



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAST REVEALED FOR  
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S  
**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**  
IN A SPECTACULAR NEW PRODUCTION BY  
CAMERON MACKINTOSH

FORT LAUDERDALE PREMIERE ENGAGEMENT COMES TO BROWARD CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
NOVEMBER 19-30, 2014

Fort Lauderdale, FL – October 21, 2014 Cameron Mackintosh and Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group are delighted to announce the casting for their spectacular new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** currently on sale for the premiere Fort Lauderdale, FL, engagement at Broward Center for the Performing Arts. With newly reinvented staging and stunning scenic design, this new version of **PHANTOM**, one of the most successful musicals of all-time, will be performed by a cast and orchestra of 52, making this one of the largest productions on tour in North America.

To purchase tickets, visit [www.browardcenter.org](http://www.browardcenter.org), call 1-800-745-3000 or visit the **Box Office** at **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**, 201 SW Fifth Avenue, Ft Lauderdale, FL, 33312. Ticket prices start at \$34.75.

**Cooper Grodin** portrays the man behind the mask, 'The Phantom,' with **Julia Udine** as 'Christine Daaé,' **Ben Jacoby** as 'Raoul,' **Jacquelynn Fontaine** as 'Carlotta Giudicelli,' **Brad Oscar** as 'Monsieur Firmin,' **Edward Staudenmayer** as 'Monsieur André,' **Linda Balgord** as 'Madame Giry,' **Frank Viveros** as 'Ubaldo Piangi' and **Hannah Florence** as 'Meg Giry.'

Beginning November 25, **Chris Mann** will make his theatrical national tour debut as 'The Phantom,' with **Katie Travis** as 'Christine Daaé,' **Storm Lineberger** as 'Raoul,' **David Benoit** as 'Monsieur Firmin,' **Anne Kanengeiser** as 'Madame Giry' and **Morgan Cowling** as 'Meg Giry.'

**Cooper Grodin** has recently been seen in Shakespeare in the Park's *Into The Woods*, the Drama Desk-nominated Best Revival of *The Golden Land* and across the country in the National Tour of *Les Misérables*. His debut original album "It's The Little Things" was released in 2012. **Julia Udine** makes her touring debut with **PHANTOM**. Regionally, she starred as Maria in *West Side Story* and appeared on "Law and Order SVU." Chicago native, **Ben Jacoby** has performed at the Marriott Theatre, Milwaukee Rep, Maine State Music Theatre and the Utah Shakespeare Festival. **Jacquelynn Fontaine's** stage and opera credits include *The Student Prince* (Kathie, Pittsburgh CLO), *A Little Night Music* (Charlotte, Indiana Rep), *La Traviata* (Violetta) and was Miss California 2006.

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**Brad Oscar's** Broadway credits include *Big Fish*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *The Producers* (Tony® nomination), *The Addams Family*, *Spamalot* and has also been featured on TV's *Smash* and *The Good Wife*. **Edward Staudenmayer's** Broadway credits include *Wonderland*, *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me* and *Beauty and the Beast* (1<sup>st</sup> National Tour). **Linda Balgord** received a Drama Desk Award nomination for *The Pirate Queen* and has also been seen on Broadway in *Gypsy*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Cats* and *Passion*. **Frank Viveros** originated the roles of Bloat The Blowfish in Disney's *Finding Nemo: The Musical* and Iron Chef in *Yellow Brick Road*. **Hannah Florence** appeared in *Scandalous* (Broadway) as well as *Where's Charley* (Encores!), *Anna Nicole* (NYC Opera/BAM) and *Mary Poppins* (1<sup>st</sup> National Tour).

