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All I Do Is Dream of You! Muny announces full cast, design and production teams for centennial season *Singin' in the Rain*

ST. LOUIS (April 27, 2018) – The Muny announced today its full cast, design and production teams for the theatre's centennial season production of *Singin' in the Rain*, June 27 – July 3. *Singin' in the Rain* is proudly sponsored by Ameren.

Joining the previously announced Corbin Bleu (*Don Lockwood*), Berklea Going (*Kathy Selden*) and Jeffrey Schecter (*Cosmo Brown*) are Megan Sikora (*Lina Lamont*), Jeff McCarthy (*R.F. Simpson*) and George Merrick (*Roscoe Dexter*). A splashy ensemble completes this cast, including Ward Billeisen, Patrick Blindauer, Emma Gassett, Gary Glasgow, Madison Johnson, Zachary Daniel Jones, Evan Kinnane, Debby Lennon, Dionna Thomas Littleton, Dory Lorenz, Halle Morse, Kaitlin Nelson, Lizz Picini, Jeremiah Porter, Cassie Austin Taylor, Daryl Tofa, Cayel Tregeagle and Victor Wisehart. The company will also be joined by the Muny Teen youth ensemble.

As previously announced, *Singin' in the Rain* is directed by Marc Bruni and choreographed by Rommy Sandhu with music direction by Ben Whiteley.

The design team leading this production includes scenic design by Paul Tate dePoo III, costume design by Tristan Raines, lighting design by Nathan W. Scheuer, sound design by John Shivers and David Patridge, video design by Greg Emetaz, wig design by Leah J. Loukas, with production stage manager Matthew Lacey.

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CORBIN BLEU (*Don Lockwood*) comes from an extensive background in film, television and theatre. Bleu is probably best known for playing Chad Danforth in Disney's Emmy Awardwinning *High School Musical* franchise. Corbin was recently seen on Broadway as Ted Hanover in the Tony-nominated production of Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn*, winning Bleu the Chita Rivera Award for Outstanding Male Dancer in a Broadway Show. Additional Broadway credits include: *Godspell* (Jesus) and *In the Heights* (Usnavi). Other stage highlights include: *Hairspray* (Seaweed) and *Mamma Mia!* (Sky), both at The Hollywood Bowl. Bleu's film credits include: *To Write Love on Her Arms* (starring opposite Kat Dennings), *Nurse 3-D* and *The Monkey's Paw*, to name a few. Corbin's television credits include: *Franklin & Bash, Blue Bloods, Psych, Castle, The Fosters* and *Chicago Med*. In 2013, Bleu partnered with Karina Smirnoff on the multi-Emmy Award-winning ABC hit *Dancing with the Stars*, placing a close second. A Brooklyn native, Corbin currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife, Sasha.

BERKLEA GOING (Kathy Selden) Making her Muny debut at the age of seven portraying Kim in Show Boat, Going's other Muny credits include: Meet Me In St. Louis (Tootie and Agnes Smith) The Sound of Music (Gretl and Louisa von Trapp), The Little Mermaid (Arista), Hello, Dolly! (Ermengarde); Hairspray (Tammy), 42nd Street and Beauty and the Beast. Berklea's national tour credits include: Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Susan Waverly). Other regional theatre credits include: Chasing Rainbows (Lana Turner) at Goodspeed Opera House and Kansas City Starlight Theatre. In February, Going performed in The Actors Fund's 15th Anniversary Reunion Concert for Broadway's Thoroughly Modern Millie at the Minskoff Theatre.

