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NORTH AMERICA – GET READY FOR THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE



DIRTY DANCING – THE CLASSIC STORY ON STAGE

Written by Eleanor Bergstein

WILL PREMIERE IN TORONTO AT THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA THEATRE PREVIEW PERFORMANCES BEGIN OCTOBER 31, 2007 GALA OPENING NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Following triumphant openings in London, Germany and Australia, David and Ed Mirvish, by arrangement with Jacobsen Entertainment, in association with Lionsgate and Magic Hour Productions, are delighted to present the North American premiere of **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** written by Eleanor Bergstein, the author and co-producer of the phenomenally successful movie **Dirty Dancing**.

Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage will begin preview performances at the **Royal Alexandra Theatre** on October 31, with the official opening set for November 15, 2007.

Proclaimed “The time of your life, again!” by London’s Daily Telegraph, **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** received 4 Stars from The Times, The Independent, The Financial Times, The Evening Standard, The Mail on Sunday, The Sunday Times and Time Out London. (Reviewers comments at the end of this press announcement).

The Toronto production will be staged by the same acclaimed creative team as the London production, headed by director **James Powell** and choreographer **Kate Champion**. A Canada-wide casting search for the Toronto production of **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** is underway. More audition details will be announced shortly.

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With unforgettable songs like “Hungry Eyes,” the Academy Award-winning “(I’ve had) The Time Of My Life,” and classics like “Do You Love Me?” **Dirty Dancing** is a popular culture icon. It is a coming of age love story involving the talented and headstrong dancer Johnny Castle and Frances “Baby” Houseman. During her family’s summer holiday at the popular Kellerman’s resort, Baby, a doctor’s daughter with dreams of joining the Peace Corps, meets Johnny, the guy from the wrong side of the tracks. Against all odds, they fall in love, learning life-changing lessons along the way. **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage**, follows the highs and lows of their summer romance.

‘That was the summer of 1963, when everybody called me Baby and it didn’t occur to me to mind...’

Experience the excitement and passion of the classic story as never before with more than twenty brand new scenes written especially for the stage. Now with more Baby and Johnny, more sensational dancing and even more classic songs - you're sure to have 'the time of your life!'

"It was the immense open heartedness and joyful response of fans which finally convinced me to do the **Dirty Dancing** stage musical," says writer and creator Eleanor Bergstein. "Since people saw the movie over and over and over again, I decided what they really wanted was to be there when it was happening. The stage offers the opportunity to have it LIVE, NOW, and have MORE."

Producer Kevin Jacobsen added, "**Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** is the fastest-selling show in British theatrical history. When we opened at the Aldwych Theatre on October 24, 2006, we had a record advance sale for a West End musical, and we were fortunate enough to receive great reviews."

David Mirvish said, "It's totally appropriate that **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** should premiere in North America in Toronto. The **Dirty Dancing** movie was extremely popular in Canada. I know that Toronto audiences will be thrilled by the show that this fine creative team will create for them next year. To make the premiere even more thrilling, **Dirty Dancing** will be the official show to mark the beloved Royal Alexandra Theatre's 100th anniversary. It will be a classic story for a classic theatre."

Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage will be the anchor show of the 2007-2008 Mirvish Subscription Season. The other shows in the Subscription Season will be announced on January 30, 2007, at which time current subscribers will be able to renew their seats and new subscribers will be able to secure the best available seats, before single tickets are made available to the general public on April 16, 2007. Group sales to **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** are now available.

Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage
North American Premiere
Previews Begin October 31, 2007
Gala Opening Night November 15, 2007
The Royal Alexandra Theatre, 260 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

www.dirtydancingonstage.com

Group Sales are now available by calling Mirvish Groups at 416-593-4142 or 1-800-724-6420.

Subscription Seats to the 2007-2008 Mirvish Subscription Season, of which **Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage** is the anchor show, will be available as of January 30, 2007.
For subscription info: call 416-593-4225 or 1-800-771-3933.

Single Tickets will go on sale April 16, 2007.
Call TicketKing at: 416-872-1212 or 1-800-461-3333
Online Sales: www.mirvish.com <<http://www.mirvish.com>>

For photography, visit: www.mirvish.com/ImageBank

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