



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Louis G. Spisto, *Executive Director*
Craig Noel, *Artistic Director*

P.O. Box 122171 Tel 619/231-1941
San Diego, CA Fax 619/231-5879
92112-2171 www.theoldglobe.org

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Contact: Becky Biegelsen (619) 231-1941
www.theoldglobe.org

THE OLD GLOBE LEADS OFF SEASON 2004/2005

WITH WORLD PREMIERE MUSICAL

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

***2003 TONY AWARD®-WINNER JACK O'BRIEN TEAMS UP AGAIN WITH
HAIRSPRAY CHOREOGRAPHER JERRY MITCHELL
AND FULL MONTY COMPOSER/LYRICIST DAVID YAZBEK***

San Diego – The Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is pleased to announce the world premiere musical *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* as the first production in its 2004/2005 Season, playing in the Old Globe Theatre **September 15 through November 7, 2004** (press opening September 22). Based on the film of the same name, this thrilling production will be directed by Old Globe Artistic Director **Jack O'Brien**, who won the 2003 Tony Award® for his direction of the Broadway hit *Hairspray*.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels features music and lyrics by *The Full Monty* composer/lyricist **David Yazbek** and a book by **Jeffrey Lane**. Broadway's leading choreographer **Jerry Mitchell** also joins the creative team as choreographer, having teamed up with O'Brien on their previous productions of *The Full Monty*, *Imaginary Friends* and *Hairspray*.

Following its run at The Old Globe, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* has plans to move to New York for a Broadway opening on March 3, 2005 (previews begin January 31).

The cast of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* is highlighted by multiple Tony and Emmy Award-winner **John Lithgow** in the role of "Lawrence Jameson" as well as **Norbert Leo Butz** as "Freddy Benson," **Sherie Rene Scott** as "Christine Colgate," Tony Award-winner **Joanna Gleason** as "Muriel Eubanks," **Gregory Jbara** as "Andre Thibault" and **Sara Gettelfinger** as "Jolene Oakes."

The ensemble includes: Timothy J. Alex, Andrew Asnes, Roxane Barlow, Joe Cassidy, Julie Connors, Rachel deBenedet, Laura Marie Duncan, Sally Mae Dunn, Rick Faugno, Tom Galantich, Jason Gillman, Greg Graham, Amy Heggins, Grasan Kingsberry, Rachele Rak and Tony Yazbeck.

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Based on the popular 1988 film, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* centers on two con men living in the French Riviera. The first, a small-time crook named Freddy Benson, swindles women by wakening their compassion with fabricated stories about his grandmother's failing health. The other is suave, sophisticated con artist Lawrence Jameson, who also makes his living by talking rich ladies out of their money, but on a much grander scale. After meeting on a train, they unsuccessfully attempt to work together only to find that this small French town isn't big enough for the two of them. They agree on a settlement: the first one to extract \$50,000 from a young female target wins, and the other must leave town. A hilarious battle of cons ensues, bringing out the best and worst in each man, along with a fun, unexpected twist that will keep audiences laughing, humming and guessing to the end!

The production team for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* includes David Rockwell, Scenic Designer (*Hairspray*, *The Rocky Horror Show*), Gregg Barnes, Costume Designer (*Sideshow*), Kenneth Posner, Lighting Design (*Hairspray*, *Imaginary Friends*), Ted Sperling, Music Director (*The Full Monty*, *Floyd Collins*, *Striking 12*); Zane Mark, Dance Music Arranger (*The Full Monty*); and Michael Brunner, Stage Manager.

The Old Globe is also pleased to announce its annual **Gala on Saturday, September 18**, which will include a cocktail reception and silent auction, a special preview performance of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, followed by dinner and dancing on the Globe plaza. This exciting event, co-chaired by Board members **Karen Cohn, Valerie Cooper and Sheryl White**, is the Globe's largest fund-raiser, celebrating the achievements of the year as well as supporting the institution's educational outreach programs. For more information, please contact the Globe Development Office at (619) 231-1941, x2307

Patrons can purchase tickets immediately and guarantee their seats to this thrilling world premiere musical by purchasing a subscription to the Globe's 2004/5 season. Single tickets to ***Dirty Rotten Scoundrels***, will go on sale on August 29. Subscriptions/tickets can be purchased by calling Globe Ticket Services at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, by visiting the Globe Box Office in Balboa Park, or online at www.TheOldGlobe.org.

