

#### World Wide Technology 2018 Season Presenting Sponsor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kwofe Coleman, Communications Director (314) 595-5712 Dylan Stanley, Public Relations Manager (314) 595-5763

# Right Here in St. Louis! Muny announces Mr. and Mrs. Smith for centennial season finale *Meet Me In St. Louis*

**ST. LOUIS (April 24, 2018)** – The Muny announced today the parental powerhouse that will star in the theatre's closing centennial season production, *Meet Me In St. Louis*, August 4 - 12. Tonynominated Erin Dilly will star alongside real-life husband Stephen R. Buntrock as Mrs. Anna and Mr. Alonso Smith, respectively. *Meet Me In St. Louis* is directed by Marcia Milgrom Dodge and choreographed by Josh Walden with music direction by Charlie Alterman. *Meet Me In St. Louis* is proudly sponsored by Emerson.

"Meet Me In St. Louis is at its core, a beautiful tale of parental love and sacrifice," said Muny Artistic Director and Executive Producer Mike Isaacson. "What a wonderful duo to bring the delight and responsibility and gravity of parenting to life. Erin and Stephen are a joy on and off stage, and I can't wait to see what they do in these roles."

**ERIN DILLY** (*Mrs. Anna Smith*) Broadway credits include: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Tony nomination, Outer Critics Circle Award), A Christmas Story (originated the role of Mother), *Nice Work If You Can Get It, Into the Woods, The Boys from Syracuse* and *Follies*. Other New York: *Songbird, Fiorello!* and *Babes in Arms* (both at NY City Center Encores!). Muny: *Into the Woods* and *Mary Poppins*. Regional: *Clue* (Bucks County Playhouse), *Mary Poppins* (Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera), *In the Mood* (Berkshire Theatre Festival), *Leading Ladies* (Alley Theatre). National tours: *South Pacific, Beauty and the Beast, Martin Guerre* (Helen Hayes Award nomination). Television: *Bull, Person of Interest, Boardwalk Empire, The Good Wife, Elementary, Gossip Girl, Nurse Jackie, 12 Men of Christmas*, and all three *Law & Order* series. Films: *Julie & Julia, Too Big to Fail* and *Everyday People*. Erin founded The Living Studio www.livingstudionyc.com, created

## 2 / Muny announces Mr. and Mrs. Smith for Muny centennial season finale *Meet Me In St. Louis*

the Summer Musical Theatre Intensive Six Days of Broadway at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts and is adjunct faculty at PACE University in the Musical Theatre Department.

**STEPHEN R. BUNTROCK** (*Mr. Alonso Smith*) is incredibly excited to be back on the Muny stage after performing here in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* as Trever Graydon and as Mr. Banks in *Mary Poppins*. Broadway: *A Little Night Music* (revival), starring as Fredrik Egerman, opposite Bernadette Peters. He played the same role in the show's earlier run with original leading ladies, Catherine Zeta Jones and Angela Lansbury; Curly in *Oklahoma!*; Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, St. John in the original cast of *Jane Eyre*, Barrett in *Titanic*, Enjolras in the 10th Anniversary cast of *Les Misérables*, The Phantom in *The Phantom of the Opera*, Josephus Gage in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (NY City Center Encores!) and Teen Angel for the latest revival of *Grease*. He has toured extensively across the United States and Canada as Reuben in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, starring Donny Osmond, originated the role of Arnaud du Thil in Cameron Mackintosh's *Martin Guerre* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. Stephen has enjoyed many concert appearances as well, most recently performing alongside Dame Julie Andrews in London with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

For headshots and show logo, please click here.

#### About the show:

A beloved Muny favorite, *Meet Me In St. Louis* has songs by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane with a book by Hugh Wheeler, and is based on "The Kensington Stories" by Sally Benson and the MGM motion picture "Meet Me In St. Louis."

Clang, clang, clang, we are off to The Muny! Based on the heartwarming 1944 MGM film, *Meet Me In St. Louis* paints a wholesome portrait of a turn of the century American family. Set in the summer of 1903, the Smiths eagerly await the grand opening of the 1904 World's Fair. With hits such as "The Trolley Song," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "The Boy Next Door" and the title number, this is the perfect finale to our 100th season, and will evoke nothing but love and pride...right here in St. Louis

The seven shows in the 2018 Muny season are: Jerome Robbins' Broadway (June 11-17), The Wiz (June 19-25), Singin' in the Rain (June 27-July 3), Jersey Boys (July 9-16), Annie (July 18-25), Gypsy (July 27-August 2) and Meet Me In St. Louis (August 4-12). For more information, visit muny.org.

Season tickets are currently on sale. Single tickets go on sale May 7, 2018.

Muny gift cards for the 100th season are now available online and at The Muny Box Office. For more information, visit muny.org or call (314) 361-1900.

World Wide Technology and The Steward Family Foundation have once again made a leadership gift to continue as the Muny's 2018 Season Presenting Sponsor. They became the

## 3 / Muny announces Mr. and Mrs. Smith for Muny centennial season finale *Meet Me In St. Louis*

first overall season sponsor in the history of The Muny in 2014 and continue that role through 2018.

###

<u>The Muny's</u> mission is to enrich lives by producing exceptional musical theatre, accessible to all, while continuing its remarkable tradition in Forest Park. As the nation's largest outdoor musical theatre, we produce seven world-class musicals each year and welcome over 370,000 theatregoers over our nine-week season. Now celebrating 100 seasons in St. Louis, The Muny remains one of the premier institutions in musical theatre. For more information about The Muny, visit <u>muny.org</u>.