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For Immediate Release

**The world's most successful rock and roll musical *Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story* comes to Theatre Royal Plymouth in
2023**

“PURE UNADULTERATED FUN” Daily Telegraph

“THE SHOW YOU’LL NEVER FORGET” Daily Mail

On the back of an incredibly successful 30th year anniversary tour, smash hit rock & roll musical ***Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story*** is back in the UK for 2023 and visits **Theatre Royal Plymouth from 30 May – 3 June 2023.**

The musical first opened at Theatre Royal Plymouth in August 1989. Since then, *Buddy* has enjoyed phenomenal success, having played a record-breaking 4,668 performances over 580 weeks on tour in the UK and Ireland, as well as 5,822 performances over 728 weeks in London’s West End. *Buddy* is one of a small number of iconic musicals including *Les Misérables*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *Miss Saigon*, *Evita* and *Cats* in reaching a phenomenal three decades on stage.

Loved by critics and audiences alike, *Buddy* tells the enduring story of the musical icon’s meteoric rise from his Southern rockabilly beginnings to international stardom and his legendary final performance at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa, before his tragic and untimely death at the age of just 22. In 18 short months the bespectacled boy from Lubbock, Texas, revolutionised the face of contemporary music, and would influence everyone from The Beatles to Bruce Springsteen and the Rolling Stones.

Boasting a multi-talented cast of actor-musicians, *Buddy* presents two terrific hours of music with over 20 of his greatest hits, including the timeless classics *That’ll Be The Day*, *Peggy Sue*, *Oh Boy*, *Everyday* and *Rave On*. With the *Big Bopper’s Chantilly Lace* and *Ritchie Valens’ La Bamba*, and rip-roaring versions of *Shout* and *Johnny B. Goode* completing a stellar musical line-up, *Buddy* is a not to be missed evening of family entertainment.

Writer/Producer Alan Janes says: “*We are so excited to be back on tour and to see our audiences – aged 8 to 80 – dance in the aisles every night to our story of a young man whose musical career spanned an all-too-brief period, but whose music will be remembered forever.*”

Since its inception, *Buddy* has inspired a generation of multi-million selling jukebox musicals including *Mamma Mia* and *We Will Rock You* yet remains the true original and a musical phenomenon. Seen by more than 22 million theatregoers since it opened in London's West End in 1989, *Buddy* speaks an international language and continues to have audiences rockin' in the aisles across the globe!

Tickets for *Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story* at Theatre Royal Plymouth are currently on sale to Members. Tickets will be available for the general public from 23 September 2022 [via the website](#).

ENDS

Images can be downloaded here: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjA6YAw>

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