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Winner of a Drama Desk Award and nominated for a Tony Award® for his score of *The Full Monty*, **David Yazbek** is a singer/songwriter whose debut album, *The Laughing Man*, won the 1997 N.A.I.R.D. Award for Best Pop Album. Other albums include *Tock* and *Damascus*. For theater he has composed original music for *Boy's Life* (Lincoln Center), *Mojo* (Atlantic Theatre), *The Pope's Nose* (Manhattan Punchline), and many others. For television he has written for such shows as *Late Night with David Letterman* (Emmy Award), *Reading Rainbow*, *Johnny Bravo* and *Out of the Box*. He co-created *Puzzle Place* for PBS and wrote the popular theme song to *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego*. Yazbek has also scored films and shows for HBO, NBC, Fox, Nickelodeon and German television. As a songwriter and/or producer, he has worked with such artists as XTC, The Verve Pipe, Space Hog, Tito Puente, Ruben Blades, Rockapella, Crash Test Dummies and the Persuasions.

Jeffrey Lane's credits include writing for the popular television series *Mad About You*, as well as *The Murder of Mary Phagen*, *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd*, *Lou Grant*, *Ryan's Hope*, *The American Film Institute Salute to Gene Kelly*, the Tony Awards (1987-88), and many others. He is the recipient of two Peabody Awards and an Emmy Award.

Jack O'Brien has served as The Old Globe's Artistic Director for over 20 years. He won the Tony Award® for Best Director in 2003 for his direction of the hit Broadway musical *Hairspray*. Other Broadway credits include *Imaginary Friends*, *The Full Monty* (Tony® nomination); *Henry IV* with Kevin Kline, *The Invention of Love* (Tony® nomination); *Pride's Crossing*, *The Little Foxes* and *Hapgood* (Lortel Award), all for Lincoln Center Theatre; *Labor Day* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *Getting Away With Murder*; *Damn Yankees* (1994 revival); *Two Shakespearean Actors* (Tony® nomination); *The Cocktail Hour*; and *Porgy and Bess* (Tony nomination®). For The Old Globe he has staged, among others: *Twelfth Night*, *The Seagull*, *The Magic Fire*, Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, *Henry IV*, *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, the world premieres of Terrence McNally's *Up In Saratoga* and A.R. Gurney's *The Snow Ball*. His opera credits include *The Magic Flute* at San Francisco Opera, *Tosca* at Santa Fe Opera, and *Street Scene*, NYC Opera. For television he has directed "An Enemy of the People," "All My Sons," "I Never Sang for My Father," and "The Skin Of Our Teeth" among others, all for PBS's American Playhouse. Mr. O'Brien is the recipient of the 2002 "Mr. Abbott" Award, the 2001 Joan Cullman Award for Extraordinary Creativity, the 2001 Joe A. Callaway Award (SSDC) and the Drama League's 2001 Julia Hansen Award for Excellence in Directing.

Jerry Mitchell's choreographic career began as Associate Choreographer to Michael Bennett on *Scandal* and Jerome Robbins on *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*. Since that time he has established himself as a top working choreographer, acting as the staff choreographer for "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" and choreographing ABC'S "Gepetto" starring Drew Carey. Emmy nominated for choreographing "The Drew Carey Show," his memorable film work includes *In and Out*, *Drop Dead Gorgeous* and *Scent of a Woman*. Mr. Mitchell also choreographed the Broadway productions of *Never Gonna Dance*, *Hairspray* (Tony® nomination), *The Full Monty* (Tony® nomination), *Imaginary Friends*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, the national tour of *Jekyll and Hyde* and the Paper Mill Playhouse's critically acclaimed *Follies* featuring Ann Miller. Each year Mr. Mitchell conceives, directs and choreographs *Broadway Bares*; a comedy burlesque performed annually to raise money for Broadway Cares.

David Rockwell has designed sets for *Hairspray* (Tony®, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, and Hewes nominations) and *The Rocky Horror Show* (Drama Desk nomination). He heads up the architecture and design firm, Rockwell Group. Known for its theatrically inspired designs, the company includes among its recent projects the Kodak Theatre (Los Angeles), W New York and W Union Square Hotels (New York), several projects for Cirque du Soleil, and the Motown Center (Detroit). He is the recipient of awards from the New York Chapter of the AIA, Business Week Magazine, Interior Design Magazine, and James Beard Foundation and he received a Presidential Design Award for Grand Central Terminal.

Gregg Barnes' costume design credits include *Side Show*, *Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular*, *Pageant* and *Flower Drum Song* (Mark Taper Forum). Also in NY: *Encores! (Du Barry was a Lady, Sweet Adelaine, Ziegfeld Follies of 1936)*, *The Kathy and Mo Show*, *Zombie Prom*, and New York City Opera's productions of *The Merry Widow* and *Cinderella*. National Tour credits include: *Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus*, *South Pacific*, *Disney on Ice* among others. He also designed costumes for ten seasons at Paper Mill Playhouse.

