

## DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST VISITS THE VENETIAN MACAO AS PART OF THE FIRST-EVER INTERNATIONAL TOUR

Production coming to Macao in June - July, 2015

Disney Theatrical Productions, NETworks and Broadway Entertainment Group are delighted to announce that, in celebration of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast's* 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the stage, the show will visit Macao for the very first time as part of the forthcoming International tour. The English-language production will play at The Venetian Theatre of The Venetian Macao from June 19 to July 26, 2015 as part of a tour which also visits Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, and Indonesia. This is another Broadway musical that Sands China Ltd. has brought to Macao. Tickets for the show at The Venetian Theatre go on sale in March 2015. Visit www.cotaiticketing.com for further details.

The international tour of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* will see the show's original Broadway creative team reuniting to bring this Broadway classic to life. The musical is directed by Rob Roth and choreographed by Matt West, with Costume Design by Ann Hould-Ward (Tony Award® winner for her work on Disney's Beauty and the Beast), Lighting Design by Natasha Katz, Scenic Design by Stanley A. Meyer, Sound Design by John Petrafesa Jr. and Music Supervision by Michael Kosarin.

"Celebrating the 20th anniversary of Disney's Beauty and the Beast, we are pleased to bring this Broadway musical to Macao as part of our international tour. We are so excited to see the Macao audience fall in love with this beloved tale," said Liz Koops, CEO of Broadway Entertainment Group.

"We are absolutely thrilled to bring this fantastic Broadway show to Macao," said Scott Messinger, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Sands China Ltd. "Performances of this stature are a big part of Sands China's multi-tiered entertainment strategy to help Macao become a center for tourism and entertainment. We are delivering on our commitment in this instance by bringing the best of Broadway shows to Macao for our guests to enjoy."

Based on the 1991 Academy-Award winning animated feature film, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* premiered on Broadway in 1994, where was nominated for nine prestigious Tony Awards and ran for 13 years. It still ranks as one of the longest-running and highest-grossing Broadway shows of all time. Since its debut, the titles visibility and success have expanded globally with subsequent productions produced around the world. Since licensing of the title began in 2004, there have been productions in 22 countries, seen by more than 35 million people, translated into 8 different languages with over 28 thousand performances - equivalent to a run of 67 years, generating over \$1.7B in revenue.

In the U.S., *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* has been licensed to over 6,000 individual theatres including professional, community and school productions. For the past five years, it has been the most performed musical in high schools in the United States. The title's strength has allowed it to enter international markets with limited traditions of producing Broadway musical theatre. It was the first Disney Theatrical Productions title in countries across Scandinavia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Russia, among others. In addition to professional productions, *Beauty and the Beast* is Disney's most requested title internationally for regional, community and armature productions.

Currently, there are 5 productions of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* playing around the world including Paris and tours in North America, Spain, Japan and Germany.

*Disney's Beauty and the Beast* is the classic story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed by an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he

will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

The musical boasts music by Alan Menken (*The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, Tangled*) and lyrics by the late Howard Ashman (*The Little Mermaid, Aladdin*), with additional songs with music by Menken and lyrics by Tim Rice (*The Lion King, Jesus Christ Superstar*). The book is written by Linda Woolverton (screenwriter of *The Lion King, Alice in Wonderland* and the upcoming *Maleficent*).



**Photo caption:** In celebration of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast's* 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the stage, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, the show will be held at The Venetian Macao Jun. 19 – Jul. 26, 2015 for the very first time as part of the forthcoming International tour.

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## **Entertainment at Sands China Ltd. Resorts**

Sands China Ltd. has as a clear vision to establish Macao as Asia's top entertainment destination.

The 15,000-seat Cotai Arena is the only venue in Asia ranked in *Pollstar's* Top 100 Worldwide Arena Venues based on ticket sales. It is the top entertainment destination in southern China, hosting the world's and the region's biggest names in music, sports and awards shows. Superstars frequently choose the venue as the starting point of their Asian tours.

The 1800-seat multi-purpose Venetian Theatre is one of the most luxurious entertainment venues in greater China. Featuring ushers in black-tie, champagne service, gourmet food and beverage items and other unique, premium amenities, it offers an intimate, luxurious and exclusive venue experience. The Venetian Theatre is playing a key role in bringing the best in international and Chinese entertainment to Macao, with a luxury theatre experience like no other in the region.

The 650-seat Sands Theatre regularly features internationally-renowned singers, performers and artists of the highest calibre. From traditional Chinese-costumed dancers to modern performances, and from singing troupes to contemporary bands, everything from Western rock to Cantonese pop is covered.

With an unbeatable diversity, the entertainment offering of Sands China Ltd. is ushering in a new era of entertainment in Macao.

For information about upcoming shows and events, visit <u>www.venetianmacao.com/entertainment.html</u>.