with Fiery Angel, Cuffe & Taylor/LIVE NATION and Playing Field in association with Tilted, Aria Entertainment and JONES Theatrical Group.

Website: www.cheronstage.com

Twitter, Facebook, Instagram: @TheCherShowUK

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

[Images can be found here.](#)

NOTES TO EDITORS

RICK ELICE (book writer) is the Tony and Olivier award-winning book writer of global phenomenon *Jersey Boys*. His play, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, was nominated for nine Tony Awards and won five. He also wrote the book for *The Addams Family* and is currently working on Disney Theatrical's upcoming new musical adaptation of *The Princess Bride*.

ARLENE PHILLIPS (director) is one of Britain's leading directors and choreographers behind musical mega brands including *Saturday Night Fever*, *Starlight Express*, *Grease* and *We Will Rock You* to name a few. Founding member of 1970s dance group 'Hot Gossip', she went on to choreograph for music legends including Freddie Mercury, Whitney Houston and Diana Ross, and for Hollywood. Her time as lead judge on BBC One's *Strictly Come Dancing* cemented her as one of Britain's most recognisable entertainment legends, a status recognised with a CBE for services to dance.

OTI MABUSE (choreographer) is a champion dancer and choreographer; eight times South African Latin American Champion, and 2019 champion of both BBC's *The Greatest Dancer* and *Strictly Come Dancing*, the two biggest dance shows on television. She was champion of *Strictly Come Dancing* again in 2020. She is a judge on the new ITV light entertainment show, *The Masked Dancer*. In 2019, she made her stage choreography debut for Tamasha Theatre Company's production of *Ain't Misbehavin'* followed by *Kiss Me Kate* at the Watermill Theatre, Newbury.

GABRIELLA SLADE (costume designer) is the award-winning designer behind the unforgettable costumes of West End and Broadway musical *Six* and the force behind the Spice Girls' reinvented look for their *Spice World* 2019 tour. She has designed recent West End productions of *Curtains* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, as well as David Walliam's *Billionaire Boy* and Lin Manuel Miranda's *In The Heights*. She is also designing the costumes for the upcoming UK tour of *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*.

TOM DE KEYSER and **HAMISH GREER** (producers) formed **ROYO** after several years producing together in the UK, on tour and in the West End, and around the world. Alongside the European premiere of *The Cher Show*, ROYO is the lead producer of *The Osmonds: A New Musical*, which brings The Osmond Family's biographical musical to the stage for the first time. It is currently on tour in the UK prior to North America. ROYO is also the lead producer of *Fisherman's Friends: The*



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Musical, based on the true story and hit film of an unlikely boyband of real lobster fishermen and their rise to fame. Following a sell-out development run which reopened Hall For Cornwall following its £20m refurbishment, the production reopens later this year. ROYO is producing several profile driven events throughout 2022, including *Johannes Radebe: Freedom* which starts in March and *Oti Mabuse: I am Here* which starts in April. ROYO is the co-owner of stream.theatre, a digital venue designed to solve the streaming, and capture, needs of arts practitioners around the world, and in the past year has filmed, edited, streamed and ticketed high profile theatrical events with partners including *Sky Arts*, *ITV*, *ENO*, *the Evening Standard*, *TikTok*, *WhatsOnStage*, and *The Shanghai Grand Theatre*.

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.