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Lighting Designer **Kenneth Posner** earned a Tony Award® nomination for his design for *Hairspray*. He also designed lights for the Broadway productions of *Imaginary Friends*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations), *Swing!*; *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; *The Goat*; *Uncle Vanya*; *Side Man* (Lortel Award); *The Lion in Winter*; *Little Me*; *A View from the Bridge* (Drama Desk nomination); *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*; *The Little Foxes*; and *The Rose Tattoo*. Off-Broadway: *The Wild Party* (Lortel Award, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations), *The Play About the Baby*, *tick, tick...BOOM!*, *The Waverly Gallery*, *Pride's Crossing* (Lortel Award), *As Bees in Honey Drown*, *Cowgirls*, *The Food Chain*, *suburbia*, and numerous productions for Playwrights Horizons, the Public, MTC, Second Stage, the Vineyard and Classic Stage Company. Opera credits include designs for the New York City Opera and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Ted Sperling served as Music Director for the Globe's productions of *Striking 12*, *The Full Monty* and *Floyd Collins*. As Associate Artistic Director of the Prince Music Theater in Philadelphia, Mr. Sperling directed the premiere of *Striking 12*. Other directing credits at the Prince include the world premiere of *Charlotte: Life? Or Theater?*, the U.S. premiere of *Peter Pan and Wendy* by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe, and a revival of *Lady in the Dark*, starring Andrea Marcovicci. Broadway credits as music director include *The Full Monty*, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and *My Favorite Year*. Off-Broadway credits include *A Man of No Importance*, the workshop production of Stephen Sondheim's *Wise Guys*, Adam Guettel's *Floyd Collins* and *Saturn Returns* and William Finn's *A New Brain*, *Falsettoland*, and *Romance in Hard Times*. Mr. Sperling conducted the world premiere recording of *Ragtime*, and two songs for the animated film *Anastasia*, one of which was nominated for an Academy Award. He has been performing with soprano Audra McDonald for four years; their most recent recording is *Happy Songs* on the Nonesuch label.

John Lithgow was born to a theatrical family in Rochester, New York, and grew up in Ohio, where his father produced Shakespeare festivals throughout the state. At the age of six, Mr. Lithgow made his stage debut in a production of *Henry VI, Part 3*. After graduating from Harvard, he won a Fulbright Scholarship and used the opportunity to study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. In 1973, he settled in New York, where he pursued his stage career, appearing in a wide variety of plays on Broadway and at the New York Shakespeare Festival and directing productions at a number of prestigious theatre companies. Recently, Lithgow performed in the Flea Theater's critically and publicly acclaimed theater production of "Mrs. Farnsworth," in which he starred with Sigourney Weaver.

Mr. Lithgow first achieved national attention when his performance as Roberta Muldoon in "The World According to Garp" was nominated for a 1982 Academy Award. Since then, he has continued to win popular and critical acclaim for his work in film, in television, and onstage garnering numerous awards including two Tony Awards (*Sweet Smell of Success* and *The Changing Room*), four Emmy Awards (three for *Third Rock from the Sun* and one for a guest appearance on *Amazing Stories*), and a Golden Globe. He also received Tony Award nominations for his performances in *Requiem for a Heavyweight* and *M. Butterfly*. In 2003, Lithgow received accolades, including the Tony and Drama Desk Awards, for his portrayal of columnist "J.J. Hunsecker" in the Broadway musical *Sweet Smell of Success*, based on the classic 1957 film. This past Fall, Lithgow returned to the stage in Broadway's "The Retreat From Moscow" starring with Eileen Atkins.

Lithgow's longtime passion for theater and dance led to the creation of "Carnival of the Animals," which was performed by the New York City Ballet. Lithgow wrote the words to the ballet, served as the narrator as well as portrayed one of the animal characters for the four performances at Lincoln Center in May 2003. *Carnival of the Animals: Book and CD*, a picture book based on the ballet and featuring illustrations from Boris Kulikov, will be published by Simon & Schuster in September 2004. In the fall of 2000, Mr. Lithgow's first children's book was published. *The Remarkable Farkle McBride* (Simon & Schuster), with illustrations by C. F. Payne, became a *New York Times* Best-Seller and the basis for "Farkle and Friends," a series of children's concerts that Mr. Lithgow continues to perform around the country. "Farkle and Friends" subsequently became an album, released by Rhino Records in 2002. In 2001, Mr. Lithgow's second children's book, *Marsupial Sue: Book and CD* (Simon & Schuster), illustrated by Jack E. Davis, was published. His third, *Micawber: Book and CD* (Simon & Schuster, 2002), was based on the original song "Micawber" from the "Farkle and Friends" album, and was again illustrated by C. F. Payne. His most recent book, *I'm a Manatee: Book and CD* (Simon & Schuster, 2003), is illustrated by Ard Hoyt and was inspired by the efforts of the Save the Manatee Club, of which Mr. Lithgow is a proud sponsor. All of Mr. Lithgow's children's books have appeared on the New York Times Best-Seller list. Lithgow's first adult book written for parents, *A Lithgow Palooza! 101 Ways to Entertain and Inspire Your Kids*, was published by Fireside/Simon & Schuster Trade and is currently in bookstores. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Mary, a history professor at UCLA.