JEFFREY SCHECTER (*Cosmo Brown*) aka "Shecky" was most recently seen on the Muny stage as Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and as Scuttle in *The Little Mermaid*. He is probably best known for recreating the role of Mike Costa in the Broadway revival of *A Chorus Line*. Other Broadway credits include: *Fiddler on the Roof, Nice Work If You Can Get It, The Pajama Game, Wonderful Town, Beauty and the Beast, Anything Goes, Guys and Dolls* and *The People in the Picture*. Jeffrey recently wrapped a recurring role on the new Showtime series *Escape at Dannemora*. Other TV/film credits include: *The Good Fight, Elementary, Person of Interest, Boardwalk Empire, Farm Girl in New York* and *Tyco Parks the Car.* In his spare time, Jeffrey teaches dance and theatre to kids of all ages with his awesome wife, Melissa and their company I Can Do That NYC! www.jeffreyschecter.com, www.icandothatnyc.com, @sidekickshecky

MEGAN SIKORA (*Lina Lamont*) was last spotted on The Muny stage as Anytime Annie in 42nd Street. Megan has been seen on and off Broadway in *Holiday Inn* (Lila Dixon, Chita Rivera Award for Outstanding Female Dancer in a Musical), *Church and State* (Sara Whitmore), *The Nance*, *Under My Skin, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* and *Applause* for NY City Center Encores!, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, Promises, Promises; Curtains* (Bambi, LA Ovation nomination), *Show Boat* at Carnegie Hall (Ellie), *Wicked, Dracula, Wonderful Town, Thoroughly Modern Millie, 42nd Street* and Andrew Lippa's *The Wild Party*. Other favorites: *Kiss Me, Kate; Can-Can; A Christmas Story, Cabaret, Guys and Dolls, White Christmas.* TV/Film: *Chuck, Ted 2, Gypsy* (Netflix), *Bull, The Good Fight, Braindead, Elementary, The Sound of Music Live!* on NBC, *Boardwalk Empire.*

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JEFF McCARTHY (*R.F. Simpson*) Muny: *Camelot* (Arthur), *Les Misérables* (Javert), *Roman Holiday* (Joe Bradley) and several others. Broadway: *Chicago, Urinetown, Side Show, Zorba, Smile, Beauty and the Beast, How the Grinch Stole Christmas.* Off-Broadway: *Kunstler* (59E59), *Southern Comfort* (Public Theater), *Sympathetic Magic* (Second Stage), *Dream True* (Vineyard Theatre) and others. Regional: *My Fair Lady, The Misanthrope* (Guthrie), *The Front Page, The Price, The Underpants* (Long Wharf), *All My Sons, The Man of La Mancha, Sweeney Todd* (Barrington Stage), *Oliver!; You, Nero* (Arena Stage) and hundreds of plays over the years at Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, Hartford Stage, Center Stage, ACT and many others. Film: *Starting Out in the Evening, Robocop 2, Consent, Rapid Fire, Cliffhanger.* Television: *Elementary, Madam Secretary, The Good Wife, Schweitzer, Star Trek: The Next Generation, Designing Women, Law* & Order, Cheers, In the Heat of the Night and many others. On top of lots of voice over work, Jeff was proudly the voice of the great Chuck Jones creation, Michigan J. Frog for the WB Network.

GEORGE MERRICK (*Roscoe Dexter*) Muny debut! Broadway: *Honeymoon in Vegas, High Fidelity, South Pacific* revival (all original cast recordings). Off-Broadway: *Ring Twice for Miranda, Clever Little Lies* (with Marlo Thomas). Recent regional: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (George Street Playhouse); Albert in *Bye Bye Birdie!* (Goodspeed), John Adams in *1776* (Pittsburgh Public). Other leading roles at North Shore Music Theatre, Paper Mill Playhouse, Sacramento Music Circus and Riverside Theatre. TV: *Madam Secretary, Rise, The Blacklist, Blue Bloods*. Film: *The Intern, So Good to See You* (2016 Sundance selection). George is also a lyricist in the BMI Musical Theatre Writing Workshop, where he was awarded the Harrington Prize in 2010.

Link for more information: <u>https://muny.org/singin-in-the-rain/</u>

About the show:

Singin' in the Rain has a screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph Green with songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed. This endearing musical is based on the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film by special arrangement with Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures, Inc.

A timeless Muny favorite, *Singin' in the Rain* has all the makings of a Tinseltown tabloid headline – the starlet, the leading man, a love affair for the ages and the unexpected transition from the silent film era to "talkies." Known for its unforgettable hit-parade of Hollywood standards, splashy production numbers, hilarious situations and snappy dialogue, this Muny production is sure to be a downpour of pure delight.

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.

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

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<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>.