Recording artist **Chris Mann** had his breakout turn on NBC's "The Voice." In 2012, he released his debut solo album "Roads" and followed with his PBS Concert "Chris Mann In Concert: A Mann For All Seasons." **Katie Travis** has performed principal roles at The MUNY (*Les Misérables*, Cosette), Fireside Theater, Liederkrantz Opera Theater and was a 2014 winner of the Lys Symonette Award (Lotte Lenya Competition). **Storm Lineberger** has performed at the Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, New London Barn Playhouse and is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. **David Benoit's** Broadway and National Tour credits include *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Avenue Q*, *Les Misérables*, *Dance of the Vampires*, *Young Frankenstein* and *All Shook Up*. **Anne Kanengeiser's** Broadway and National Tour credits include the original companies of *Ragtime* and *Little Women*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. **Morgan Cowling** appeared in *Once We Lived Here* (Off-Broadway), Disney's *Wishes* (Original Cast) and Australian productions of *Guys and Dolls* and *Seussical*.

The Ensemble includes Adam Bashian, Krista Buccellato (beginning Nov 25), Nick Cartell, Dan Debenport, Amy Decker, Mark Emerson, David Foley, Jr., Celia Hottenstein, Christopher M. Howard, Merritt David Janes, Edward Juvier, Ted Keener, Luke Lazzaro, Jay Lusteck, Katie McCreary, Grace Morgan, Christy Morton, Lindsay O'Neil, Quinto Ott, Eric Ruiz, Allan Snyder and Marguerite Willbanks. The Corps de Ballet includes Christina Dooling (beginning Nov 25), Sarah DeBiase (beginning Dec 8), Anjelica Bette Fellini, Ramona Kelley, Abigail Mentzer, Lily Rose Peck, Alexandra Pernice, Tara Sweeney and Micki Weiner.

For more information on the production and a video sneak peek, please visit [www.ThePhantomOfTheOpera.com/USTour](http://www.ThePhantomOfTheOpera.com/USTour)

Andrew Lloyd Webber said, "It's wonderful to have a new production of **PHANTOM** touring America now that the show has celebrated over 26 years on Broadway. Director Laurence Connor has done an amazing job and this production has received huge critical acclaim in the UK."

Cameron Mackintosh said, "After a glorious celebration of 26 phenomenal years on Broadway with no end in sight, I'm delighted that this dazzling new production of **PHANTOM** has been phenomenally well-received by both audiences and critics alike in the U.K. and now the U.S. With an exciting new design and staging, retaining Maria Björnson's amazing costumes, I am confident North American audiences will fall in love with the **PHANTOM** in his new guise -- for the first time or all over again."

The new production of **PHANTOM** is an enormous hit with audiences and critics alike...

"Extraordinarily opulent. This PHANTOM'S storytelling and relationships have an electrifying tension."  
– *Chicago Sun-Times*

"An intense and spectacular new production with a stunning new design, fresh drama and added momentum." – *Sunday Express* (UK)

"Take a deep breath and prepare to be dazzled; this kind of gorgeous escapism is exactly what audiences need." – *The Scotsman* (UK)

"Powerful, gorgeous...and better than ever." – *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

"This PHANTOM is for a new generation." – Roy Leonard, *Chicago Now*

This new production of **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** is directed by Laurence Connor (the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of *Les Misérables* now on Broadway) with choreography by Scott Ambler, set design by Paul Brown, Tony Award-winning original costume design by Maria Björnson, lighting design by Tony Award-winner Paule Constable, sound design by Mick Potter and musical supervision by John Rigby. The production is overseen by Matthew Bourne and Cameron Mackintosh. **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** has music by Andrew Lloyd Webber; lyrics are by Charles Hart (with additional lyrics by Richard Stilgoe) and the book is by Richard Stilgoe and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Orchestrations are by David Cullen and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

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There are currently eight productions of **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** around the world: the flagship London production (approaching 28 Years and counting), New York (26½ Years and counting), Sapporo (Japan, 25 Years and counting, in repertory), Budapest (Hungary), Hamburg (Germany), the Asian Pacific Tour (now in Taipei, Taiwan), Moscow (Russia, which has its official opening on October 4) and Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular new production now on North American Tour. Following Moscow, the next international openings will be in Hong Kong in December 2014 and Istanbul (Turkey) in April 2015.

**THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** became the first stage production to reach worldwide grosses of \$6 billion, which it did this summer. Revenues far surpass the world's highest-grossing film *Avatar* (at \$2.8 billion), as well as such other blockbusters as *Titanic*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Jurassic Park* and *Star Wars*.

Worldwide, **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** has played over 65,000 performances that have been seen by 140 million people in 30 countries and 151 cities in 14 languages. The show has won more than 70 major theater awards.

There have been three previous U.S. National Tours of **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** that grossed over \$1.5 billion in combined box office sales and played 216 engagements in 77 cities for an unprecedented total of 36 years and over 14,500 performances to 31 million people.

Based on the classic novel *Le Fantôme de L'Opéra* by Gaston Leroux, **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA** tells the story of a masked figure who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, exercising a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano, Christine, and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talents and by employing all of the devious methods at his command.

Official show site: [www.ThePhantomOfTheOpera.com](http://www.ThePhantomOfTheOpera.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PhantomOnTour](http://www.facebook.com/PhantomOnTour)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PhantomOnTour](http://www.twitter.com/PhantomOnTour)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/PhantomTour](http://www.instagram.com/PhantomTour)

### Calendar Listing

#### **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**

**November 19 – 30, 2014**

Following an acclaimed sold-out tour of the United Kingdom, Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's phenomenal musical success, **THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**, will come to Fort Lauderdale as part of a brand new North American Tour. Critics are raving that this breathtaking production is "bigger and better than ever before." This PHANTOM features a brilliant new scenic design by Paul Brown, Tony Award®-winning original costume design by Maria Björnson, lighting design by Tony Award®-winner Paule Constable, new choreography by Scott Ambler, and a new staging by director Laurence Connor. The production, overseen by Matthew Bourne and Cameron Mackintosh, boasts many exciting special effects including the show's legendary chandelier. The beloved story and thrilling score - with songs like "Music of the Night," "All I Ask Of You," and "Masquerade" - will be performed by a cast and orchestra of 52, making this PHANTOM one of the largest productions now on tour

**Tickets start at \$34.75**

**Broward Center for the Performing Arts**

**201 SW Fifth Avenue, Ft Lauderdale, FL, 33312**

**For tickets visit [www.browardcenter.org](http://www.browardcenter.org); by phone 1-800-745-3000**

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### **ABOUT BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA:**

BROADWAY ACROSS AMERICA is part of the Key Brand Entertainment family of companies, which includes Broadway.com and is operated by John Gore (Owner & CEO). BAA is the foremost presenter of first-class touring musicals and plays in North America, operating in 40 markets. As a leading Broadway producer, BAA is dedicated to the development and production of new and diverse theatre. Current/upcoming productions include *Beautiful*, *Bullets Over Broadway*, *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Pippin*. Past productions include *Hairspray*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Memphis*, *Promises, Promises* and *The Producers*. Broadway.com is the premier theater website for news, exclusive content and ticket sales. For more information please visit [BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com](http://BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com) and [Broadway.com](http://Broadway.com).

### **THE BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues, consistently ranked among the top ten in the country. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. In 2007, the Broward Center was named the

#### **4 – THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA/ BCPA**

Cultural Embassy of Broward County in recognition of its success in linking cultural activity with the region's economic development.

The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop, and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit [www.BrowardCenter.org](http://www.BrowardCenter.org).

#### **BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY**

Building on a long-standing tradition of investing in the communities it serves, Bank of America is delivering on a 10-year goal to donate \$2 billion to nonprofit organizations engaged in improving the health and vitality of their neighborhoods. Funded by Bank of America, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation gave more than \$200 million in 2010, making the bank one of the largest corporate cash donors in the United States. As a global company serving clients through operations in more than 40 countries, Bank of America approaches investing through a national strategy under which it works with local leaders to identify and meet the most pressing needs of individual communities. Reaffirming a commitment to develop and sustain a culture of service, bank associate volunteers contributed more than one million hours in 2010 to enhance the quality of life in their communities worldwide. For more information about Bank of America Corporate Philanthropy, please visit [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation).