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CAST OF GOODSPER MUSICALS’ CAROUSEL
THE RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN CLASSIC HITS GOODSPER’S STAGE JULY 13

EAST HADDAM, CONN., MAY 30, 2012: Get ready for a “real nice clambake” as Goodspeed Musicals welcomes Carousel to the main stage this summer. Musical theatre fans have waited 30 years for another Rodgers & Hammerstein show to grace the Goodspeed Opera House stage, and now the wait is over! The classic Golden Age musical will run from July 13 – September 23 at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn. Carousel will be sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), Amica, Robinson & Cole, and Comcast. [Official Press Opening will be August 1, 2012]

Carousel has captivated audiences around the world with the powerful love story of an innocent young millworker and swaggering carousel Barker. He meets a tragic end but is given one chance for redemption by delivering hope to the daughter he never knew and whispering words left unspoken to his wife. Featuring “If I Loved You,” “You’ll Never Walk Alone,” and “June is Busting Out All Over.” Experience one of the most celebrated musicals of all time!

Carousel features Music by Richard Rodgers and Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. It is based on Ferenc Molnár’s play Liliom as adapted by Benjamin F. Glazer. Original Dances are by Agnes de Mille.

The cast will be led by Teal Wicks as Julie Jordan and James Snyder as Billy Bigelow. Ms. Wicks appeared in Broadway’s Wicked and Goodspeed’s 1776 and Pippin. Mr. Snyder appeared in Broadway’s Cry-Baby. Starkeeper will be played by Ronn Carroll whose numerous Broadway credits include Oklahoma, Annie Get Your Gun, How To Succeed..., Crazy For You, and Gypsy. Carroll’s Goodspeed credits include How To Succeed..., Camelot, 1776, and The Little Rascals. Carrie Pipperidge will be played by Jenn Gambatese who appeared in Broadway’s Is He Dead?, Tarzan, All Shook Up, A Year With Frog and Toad, Hairspray, and Footloose. Ms. Gambatese also charmed audiences as Annie Oakley in Goodspeed’s Annie Get Your Gun and All Shook Up at Goodspeed’s Norma Terris Theatre. Enoch Snow will be played by Jeff Kready of Broadway’s Billy Elliot: The Musical, Sunday in the Park with George, and Les Misérables.

Ms. Mullin will be played by Deanne Lorette of Broadway’s La Bête. Nettie Fowler will be played by Anne Kanengeiser who appeared in Broadway’s Little Women and Ragtime. Jigger will be played by Tally Sessions of Broadway’s The House of Blue Leaves and Goodspeed’s Lizzie Borden at The Norma Terris Theatre.

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The ensemble includes Jessica Bishop (Broadway’s West Side Story and The Phantom of the Opera), Beth Crandall (Broadway’s West Side Story), Belle Doraz (Broadway’s Show Boat), Jennifer Evans (Broadway’s Ragtime and A Tale of Two Cities and Goodspeed’s Where’s Charley and Very Good Eddie), Eloise Kropp as Louise, Edward Lawrence, Leisa Mather, Jonathan Rayson as Mr. Bascombe (Broadway’s Little Shop of Horrors and A Year With Frog and Toad), Sam Rodgers, Michael Scirrotto, Jet Thomason (Goodspeed’s Show Boat), Travis Waldschmidt, Aaron Young (Goodspeed’s Annie Get Your Gun), and a Snow Child to be announced.

The Swings are Maria Briggs and Andrew Scott Holmes. Carousel will be directed by Rob Ruggiero who helmed audience favorite Show Boat last season at Goodspeed as well as Irving Berlin’s Annie Get Your Gun, Camelot, Big River, and 1776. Mr. Ruggiero also directed Broadway’s High and Looped. Choreographer for this production will be Parker Esse who served as Associate Choreographer for Broadway’s Finian’s Rainbow and A Tale of Two Cities.

Michael Schweikardt will be the Scenic Designer. His designs have been seen in Goodspeed’s Show Boat, Irving Berlin’s Annie Get Your Gun, Camelot, Big River, and 1776. Alejo Vietti will serve as Costume Designer. Vietti also designed Goodspeed’s Irving Berlin’s Annie Get Your Gun, Camelot and Meet John Doe at The Norma Terris Theatre. Lighting design will be by John Lasiter who served as Lighting Designer for Goodspeed’s Irving Berlin’s Annie Get Your Gun, Camelot, Big River, and 1776, and Broadway’s High, Sound design will be by Jay Hilton who is in his 26th season at Goodspeed.

The Music Director for Carousel will be Michael O’Flaherty who is in his 21st season as Goodspeed’s Resident Music Director. F. Wade Russo will be Assistant Music Director. Orchestrations will be provided by Dan DeLange, who orchestrated Goodspeed’s Mame, Show Boat, My One And Only, How To Succeed..., Irving Berlin’s Annie Get Your Gun, 42nd Street, Singin’ in the Rain, The Boy Friend, and many more.

Carousel is produced for Goodspeed Musicals by Michael P. Price.

Carousel will run July 13 through September 23, 2012 [Official Press Opening August 1, 2012]. Curtain times are Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (with select performances at 2:00 p.m.), Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (with select performances at 6:30 p.m.).

