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**For Immediate Release**

**New production of *Shrek the Musical* heads out on UK and Ireland tour, starting at Theatre Royal Plymouth in summer 2023**



**A brand-new production of *Shrek the Musical* heads out on a major UK and Ireland tour opening at Theatre Royal Plymouth on 21 July 2023.**

Producers Mark Goucher, Gavin Kalin and Matthew Gale are delighted to announce a brand-new production of the award-winning Broadway and West End hit show *Shrek the Musical* will tour the UK and Ireland from July 2023.

The bright and beautiful fairy-tale world of Shrek will be reimagined by a new creative team for this major tour. All the classic characters from the Oscar®-winning DreamWorks animated film will be back to paint the town green, accompanied by the iconic songs and story from David Lindsay-Abaire and Jeanine Tesori's original musical.

Having played Lord Farquaad in the previous UK tour, Sam Holmes (*Club Tropicana the Musical*) returns to the swamp to co-direct. He is joined by acclaimed director and choreographer Nick Winston, whose recent credits include *Bonnie and Clyde* (Arts Theatre) and *Beauty and the Beast* (as associate director and choreographer for the UK tour) and upcoming projects include a new world tour of *We Will Rock You* and a remounted UK tour of *Rock of Ages*.

Set and costume design will be by Philip Witcomb whose previous productions include *Bonnie & Clyde In Concert* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane), *Jack & The Beanstalk* (Everyman Theatre Cheltenham), *Atlantis* (Tivoli Concert Hall, Copenhagen), *Mame* (Hope Mill Theatre and UK Tour), *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and *Stones In His Pockets* (The Minack Theatre).

***Shrek the Musical* opens at Theatre Royal Plymouth on 21 July 2023** and then tours to Manchester, Dublin, Bristol, Southend, Carlisle, Aberdeen, Oxford, Wimbledon, Dartford, Northampton, Bradford, Woking, Eastbourne, Cardiff, York and Blackpool with more dates to be announced soon.

Mark Goucher said: *"I am delighted to be bringing this re-imagined production of the beloved Shrek the Musical to audiences across the UK and Ireland. The story of Shrek is known and loved across the world and this show is an incredibly joyous, fun and uplifting evening at the theatre that will be enjoyed by all ages."*

The Oscar®-winning DreamWorks animated film *Shrek* celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year. *Shrek the Musical* was first performed on Broadway in 2008, receiving eight Tony nominations, and the award for Best Costume Design. The original West End production was nominated for four Olivier awards, including Best New Musical, at the 2012 Olivier awards. Nigel Harman received the award for Best Supporting Actor for his role as Lord Farquaad.

*Join our unlikely hero Shrek and his noble steed Donkey as they embark on a big, bright, musical adventure. Based on the Oscar®-winning DreamWorks animated film, the Broadway and West End hit Shrek the Musical is a fun-filled, hilarious musical comedy with a cast of vibrant characters and a 'shrektacular' score.*

*Featuring the beloved Princess Fiona, the evil Lord Farquaad, a host of magical fairy-tale characters and fabulous songs including the smash hit 'I'm a Believer', Shrek the Musical is a 'musical extravaganza for big kids and little kids alike' (Bristol Post).*

Come join the adventure as Shrek and Donkey endeavour to complete their quest, finding unexpected friendships and surprising romance along the way. A perfect night out for the young, and the young at heart, the award-winning *Shrek the Musical* is guaranteed fun for all ages and will have you dancing in the aisles and laughing all the way home.

Tickets are currently on sale and can be purchased from the **Theatre Royal Plymouth website**.

## ENDS

Images can be downloaded here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzStaY>

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on [public.relations@theatroyal.com](mailto:public.relations@theatroyal.com) / 01752 230439

**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.