

DEMAND PR

David Elzer Marketing AND Public Relations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACT: David Elzer
818/508-1754

MEDIA ALERT FOR THEATRE EDITORS AND REVIEWERS
AND CALENDAR LISTINGS

**LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS &
MC COY RIGBY ENTERTAINMENT**

Present their Fourth Production of the 2009/2010 Season!

BUDDY

The Buddy Holly Story

Written by Alan Janes & Rob Bettinson

Choreography by Dana Solimando

Musical Direction by Darryl Archibald

Directed by Glenn Casale

*Limited Engagement begins April 16 at
La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts!*

(Press Opening Saturday, April 17)

March 8, 2010...La Mirada, Calif...La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts and McCoy Rigby Entertainment present the fourth production and the “rocking-est” show of La Mirada Theatre’s 2009-2010 season, **BUDDY – The Buddy Holly Story**, written by Alan Janes & Rob Bettinson with choreography by Dana Solimando, musical direction by Darryl Archibald and directed by Glenn Casale. **BUDDY – The Buddy Holly Story** will begin performances on Friday, April 16 (with a press opening on Saturday, April 17) and will run through Sunday, May 2 at La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Boulevard in La Mirada.

On February 3, 1959, the legend known as Buddy Holly died unexpectedly in a tragic plane crash at the age of twenty-two. It was known forever after as “the day the music died.” Now, *Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story* tells the incredible story of the three years in which Buddy Holly became the world’s top recording artist with a show that features over 20 of Buddy Holly’s greatest hits including “Peggy Sue,” “That’ll Be The Day,” “Oh Boy,” “Not Fade Away,” “Everyday,” “Rave On,” “Maybe Baby,” “Raining In My Heart,” Ritchie Valens’ “La Bamba,” and the Big Bopper’s “Chantilly Lace.” Over 20 million people from around the globe have come to see Buddy and experienced the magical talents of the young man with glasses named Charles Hardin ‘Buddy’ Holly, whose musical career spanned an all-too-brief period in our history. *Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story* is a celebration of that legend and catches that unique mixture of innocence, determination, humor and charm that truly deserves the billing: “The World’s Most Successful Rock & Roll Musical.”

(more)

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

GLENN CASALE (Director) directed on Broadway *Peter Pan* starring Cathy Rigby (Tony Award nomination Best Revival) which was filmed by A&E and garnered two Emmy Awards. Off-Broadway; *The Property Known as Garland* starring Adrienne Barbeau, and *Dragapella* at Studio 54 (Drama Desk nomination and Lucille Lortel Award nomination for Best Production). For Joop van den Ende's Stage Entertainment, Glenn directed the critically acclaimed *The Wiz* (Netherlands) and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Netherlands, Berlin, Antwerp and Madrid) which was named the Netherlands' 2006 Musical of the Year and is listed in the *Guinness Book of Records* as that country's highest-grossing musical. Tours and regional credits are numerous and varied, including several world premieres: Leslie Bricusse's *Dr. Dolittle*; Tyne Daly and Charles Durning in *Ballroom*; *Wrestlers* starring Mark Harmon and George Clooney; *Bingo!* the musical; Ken and Mitzi Welch's *From the Top* starring Carol Burnett. Los Angeles Ovation Award-winning Best Musical *Anything Goes* starring Rachel York, Brent Barrett, Sally Struthers and Fred Willard. His television directing credits include ABC TV's "The Faculty" starring Meredith Baxter and "The Wayans' Brothers". Glenn is the Artistic Director for the California Musical Theater in Sacramento.

DANA SOLIMANDO (Choreographer) most recently choreographed *All Shook Up* at the OC Pavilion for 3-D Theatricals. Other Director/Choreographer credits: *Swing!* (2004 & 2006 Ovation Award), *Jesus Christ Superstar* Nat'l tour starring the late Carl Anderson (NAACP Theatre Award nomination), *Oliver!*, *Too Old for the Chorus*, *Route 66* (Crystal Cruise Lines). Dana has also directed & choreographed numerous productions of *Cats* (the show in which she made her Broadway debut). Other performing credits include the role of Tiger Lily in the 1999-2000 Broadway Production and A&E video of *Peter Pan* with Cathy Rigby, *Gypsy*, *Oklahoma!* *Sugar Babies*, *A Chorus Line*, *Grease & Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. Dana also teaches Music Theatre dance at the University of California Irvine.

