

WINNER 9 TONY AWARDS* INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL

THE BOOK OF MORMON

FROM THE CREATORS OF **SOUTH PARK**



PRESS RELEASE

Monday 27 April 2015 Embargoed until 5.00pm AEST

THE MORMONS ARE COMING TO MELBOURNE!

The Book of Mormon – the musical written by *South Park* creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone and *Avenue Q* co-creator Robert Lopez – is coming to Australia.

The Tony®, Olivier®, and Grammy® award-winning show will begin performances at **Melbourne's Princess Theatre** from **January 2017**.

The ticket waitlist is now open at **BookOfMormonMusical.com.au**. Sign up to receive priority-booking information for your chance to see *The Book of Mormon* first in Australia.

Parker, Stone and Lopez are excited to be bringing the show to Australia and they look forward to opening in Melbourne.

Trey Parker said: "We can't wait to get started. Everyone says we should look to Tassie for casting so that's where we're going first."

Winner of nine **Tony Awards®** including **Best Musical** and the **Grammy®** for **Best Musical Theatre album**, *The Book of Mormon* follows a pair of Mormon boys sent on a mission to Uganda.

**"The best musical of this century."
Ben Brantley, The New York Times**

The Book of Mormon made its world premiere in March 2011 at Broadway's Eugene O'Neill Theatre. The London production opened in February 2013 at the Prince of Wales Theatre, winning four **Olivier Awards®**, including **Best New Musical**.

The show has set house records at 27 theaters around the US, and broken the house record at New York's Eugene O'Neill Theater more than 50 times. The London production broke box office records for the highest single day of sales in West End history.

The Book of Mormon is produced in Australia by Anne Garefino, Scott Rudin, Important Musicals and John Frost.

Book, Music and Lyrics are by Trey Parker, Robert Lopez and Matt Stone. Directed by Casey Nicholaw and Trey Parker, *The Book of Mormon* has choreography by Casey Nicholaw, set design by Scott Pask, costume design by Ann Roth, lighting design by Brian MacDevitt,

sound design by Brian Ronan, orchestrations by Larry Hochman and Stephen Oremus and music supervision and vocal arrangements by Stephen Oremus.

"Melbourne is one of the arts and culture capitals of the world. We're proud to host the premiere Australian season of this international musical phenomenon here in Melbourne," said the Premier of Victoria, Daniel Andrews.

NOTES TO EDITORS

TREY PARKER (CO-DIRECTOR, BOOK, MUSIC, LYRICS)

Parker wrote and directed his first feature film, *Cannibal! The Musical*, while attending the University of Colorado in Boulder. A few years later, Trey co-created the hit animated series *South Park* with Matt Stone (his college friend and *Cannibal!* producer). Debuting on Comedy Central in 1997 and currently in its 16th Season, *South Park* has won four Emmy® Awards, as well as the coveted Peabody Award. The same year *South Park* debuted, Parker wrote, directed, and starred in the film *Orgazmo*. Two years later, Parker and Stone released the critically acclaimed feature film, *South Park: Bigger, Longer, and Uncut*. The musical, which Parker directed and co-wrote earned an Oscar nomination for best song and a NY Film Critics Award. In 2004, the pair returned to theatres with *Team America: World Police*, an action movie co-written and directed by Parker that starred a cast of marionettes. It has been a long-time dream of Parker's to write a musical for Broadway. Trey Parker is originally from Conifer, Colorado.

MATT STONE (BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS)

Stone met Trey Parker at the University of Colorado and together they made a short animated piece called, *The Spirit of Christmas*. This launched their most recognised work, the critically acclaimed and award-winning television show, *South Park*. The animated series is in its 16th season on Comedy Central and has won Stone four Emmy® Awards and the coveted Peabody Award. *South Park: Bigger, Longer, and Uncut*, which Stone produced and co-wrote, earned an Oscar nomination and the first NY Film Critics Award for an animated film. In addition to *South Park*, Stone has partnered with Parker on the low budget *Cannibal! The Musical*, the superhero comedy *Orgazmo* and the marionette action thriller *Team America: World Police*. Matt Stone is originally from Littleton, Colorado.

ROBERT LOPEZ (BOOK, MUSIC, LYRICS)

Robert is the Tony®, Grammy®, and Emmy® winning co-creator of the smash hit musicals *Avenue Q* and *The Book of Mormon*. With wife Kristen Anderson-Lopez he wrote songs for Disney animated feature *Frozen*, starring Idina Menzel and Kristen Bell, winning an Oscar® for Best Original Song and a Grammy for "Let it Go". Together with his wife he co-wrote songs for *Winnie the Pooh* (Walt Disney Animation Studios, 2011) and *Finding Nemo: The Musical* (playing at Walt Disney World since 2006) and is working on a forthcoming original stage musical called *Up Here*. He shared two Emmy Awards® for his music for *The Wonder Pets* and an Emmy® nomination for the *Scrubs* musical episode. His work has been seen on *South Park*, *The Simpsons*, and *Phineas and Ferb*.

CASEY NICHOLAW (CO-DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER)

Nicholaw won the 2011 Tony®, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for co-directing *The Book of Mormon*, and the 2014 Olivier®, Award for Best Theatre Choreographer. Also currently represented on Broadway as director/choreographer of Disney's *Aladdin* (Tony,

Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations, Best Choreography) and director / choreographer of *Something Rotten!* which opened in April 2015 (Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations). Broadway: *Elf: The Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations), Monty Python's *Spamalot* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations, Best Choreography). New York: *Anyone Can Whistle*, *Follies* (direction, choreography), *Bye Bye Birdie* (choreography), *Can-Can* (musical staging) for Encores!; *Candide* (NY Philharmonic); *South Pacific* (Carnegie Hall, PBS "Great Performances"); *Sinatra: His Voice, His World, His Way* (Radio City). He directed and choreographed the world premieres of *Minsky's* (Center Theatre Group) and *Robin and the 7 Hoods* (Old Globe). For TV: a 2013 episode of NBC's *Smash*.

Contains explicit language.

The Book of Mormon
Melbourne's Princess Theatre
163 Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
From January 2017
BookOfMormonMusical.com.au

Follow *The Book of Mormon* on social media:
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