Norbert Leo Butz's Broadway credits include *Wicked, Thou Shalt Not* (Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Award nominations) and *Rent*. He has also appeared in the New York productions of *The Last Five Years* (Drama League Award; Lucille Lortel and Drama Desk Award nominations), *Saved*, and *Juno and the Paycock*. Additionally, he received accolades for his performance as the emcee in the national tour of *Cabaret*. Butz has participated in several workshops, including *Parade* and *Bright Lights, Big City*. He spent four seasons as Alabama Shakespeare Festival and has appeared regionally in *Life of Galileo* and *The Matchmaker* at Repertory Theatre of St. Louis; *A Man for All Seasons* and *The Boys Next Door* at Hope Rep.

Sherie Rene Scott received a Drama League Award and was the recipient of the 2000 Clarence Derwent Award for most promising actress in NY theatre for her role as Amneris in *Aida* on Broadway. Other Broadway credits include Sally Simpson in *The Who's Tommy* and *Rent*. Regional appearances include Randy Newman's *Faust* and Kander and Ebb's *Over and Over* (Helen Hayes Award nomination). On television she has appeared in *My Guys* and *The Almost Perfect Bank Robbery*. Sherie is a graduate of The Neighborhood Playhouse and recently released her first solo CD for Sh-K-Boom Records, called *Sherie René...Men I've Had*, featuring songs by Elton John, Pete Townsend, Randy Newman and Jonathan Larson, as well as new songs by Kander & Ebb.

Joanna Gleason made her Broadway debut in *I Love My Wife* in 1977 which earned her a Theatre World Award. She also received rave reviews for performance as the "Baker's Wife" in the Stephen Sondheim musical *Into the Woods*, for which she received a Tony Award. Her films include *Hannah and her Sisters*, *Crimes and Misdemeanors*, *The Wedding Planner*, *Mr. Holland's Opus*, *Heartburn*, *If These Walls Could Talk*, among others. Her numerous television credits include recurring roles on *The West Wing*, *Friends*, *ER*, *King of the Hill*, *Love and War*, *Hello Larry* and many others.

THE OLD GLOBE
DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS
FACT SHEET

WHAT: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*
Book by Jeffrey Lane
Music & Lyrics by David Yazbek

WHEN: **September 15 – November 7 (Press Opening: Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00pm)**
Performances: Sun/Tue/Wed at 7pm; Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm; Sat/Sun at 2pm
Special Thursday matinee on October 28 at 2pm
Special Wednesday matinee on November 3 at 2pm
No performances on Sept 18, Oct 9 at 8pm or Oct 10 at 2pm

WHERE: **Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park**

WHO: Director: Jack O'Brien
Scenic Designer: David Rockwell
Lighting Designer: Ken Posner
Music Director: Ted Sperling
Orchestrations: Harold Wheeler

Choreographer: Jerry Mitchell
Costume Designer: Gregg Barnes
Sound Designer: Tom Clark
Stage Manager: Michael Brunner
Dance Arrangements: Zane Mark

Cast: John Lithgow
Norbert Leo Butz
Sherie Rene Scott
Joanna Gleason
Gregory Jbara
Sara Gettelfinger
Timothy J. Alex
Andrew Asnes
Roxane Barlow
Joe Cassidy
Julie Connors
Rachel deBenedet
Laura Marie Duncan
Sally Mae Dunn
Rick Faugno
Tom Galantich
Jason Gillman
Greg Graham
Amy Heggins
Grasan Kingsberry
Rachelle Rak
Tony Yazbeck

Lawrence Jameson
Freddy Benson
Christine Colgate
Muriel Eubanks
Andre Thibault
Jolene Oakes
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BACKGROUND:

From the creators behind the smash hit musicals *The Full Monty* and *Hairspray* comes this thrilling and hilarious pre-Broadway production about two rival con men on the French Riviera, starring acclaimed actors John Lithgow, Norbert Leo Butz, Sherie Rene Scott, Joanna Gleason and Gregory Jbara.

BOX OFFICE: **(619) 23-GLOBE; www.TheOldGlobe.org**
Hours: –Monday: noon to 6:00pm
–Tuesday thru Saturday: noon to 8:30pm
–Sunday: noon to 7:30pm (except on August 29, beginning at 10am)
Tickets: \$45 - \$75