

MEDIA RELEASE

A new musical about Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash begins this November

October 15, 2024

Edmonton, Alberta – The Canadian premiere of *The Ballad of Johnny and June* begins next month at The Citadel Theatre.

A brand-new musical exploring the life and careers of country music legends Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash, told through the eyes of their son John Carter Cash. From their first meeting in 1956 at the Grand Ole Opry to fame, life on the road, controversy and family, this re-telling of their iconic love story is complete with hits you know and love like *I Walk The Line*, *Ring of Fire*, and many more.

The book is written by **Robert Cary** and **Des McAnuff**, who took years to create a truthful depiction of the iconic couple and the controversy and heartache that plagued their passionate love story. Drawing from the real-life experiences of their son, John Carter Cash, this tale is an honest portrayal of the lives of the famous couple.

The Ballad of Johnny and June is a La Jolla Playhouse Production presented by The Citadel Theatre. Directed by **Des McAnuff**, a two-time Tony Award-winner, former artistic director of the Stratford Festival, director emeritus of La Jolla Playhouse and director of such Broadway musicals as *Ain't Too Proud* and *Jersey Boys*. **Christopher Ryan Grant**, playing Johnny Cash, has appeared on Broadway stages many times, and acts alongside **Patti Murin** (June Carter Cash) who is well known for her role as Princess Anna in *Disney's Frozen* on Broadway. The Citadel is excited to have two such outstanding performers that the LA Times quoted as “pitch perfect as Johnny and June.”

“Much like our productions of *Hadestown* and *SIX*, this is an incredible opportunity for Edmonton audiences to see a fantastic new musical before the rest of the world does. We are proud to partner with La Jolla Playhouse, who have created over 30 productions that were carried on to Broadway. This is a spectacular theatrical event not to be missed.” says Daryl Cloran, Artistic Director.

The Ballad of Johnny and June plays November 9 to December 8, 2024, in the Shoctor Theatre. Tickets are available online at citadeltheatre.com or by calling Box Office at 780.425.1820.

The Pay What You Choose in person night presented by Alberta Blue Cross is happening Sunday, November 10, 2024. More information on Pay What You Choose can be found at citadeltheatre.com.

An Open Captioned Performance is happening Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 1:30pm. Tickets are available online and information on Accessible Performances at The Citadel can be found at citadeltheatre.com/accessibility/.

Productions photos will be available by November 12, 2024.

CAST

Maddie Shea Baldwin	Anita Carter, Ensemble
Paula Leggett Chase	Carrie, Ensemble
Drew Wildman	Foster Carl Smith, Jack Cash, Marshall Grant, Ensemble
Christopher Ryan Grant	Johnny Cash
Van Hughes	John Carter Cash
Gabriella Joy	Vivian, Ensemble
Patti Murin	June Carter Cash
Bart Shatto	Ray Cash, Sam Phillips, W.S. Holland, Ensemble
Correy West	Luther Perkins, Rip Nix, Ensemble

UNDERSTUDIES

Maddie Shea Baldwin	June Carter Cash
Michael Louis Cusimano	Johnny Cash, John Carter Cash
Evan Dowling	Swing 2 (Carl Smith/Jack Cash/Marshall Grant, Ray Cash/Sam Phillips/W. S. Holland, Luther Perkins/Rip Nix)
Sarah Horsman	Swing 1 (Anita, Carrie, Vivian)

CREATIVE TEAM

Des McAnuff	Co-Bookwriter, Director
Rob Cary	Co-Bookwriter
Ron Melrose	Music Supervisor, Arrangements and Orchestrations
Byron Easley	Choreographer
Robert Brill	Scenic Designer
Sarafina Bush	Costume Designer
Amanda Zieve	Lighting Designer
Peter Fitzgerald	Sound Designer
Sean Nieuwenhuis	Projection Designer
Alberto "Albee" Alvarado	Wig Designer
Lyndon Pugeda	Music Director
Joe Payne	Assistant Music Director, Additional Orchestrations
Michael Bello	Associate Director
Garth Helm	Associate Sound Designer
Joshua Heming	Assistant Lighting Designer
Joel Britt	Associate Lighting Designer
Cynthia Jimenez-Hicks	Assistant Choreographer
Correy West	Dance Captain
Wylder Cooper	Lighting Programmer
Don Hanna	Sound Tech
Madison Henry	Stage Manager
Ingrid Kottke	Assistant Stage Manager
Charlotte Braid	Apprentice Stage Manager

For more information and to arrange an interview, contact:

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