

American Repertory Theater

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2012 TONY AWARD WINNER THE GERSHWINS' PORGY AND BESS WILL CONCLUDE ITS LIMITED ENGAGEMENT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2012; LONGEST-RUNNING BROADWAY PRODUCTION OF THE GERSHWIN/HEYWARD MASTERPIECE

Cambridge, MA — The Broadway producers of the 2012 Tony Award Winner for Best Revival of a Musical **The Gershwins' PORGY AND BESS**, currently playing at the Richard Rodgers Theatre in New York, have announced that the show will conclude its limited engagement on Sunday, September 23, 2012. The show, which had been twice extended, was originally scheduled to end a week later. The new date has been set to make room for the next engagement at the Rodgers, beginning October 4, 2012.

The A.R.T. production of **The Gershwins' PORGY AND BESS** ran at the Loeb Drama Center from August 17 through October 3, 2011 and began previews at the Richard Rogers Theatre on Broadway on December 17, 2011 and officially opened on January 12, 2012. Upon closing, it will have played **322** performances, making it the longest-running production of **Porgy and Bess to ever play on Broadway**.

The Gershwins' PORGY AND BESS, winner of the 2012 Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical, has a cast led by five-time Tony Award winner Audra McDonald (Ragtime, "Private Practice") as Bess, Tony nominee Norm Lewis (Les Misérables, Sondheim on Sondheim) as Porgy and three-time Tony nominee David Alan Grier (Race, "In Living Color") as Sporting Life. The cast also includes Tony nominee Phillip Boykin as Crown, Nikki Renée Daniels as Clara, Joshua Henry as Jake, Christopher Innvar as Detective, Bryonha Marie Parham as Serena and NaTasha Yvette Williams as Mariah, as well as Sumayya Ali, Allison Blackwell, Roosevelt André Credit, Trevon Davis, Joseph Dellger, Wilkie Ferguson III, Carmen Ruby Floyd, Gavin Gregory, Heather Hill, David Hughey, Andrea Jones-Sojola, Alicia Hall Moran, Cedric Neal, Phumzile Sojola, Nathaniel Stampley, Julius Thomas III, J.D. Webster and Lisa Nicole Wilkerson.

teams led by Tony-nominated director **Diane Paulus**(*Hair*), Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Suzan-Lori Parks** (*Topdog/Underdog*), and two-time Obie Award-winning composer **Diedre L. Murray** (*Running Man*), transferred **George and Ira Gershwin's** legendary masterwork to the Broadway stage for the first time in more than 35 years. The creative team also includes choreographer **Ronald K. Brown**, set designer **Riccardo Hernandez**, costume designer **ESosa**, lighting designer **Christopher Akerlind** and sound designer **Acme Sound Partners**.

The Gershwins' PORGY AND BESS is produced on Broadway by Jeffrey Richards, Jerry Frankel, Rebecca Gold, Howard Kagan, Cheryl Wiesenfeld/Brunish Trinchero/Lucio Simons TBC, Joseph and Matthew Deitch, Mark S. Golub & David S. Golub, Terry Schnuck, Freitag Productions/Koenigsberg Filerman, The Leonore S. Gershwin 1987 Trust, Universal Pictures Stage Productions, Ken Mahoney, Judith Resnick, Tulchin/Bartner/ATG, Paper Boy Productions, Christopher Hart, Alden Badway, Broadway Across America, Irene Gandy and Will Trice.

Visit <u>www.porgyandbessonbroadway.com</u> for more information.

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