

Kory Kelly – Director of Marketing & Communications at Pasadena Playhouse:

# Playhouse**Live**Presents

# Bob Baker Marionette Theater's THE CIRCUS

# **September 30, 2020**

## Watch the trailer and purchase tickets at www.playhouselive.org

September 24, 2020, Pasadena, CA | Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman announces the premiere of Family Entertainment on Playhouse**Live** with the Bob Baker Marionette Theater's production of *The Circus*.

Filmed in front of a live audience, this happiest of circuses -- a brilliant and beautiful musical variety puppet spectacular not to be missed -- will launch online at Playhouse**Live** on September, 30, 2020, and is part of the Fall line-up of pay-per-view streaming theatrical events.

As the circus wagons rumble into town, the marionette Ringmaster is proud to bring Playhouse**Live** audiences the greatest puppet show on Earth – featuring over 100 of Bob Baker's exquisitely hand crafted marionettes -- where the fiercest and the timidest of animals roam, trapeze performers execute daring, spine chilling aerial feats of acrobatics, and the clowns do what clowns do best ... it's fun! fun!

A beloved Los Angeles tradition, more than one million children of all ages have experienced a Bob Baker puppet performance since the Theater's establishment in 1963. In addition to inhouse performances, members of the Bob Baker puppet family have appeared in motion pictures, on frequent television shows, and, through a robust traveling company, at the Hollywood Bowl, community centers, backyards, parades, and anywhere there's fun to be had.

In the future, Playhouse **Live** will bring *Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUlAr* and exclusively Bob Baker's *Holiday on Strings* directly into homes for the first time.

Other PlayhouseLive programming making debuts on the streaming service on September 30 include: poet, performance artist and professor **Javon Johnson** in *Still.*, a timely one-man performance about the complexities of the Black experience, commissioned by Pasadena Playhouse, and the pilot episodes of **four new series**:

**In Development** gives an insiders' look at unproduced theatrical works as they are introduced to the world for the first time. The first episode will feature Megan Mullally and Nick Offerman performing excerpts from *Iceboy!*, a new musical by Mark Hollmann, Jay Reiss and Erin Quinn Purcell.

*Intermission with Hashtag Booked* features celebrity interviews hosted by LaNisa Frederick and Danielle Pinnock, a comedic duo that started the web series *Hashtag Booked*. Their first guest will be acclaimed actor **Alfred Molina**.

**Page to Stage** takes you behind the curtain to explore the theatrical journey from conception to opening night. In *Page to Stage: Little Shop of Horrors,* the creative team at Pasadena Playhouse takes you from rehearsal to opening night of their groundbreaking revival; featuring interviews with George Salazar, Mj Rodriguez and Amber Riley. *Page to Stage* is free to the public.

From the Archives celebrates the unique impact regional theater has had across generations in shaping American culture. Initial episodes include a silent film featuring rare vintage footage of the Playhouse from the 1930s; a documentary short chronicling the years the Playhouse went dark (1968 through 1984) and the journey of the extraordinary woman who kept the hope alive to bring the historic theater back; and a fascinating look at the historic 1928 production of Eugene O'Neill's Lazarus Laughed which brought 151 actors together to perform 420 roles in a four-act play – this unforgettable production put Pasadena Playhouse on the map.

**The Circus** can be rented through Playhouse**Live** for \$14.99 and is available through November 18, 2020. After the initial purchase at PlayhouseLive.org, **The Circus** can be watched on any of the Playhouse**Live** apps including Apple OS, Android OS, Roku, FireTV and more. Closed captioning will be available in both English and Spanish.

Additional information about Playhouse**Live** and its programming, including new announcements and pricing specials, are available at <a href="https://www.playhouselive.org">www.playhouselive.org</a>.

#### **About Bob Baker Marionette Theater**

**Bob Baker Marionette Theater** has been pulling the strings of family fun since 1963. As a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization, their mission is to educate, celebrate, and rejuvenate puppetry and the allied arts. Follow along on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and at <u>www.BobBakerMarionetteTheater.com</u>.

### **About PlayhouseLive**

Playhouse**Live** breaks down the physical boundaries of theater walls and opens access to audiences all over the world. It is also integrated into the Pasadena Playhouse's Community at Play program which remove barriers to arts participation and ensures free and low-cost ways to engage with the arts. Distribution channels include a standalone website, iPhone and Android apps, AppleTV, Amazon FireTV, Roku, Chromecast, and AirPlay, among others.

Powered by Pasadena Playhouse, Playhouse**Live** programming will include new filmed productions, staged readings, and cabarets, as well as original series, documentaries, and theater classes. It is a home for a wide array of theatrical voices through new and revisited work. Playhouse**Live** also serves as an online companion to the work that Pasadena Playhouse and partner theaters create on our stages once live theater performances resume.

### **About Pasadena Playhouse**

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.