



NEWS RELEASE

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GOODSPEED MUSICALS ANNOUNCES A TRIO OF TERRIFIC PRODUCTIONS FOR 2020 AT THE GOODSPEED

Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC

Directed by Rob Ruggiero



ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

Directed by Jenn Thompson



CANDIDE

Directed by Darko Tresnjak

EAST HADDAM, CONN., SEPTEMBER 25, 2019: Last night during an exclusive Member event, Michael Gennaro, Goodspeed's Executive Director, announced three thrilling titles on track for next season at The Goodspeed. Gennaro explained, "2020 promises to be a spectacular year. We will have three directors with artistic roots in Connecticut – all having directed successful shows at Goodspeed. We begin with a time-honored Golden Age musical, then a contemporary retelling of a well-known story and finish with a

bold, madcap and seldom-produced classic. Our audiences expect the best from Goodspeed and we plan to give them exactly what they want: exciting, entertaining and uplifting stories along with plenty of song and dance."

The season will begin with the beloved classic **Rodgers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific*** with music by **Richard Rodgers**, lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**, and book by Oscar Hammerstein II and **Joshua Logan** which will run April 17 – June 28. Next up will be the new folk-rock musical ***Anne of Green Gables*** featuring book and lyrics by **Matte O'Brien** and music by **Matt Vinson** which will run from July 10 – September 10. Closing the season will be the madcap musical masterwork ***Candide*** which features music by **Leonard Bernstein**, book adapted from Voltaire by **Hugh Wheeler**, lyrics by **Richard Wilbur** with additional lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim** and **John LaTouche**. This Tony Award-winning musical comedy will run from September 18 – November 22, 2020.

Goodspeed invites theatre fans from near and far to come and enjoy this exciting array of productions and experience all that this world-renowned maker of musical theatre and its neighboring shops, restaurants and attractions have to offer. In 2020 we will offer something for everyone so plan ahead and make it a Goodspeed day!

Season tickets for all three shows at The Goodspeed start at \$99. Advance season ticket packages are now on sale through the Box Office (860.873.8668), open daily from 10am – 5pm.

Single tickets go on public sale beginning February 23, 2020.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Michael Gennaro, Goodspeed Musicals is dedicated to the preservation, development and advancement of musical theatre and is the first theatre in the nation to receive two Tony Awards (for outstanding achievement). Goodspeed produces three musicals each season at The Goodspeed in East Haddam, Conn., and additional productions at The Terris Theatre in Chester, Conn., which was opened in 1984 for the development of new musicals. Goodspeed also maintains The Scherer Library of Musical Theatre and The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. Goodspeed gratefully acknowledges the support of United Airlines, the official airline of Goodspeed Musicals; the official audio sponsor Sennheiser; and official auto sponsor Hoffman Audi. Goodspeed is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts.

MORE ABOUT GOODSPEED MUSICALS 2020 PRODUCTIONS

Rodgers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific* April 17 – June 28

Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by Oscar Hammerstein II and Joshua Logan. Adapted from the Pulitzer Prize winning novel "Tales of the South Pacific" by James A. Michener
Directed by Rob Ruggiero

On a lush tropical island during World War II, battles of the heart are center stage in the Goodspeed premiere of the soaring Rodgers & Hammerstein classic. Love-struck nurse Nellie Forbush falls for a French planter. Lieutenant Joe Cable is drawn to a native girl. In an exotic world of risk and romance, prejudice clouds their potential paradise. Be swept away by twin love stories and a rapturous score that includes “Some Enchanted Evening,” “I’m Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair,” “Bali Ha’i” and more.

Anne of Green Gables July 10 – September 10

Book & Lyrics by Matte O’Brien, Music by Matt Vinson
Directed by Jenn Thompson

Anne Shirley just arrived on Prince Edward Island and she’s creating quite a stir. Adopted by siblings Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert, Anne is feisty, smart and eager to find her own place in the world. But is the world ready for her? Fall in love with the endearing redhead of the classic novel, now reimagined as a vibrant folk-rock musical for all generations. With bold choreography, witty humor and a revolutionary spirit, this is Green Gables as you’ve never seen it before!

Produced by Special Arrangement with Justin Nichols, Eric Cornell, and Jack Sennott. Anne of Green Gables was initially developed and produced by The Rev Theatre Company (formerly Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival) in July 2018. Brett Smock, Producing Artistic Director

Candide September 18 – November 22

Music by Leonard Bernstein, Book adapted from Voltaire by Hugh Wheeler
Lyrics by Richard Wilbur with additional Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and John LaTouche
Directed by Darko Tresnjak

It’s the best of all possible worlds in Leonard Bernstein’s madcap musical adventure! Candide’s enduring optimism is tested time and again as he bounces from Europe to the New World in search of opportunity, meaning and his elusive true love, Cunegonde. Comic opera meets musical comedy in a glittering tale of temptation and tragedy, joy and discovery, illusion and reality. Tony Award winner Darko Tresnjak directs a sweeping musical theatre masterwork in its intimate Goodspeed premiere.

Produced on Broadway by The Chelsea Theatre Center of Brooklyn in conjunction with Harold Prince and Ruth Mitchell. Broadway Production Conceived and Directed by Harold Prince

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