DARRYL ARCHIBALD (Musical Director) Disney's *The Lion King* (vocal coach/assistant conductor). *Wicked* at the Pantages Theater (substitute conductor); *Nightmare Alley* –workshop with Marti Pellow (The Geffen Playhouse); *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Serrano* – workshop with James Barbour and directed by Joel Zwick (El Portal Theater); *White Christmas*, *A Chorus Line* directed by Kay Cole, *The King and I* with Deborah Gibson (Cabrillo Music Theater); *Swing!* (McCoy Rigby); *Merry Me A Little* – revised version (Celebration Theater); *Two By Two* with Jason Alexander and Faith Prince, *Carousel* with M. Emmet Walsh, *The Fantasticks* with Eric McCormack, *Once On This Island* with Ledisi, *Li'l Abner* with Cathy Rigby and Fred Willard, *Merrily We Roll Along* with Teri Hatcher, *I Do! I Do!* with Diana Canova and Harry Groener (Reprise); *My Fair Lady*, *1776*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Camelot*, and *Forever Plaid* (Utah Shakespearean Festival); *The Threepenny Opera* (ICT); *The Fix*, *Kiss Of The Spider Woman*, *Lady In the Dark*, and *Sail Away* (Musical Theater Guild). Arrangement and orchestration credits include: the prime-time television special *A Hollywood Holiday Celebration* (ABC), *The Fountain Show* and *Christmas Trolley Show* (The Grove Los Angeles).

(more)

ABOUT THE CAST AND DESIGN TEAM

The cast of **BUDDY – The Buddy Holly Story** features: Brandon Albright as Buddy Holly; Steve Alderfer, Jack Bartlett, Omar D. Brancato, T.J. Dawson, Darrin Glessner, Bill Lewis, Christia Mantzke, Maegan McConnell, Manuel Romero, Arthur L. Ross, Brent Schindele, Andy Taylor, Jennifer Leigh Warren, Matt Wolpe and Cody Wood.

BUDDY – The Buddy Holly Story has assembled an award-winning design team. The set design is by John Iacovelli. The lighting design is by Steven Young. The costume design is by Marcy Froehlich. The sound design is by Josh Bessom. Hair/Wig/Make-up design is by Judi Lewin. Prop design is by Terry Hanrahan.

BUDDY – The Buddy Holly Story will begin performances on Friday, April 16 (with a press opening on Saturday, April 17) and runs for three weeks through Sunday, May 2. Performances will be 7:30pm on Tuesdays through Thursdays; 8pm on Fridays; 2pm and 8pm on Saturdays; and 2pm and 7pm on Sundays. There will be no matinee performance on Saturday, April 17 and no evening performance on Sunday, April 18. There will be a talk-back session following the performance on Tuesday, April 20.

Tickets range from \$35 - \$50 and can be purchased at La Mirada Theatre's website, www.lamiradatheatre.com or by calling the La Mirada Theatre Box Office at (562) 944-9801 or (714) 994-6310. Student, Senior, Children and group discounts are available.

#

LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, now in its fourth decade, has been hailed by the Los Angeles Times as "one of the best Broadway-style houses in Southern California." This beautiful state-of-the-art theatre has been producing quality productions for its Southern California audiences since 1977. The theatre has produced several national tours and is the recipient of many accolades including Ovation and Emmy Awards and Tony Award nominations. Brian Kite is the theatre's Producing Artistic Director. The theatre is located at 14900 La Mirada Boulevard in La Mirada, California, near the intersection of Rosecrans Avenue. Parking is theatre-adjacent and free. For further information call 562-944-9801 or visit www.lamiradatheatre.com.

McCOY RIGBY ENTERTAINMENT combines the talents of musical theatre star Cathy Rigby with Tom McCoy's extensive production and theatrical experience and has become one of the nation's premier theatrical production companies. Credits include Tony-nominated Broadway shows, long-running national tours, multiple-award-winning Los Angeles stage productions, and hit TV specials. The number of major theatrical awards garnered by McCoy Rigby Entertainment includes 3 Ovation Awards, 25 Drama-Logue Awards, 3 Backstage Garland Awards and 3 Tony Award nominations, 20 Ovation nominations and 8 NAACP award nominations for the touring production of Jesus Christ Superstar. In addition, the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences awarded McCoy Rigby Entertainment an Emmy for Best Scene Design as part of four nominations for the A&E network production of Peter Pan. www.mccoyrigby.com.