



Inspiring, Investing, and Inciting Artistic Expression

5552 E. LA PALMA AVE. ANAHEIM HILLS, CA 92807
Casey Long, Managing Director T (714) 777-3033 casey@chancetheater.com

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 11, 2009

Forty years after Woodstock, the Chance Theater proudly presents *Hair, The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical*

**The Chance produces a visceral, sexy, and contemporary take on the first rock musical,
opening July 10 in Anaheim Hills, CA**

Anaheim Hills, CA (June 11, 2009) – Oanh Nguyen, Artistic Director, and Casey Long, Managing Director, announced today that the Chance Theater is proud to be presenting ***Hair, the American Tribal Love-Rock Musical***, with book and lyrics by James Rado and Gerome Ragni, and music by Galt MacDermott. The production will be directed by Oanh Nguyen.

“As a Vietnamese-American that came to this country as part of the evacuation of Saigon in 1975, this time in American history is very personally important,” says Nguyen. “Our production will focus on who these young people were and what they were so passionately fighting for. We want to go beyond nostalgia, and find the root and the engine of the work: the pride, loyalty and subversive nature that are inherently a part of the American spirit. It’s easy to be patriotic when everyone agrees.”

Hair, The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical (July 10-August 16; Press opening: July 11, 2009) is the first rock musical, and is one of the most adventurous, outlandish, and ultimately profound musicals ever. Join the Tribe, a group of long-haired, politically active hippies, as they gather to usher in the dawning of a new age in America. As the first and most successful of the rock musicals, *Hair* possesses a timelessness and a meaning that outlives the era of “flower power”, and provokes you to take part in this celebration of life, and passionate cry for hope and change.

Hair originally opened on Broadway on April 29, 1968 at the Biltmore Theatre during a truly tumultuous time. Just weeks earlier, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, and Robert Kennedy would be assassinated less than two months later. Six months later, the show would begin a two-year run at the Aquarius Theatre in Los Angeles. Ted Neely, an original cast member of that production, stated recently on “CBS Sunday Morning” that there were numerous bomb scares throughout the run of the show. Currently, ***Hair*** has a revival currently playing on Broadway that received eight Tony Award nominations (winning for “Best Revival of a Musical”), eight Drama Desk Award nominations, and received the Outer Critics Circle Award for “Outstanding Revival of a Musical.”

In 1969, our country witnessed numerous anti-war movements, including the “National Moratorium” demonstration that involved hundreds of thousands of people all over the country, and one in Washington, D.C. with almost half a million demonstrators. It was also the year of the legendary hippy rock concert Woodstock, that took place from August 15-17 in Bethel, NY. The Chance Theater’s production of ***Hair*** will close exactly 40 years after this historic concert.

The cast for ***Hair*** includes Armando Gutierrez, James May, Michaelia Leigh, David LaMarr, Cody Clark, Amber Snead, Emily Clark*, Jenna Romano, Raleigh Bisbee, Alex Bueno*, Sean Cruz, Leigh Kato, Mike Lopez, Ashley Nordland, and Des Rhoden.

Creative staff and designers include Oanh Nguyen* (Director), Bill Strongin* (Musical Director), Kelly Todd*

(more)

(Choreographer), Christopher Scott Murillo (Scenic Designer), K.C. Wilkerson (Lighting Designer), Erika C. Miller* (Costume Designer), Jonathan Josephson* (Dramaturg), and Courtney Greenough* (Stage Manager).

* Denotes Chance Theater resident company member

If you would like to arrange an interview with any of the creative team or cast or would like more information, reservations or complimentary press passes, please call Managing Director at Casey Long (714) 777-3033 or email him at casey@chancetheater.com.

Performance & Ticket Information

July 10 – August 16 (Press Opening: July 11 at 8pm)

Hair, The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical

Book and Lyrics by Gerome Ragni and James Rado

Music by Galt MacDermott

Directed by Oanh Nguyen

Musical Direction by Bill Strongin

Choreographed by Kelly Todd

Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$30-\$45

As part of our Stimulus Campaign, a limited amount of discounted StimTix are available for every performance

The Chance Theater, 5552 E. La Palma Ave, Anaheim Hills, CA 92807

www.chancetheater.com

Box Office Information:

Phone number: (714) 777-3033

Make secure reservations at www.chancetheater.com.

About The Chance Theater

Voted “Best Theater Group” by *MyFoxLA* and “Best Small Theater” by *Orange Coast Magazine*, the Chance is proud to begin Season 11 as one of the leading ensemble based theatre companies in Southern California. A recipient of the 2007 Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle’s (LADCC) Polly Warfield Award for Excellence, a vital component of the Chance Theater’s mission has always been to intimately present personally meaningful, uniquely engaging stories that promote dialogue within our community and provide a visceral experience for theatergoers. As a constituent member of Theater Communications Group (TCG), Network of Ensemble Theaters (NET), and the Los Angeles Stage Alliance (LASA), the Chance continues to bring national attention to Southern California theater through its recent achievements, which include a 2006 GLAAD Media Award nomination for Outstanding Los Angeles Theater.

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