Tickets are available through the Box Office (860.873.8668), open seven days a week, or on-line at goodspeed.org. For show highlights, exclusive photos, special events and more visit us at goodspeed.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

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Dedicated to the preservation and advancement of musical theatre, Goodspeed Musicals produces three musicals each season at the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn., and additional productions at The Norma Terris Theatre in Chester, Conn., which was opened in 1984 for the development of new musicals. The first regional theatre to receive two Tony Awards (for outstanding achievement), Goodspeed also maintains The Scherer Library of Musical Theatre and The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. Goodspeed gratefully acknowledges its sponsors the NEA, Amica and Robinson & Cole; Corporate Partner Comcast; Sennheiser, the official audio sponsor; United Airlines, the official airline sponsor; and Hoffman Audi, the official auto sponsor of Goodspeed Musicals. Goodspeed is supported in part by the Department of Economic and Community Development with support from the Connecticut Office of the Arts.

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For more information, to schedule an interview, or to receive stock art, please contact Elisa Hale (ext. 323) or Dan McMahon (ext. 324) at 860.873.8664, Elisa.Hale@goodspeed.org/Dan.McMahon@goodspeed.org.
GOODSPEED MUSICALS

CAROUSEL FACT SHEET

Production: Carousel

Music by: Richard Rodgers

Book and Lyrics by: Oscar Hammerstein II
Based on Ferenc Molnár’s play Liliom as adapted by Benjamin F. Glazer

Theatre: Goodspeed Opera House
6 Main Street, East Haddam, Connecticut

Director: Rob Ruggiero
Choreographer: Parker Esse
Set Designer: Michael Schweikardt
Costume Designer: Alejo Vietti
Lighting Designer: John Lasiter
Sound Designer: Jay Hilton
Music Director: Michael O’Flaherty
Assistant Music Director: F. Wade Russo
Orchestrations: Dan DeLange

Principals: Ronn Carroll (Starkeeper)
Jenn Gambatese (Carrie Pipperidge)
Anne Kanengeiser (Nettie Fowler)
Jeff Kready (Enoch Snow)
Deanne Lorette (Mrs. Mullin)
Tally Sessions (Jigger)
James Snyder (Billy Bigelow)
Teal Wicks (Julie Jordan)

Ensemble: Jessica Bishop
Beth Crandall
Belle Doraz (Snow Child)
Jennifer Evans
Eloise Kropp (Louise)
Edward Lawrence
Leisa Mather
Jonathan Rayson (Mr. Bascombe)
Sam Rodgers
Michael Scirrotto
Jet Thomason
Travis Waldschmidt
Aaron Young
TBA (Snow Child)

Swings: Maria Briggs
Andrew Scott Holmes

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Background: *Carousel* was adapted from Ferenc Molnár’s 1909 play *Liliom*. The musical opened at Broadway’s Majestic Theatre on April 19, 1945 and ran for 890 performances through May 24, 1947. It starred Jan Clayton as Julie and John Raitt as Billy and was choreographed by Agnes De Mille. Subsequently, *Carousel* premiered on the West End in 1950. The show has received a total of 4 Broadway revivals in 1949, 1954, 1957, and 1994. The most recent revival won 5 Tony Awards including Best Revival, Best Featured Actress (Audra McDonald), Best Scenic Design, Best Choreography, and Best Direction. A film version of the musical was made in 1956 starring Gordon MacRae and Shirley Jones.

Synopsis: *Carousel* has captivated audiences around the world with the powerful love story of an innocent young millworker and swaggering carousel barker. He meets a tragic end but is given one chance for redemption by delivering hope to the daughter he never knew and whispering words left unspoken to his wife. Featuring “If I Loved You,” “You’ll Never Walk Alone,” and “June is Busting Out All Over.” Experience one of the most celebrated musicals of all time!

Dates: July 13 – September 23, 2012

Performances: Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Thursday at 7:30 p.m., (with select performances at 2:00 p.m.), Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (with select performances at 6:30 p.m.).

Tickets: All prices subject to change based on availability. Goodspeed Box Office (860.873.8668) or online at goodspeed.org

Special Events:

Girls’ Night Out: Friday, July 13, 7:00 pm. Celebrate Opening Night in style! Gather the girls for glitz and glamour Broadway-style with our Ticket ‘n’ ‘Tini special. Package includes one ticket to the 8 pm performance and a specialty martini. A hot deal at $46 per person.

Wine Tasting: Sunday, July 15, 5:00 pm. Enjoy a sampling of fine wines hosted by Shore Discount Liquors of Deep River with complimentary hors d’oeuvres provided by the Gelston House of East Haddam and a pre-show chat with a member of the creative team. Only $12 with your ticket to the 6:30 pm performance. Reserve in advance through the Box Office.

Teen Nights: July 18 & 19, 7:30 pm; July 20, 8 pm. Introduce your favorite young person to the magic of musical theatre. Each adult who buys a regular-priced ticket on the specified dates may purchase a $15 ticket for a youth age 12 to 18. Meet the cast after the July 20 performance for autographs.

Meet the Cast: Take part in a lively discussion with the cast after the Thursday evening performances on August 9 & 23 and Sept 6. Meet the Cast events are free with a ticket to that evening’s performance.

Friday Dinner Theatre Package: Includes dinner at the Gelston House (located next door to the Opera House) and a ticket to the 8:00 pm performance. Only $71!

*ALL OFFERS ARE FOR SELECT SEATS AND ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY*

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