



Kory Kelly - Director of Marketing at Pasadena Playhouse:

A star-studded opening of Little Shop of Horrors Pasadena Playhouse

Click here for Opening Night photos

ALSO Pasadena Playhouse cast to appear on The Late Late Show with James Corden on Tuesday, October 1

PASADENA, CA (September 26, 2019) - Opening night of *Little Shop of Horrors* was celebrated last night at the Pasadena Playhouse, the State Theater of California, now performing through October 20. The production stars **George Salazar** as "Seymour Krelborn;" **Mj Rodriguez** as "Audrey;" **Kevin Chamberlin**, as "Mr. Mushnik;" **Matthew Wilkas** as "Orin Scrivello;" and **Amber Riley** as "Audrey ll."

Several of Mj Rodriguez's fellow cast members from FX's *Pose* were in attendance, including Billy Porter, Dyllon Burnside, Angelica Ross and Jeremy McClain.

Additional celebrities attendees included Tiffany Haddish, Todrick Hall, BD Wong, Valentina, Stacey Keach, Jane Kaczmarek, Ashlee Simpson, Juan Pablo Di Pace, Sam Harris and Daisy Egan.

Also in attendance were Jenna Ushkowitz, Kevin McHale and Jazzmun of Fox's *Glee*, Alexandra Billings, Erik Liberman, and Zackary Arthur of Amazon Prime's *Transparent* and Griffin Matthew of Netflix's *Dear White People*.

Red carpet photo of these celebrities and more can be found at https://www.pasadenaplayhouse.org/pressroom/#lsh-opening

In *Little Shop of Horrors* (book and lyrics by Howard Ashman, music by Alan Menken), a power-hungry, R&B-singing, carnivorous plant sets its sights on world domination! Directed by Mike Donahue (*The Legend of Georgia McBride*, Geffen Playhouse) with Music Direction by Darryl Archibald and Choreography by Will B. Bell, this deviously delicious sci-fi musical comedy favorite comes to the Playhouse with some deliciously devious new twists: a brand new puppet concept for Audrey II, and a whole new take on Skid Row.

The cast of *Little Shop of Horrors* also Includes Brittany Campbell, Tickwanya Jones, and Cheyenne Isabel Wells as the Urchins and puppeteers Tyler Bremer, Kelsey Kato, Tim Kopacz, Sarah Kay Peters, and Paul Turbiak.

Danny Feldman, Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director said, "Our new electrifying production of *Little Shop of Horrors* will give our audiences the opportunity to see a show they know and love in a way they never have before. From a delicious new take on everyone's favorite singing plant to the stunningly talented cast, this is sure to be a landmark theatrical event for Los Angeles."

Director Mike Donahue says, "with its gritty early-Motown-meets-B-movie-horror-sci-fi vibe, *Little Shop of Horrors* has always been a favorite musical of mine, and it is a thrill for me to delve deeply into this rich material with this spectacular, electric cast. I look forward to not only paying homage to this musical theatre classic, but also exploring the themes that are still so much a part of our world today. More than anything, I look forward to Playhouse audiences having the time of their lives, and hearing our *Little Shop* with fresh ears, in a way they never have before."

The creative team features direction by Mike Donahue, music direction by Darryl Archibald, accompanist and conductor John Gentry Tennyson, choreography by Will B. Bell, scenic design by Dane Laffrey; costume design by Danae Iris McQueen; lighting design by Josh Epstein; sound design by Veronika Vorel; puppet design, direction and choreography by Sean Cawelti; casting by Telsey + Company/Ryan Tymensky, CSA, and stage management by Jill Gold.

Tickets for *Little Shop of Horrors* start at \$25 and are available at <u>pasadenaplayhouse.org</u>, by phone at 626-356-7529, and at the box office at 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101.

ABOUT LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

The original production premiered Off-Off-Broadway in 1982 before moving to the Orpheum Theatre Off-Broadway, where it had a five-year run. It later received numerous productions in the U.S. and abroad, and a subsequent Broadway production, and was also made into a film in 1986.

Little Shop of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatergoers of all ages for more than 30 years.

Village Voice critic Michael Feingold contends, "How often do you get to see a musical about a giant plant from outer space that sings, dances, talks jive and eats people?" Mel Gussow in The New York Times says that Little Shop of Horrors is "a show for horticulturists, horror-cultists, sci-fi fans and anyone with a taste for the outrageous! As entertaining as it is exotic." Rex Reed summed it up by saying, "I just loved it!"

ABOUT THE PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

The Pasadena Playhouse is a place where people have gathered for 100 years to experience bold and important theater. It is one of the most prolific theaters in American history with a legacy of profound theatrical impact and courageous new work. In 1937, the Playhouse was officially recognized as the State Theater of California for its contribution and commitment to the dramatic arts. Today it continues that tradition of excellence under the helm of producing artistic director Danny Feldman. Dedicated to enriching lives through theater, community programs and learning initiatives, Pasadena Playhouse is a living force in the community.

Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman Music by Alan Menken Directed by Mike Donahue

Venue: The Pasadena Playhouse, 39 South El Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA

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Dates: Now through Sunday, October 20

Performance Schedule:

Tuesday-Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m; Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: Prices start at \$25

Online -- PasadenaPlayhouse.org

By phone at 626-356-7529

In person -- Pasadena Playhouse Box Office, located at 39 South El

Molino Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Information: For more information on all productions at Pasadena Playhouse visit

PasadenaPlayhouse.org.

Description: POWER-HUNGRY, R&B-SINGING, CARNIVOROUS PLANT SETS ITS SIGHTS

ON WORLD DOMINATION!

This deviously delicious sci-fi musical comedy comes to the Playhouse for the musical theater event of the season with some deliciously devious new twists. Featuring George Salazar (*Be More Chill*), *Mj Rodriguez* (*Pose*), and Amber Riley (*Glee*) as Audrey II, This *Little Shop* is unlike any you have seen before.

Created by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken (*Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty And The Beast*, and *Aladdin*), *Little Shop of Horrors* has devoured the hearts of theatergoers of all ages for more than 30 years... and yours is next!