

## BookMyShow forays into international event ticketing with Tony Award winner The King and I

**Mumbai, June 20, 2018:** BookMyShow today announced its entry into ticketing for events being held outside of India with multi Tony-award winning production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's THE KING AND I. After successfully donning the producer's hat for Disney's Aladdin, the Broadway-style musical in India, BookMyShow is also co-producer of this critically acclaimed musical marking its entry into London's West End this summer.

Category leader BookMyShow, which has transformed itself from a pure online ticketing player to be India's biggest go to destination for entertainment, continues to innovate and venture into new verticals to grow the market as well as increase its share in the entertainment value chain. Its association with Trafalgar Entertainment Group will not only allow thousands of Indian tourists looking to travel to UK/Europe this summer to add The King and I to their itineraries and book their tickets for this masterpiece in advance on BookMyShow but will also ensure a lot of their productions eventually travel to the sub-continent to reach a larger base of its consumers here.

"Millions of Indian tourists travel abroad each year and many of them are increasingly traveling to satiate their appetite for international entertainment, be it watching their favourite artist live, supporting their football team or to grab a bit of world class theatre. This is where we sensed an opportunity in fulfilling the need of our audiences that travel or who will travel should the entertainment be a draw. Our customers in India will now be able to get their tickets seamlessly for some of the biggest international events happening around the world be it live concerts, theatre or even sport. We are delighted to mark our entry into this new segment with the sale of tickets of our very own co-production of The King and I, one of Rodgers & Hammerstein's finest works that the Trafalgar Entertainment Group is producing", said **Albert Almeida, COO-Non Movies, BookMyShow.**

Commenting on being a co-producer for this show, **Albert Almeida** added, "BookMyShow has been working with partners across the world to bring some of the best entertainment experiences to India. While we are looking to bring this majestic production to our country in the near future, as co-producers we are also keen to work with leading production houses such as Trafalgar Entertainment to adopt some of their best practices to ensure our audiences here get the same world class experience that they would at Broadway or the West End."

**Sir Howard Panter**, Joint CEO and Creative Director, Trafalgar Entertainment Group said, "We are delighted to partner on the launch of BookMyShow's first international production to the people of India with this magnificent production of The King And I this summer at the London Palladium. We look forward to opening the doors of this iconic venue to all who are visiting the UK this year."

Tickets for The King and I can be bought here: <https://bookmyshow.ticketswitch.com/city/2957-london/4AR5-the-king-and-i/>

### For further details, please contact:

Arushi Maheshwari | arushi.maheshwari@bookmyshow.com | +91-8802999023

Natasha Kini | natasha.kini@bm.com | +91 9820227972

Avni Jesrani | avni.jesrani@bm.com | +91 82916 41669

---

**Notes to the Editor:**

### About The King and I:

The multi Tony Award-winning production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's **THE KING AND I** will transfer from Broadway to London this summer following a critically acclaimed 16 month run at New York's Lincoln Center Theater and an unprecedented continuing record-breaking sold out USA tour. Opening at the world famous London Palladium on June 21, 2018, the show will star the two original Lincoln Centre Theatre lead actors: Broadway Musical Royalty Kelli O'Hara, who will reprise her Tony Award-winning role of Anna Leonowens, together with film star, Oscar and Tony nominee (for his role on The King and I) Ken Watanabe, who will star in the title role of The King of Siam. Both will be making their West End debuts, following their acclaimed performances on Broadway.

Acclaimed Tony Award-winning Bartlett Sher will once again direct the production, hot on the heels of his work on The Lincoln Center Theater's World Premiere of J.T. Rogers' smash hit play **Oslo**, which opened on Broadway and then transferred via the National Theatre to London's Harold Pinter Theatre in October this year to rave reviews. He, along with the celebrated creative team behind the award winning production of *South Pacific*, will reunite to bring this majestic production to life at the Palladium.

With music by Richard Rodgers, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, **THE KING AND I** - which won four Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Musical - will open its European Premiere at the London Palladium. The production will open 21 June 2018 (Press Night on 3 July 2018) for a limited engagement, booking until 4 August 2018.

One of Rodgers & Hammerstein's finest works, this masterpiece boasts a score featuring such beloved classics as *Getting To Know You*, *Hello Young Lovers*, *Shall We Dance*, *I Have Dreamed*, and *Something Wonderful*. Set in 1860s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional and tempestuous relationship that develops between the King of Siam and Anna Leonowens, a British schoolteacher, whom the imperious King brings to Siam to tutor his many wives and children.

Featuring a company of over 50 world-class performers, The King and I is a testament to the lavish heritage of gloriously romantic musical theatre.

### About BookMyShow

BookMyShow is India's biggest entertainment destination. Over the years, the company has transformed from a purely online ticketing player for movies, sports, plays and events. Today, with presence in over 650 towns and cities in India, BookMyShow works with partners across the industry to provide unmatched entertainment experiences to millions of customers, on par with global entertainment standards. It is constantly innovating to increase its ownership share in the Indian entertainment value chain by relying heavily on its analytic capabilities and incisive understanding of customers. Along the way BookMyShow has produced music concerts and theatricals, introduced audio entertainment service Jukebox, built India's largest organic reviews and ratings engine for movies and has driven technology innovations, such as the m-ticket, impacting both users and the industry at large.

Since its launch in 2007, BookMyShow has been committed to its customers. With continued support from investors Stripes Group, Network 18 (Reliance), Accel Partners and SAIF Partners, BookMyShow (which is part of Bigtree Entertainment, founded in Mumbai in 1999), is invested in providing the best user experience, whether it's on ground at an event or online. Demonstrating category leadership, BookMyShow has expanded its operations to Sri Lanka and Indonesia and has invested in companies including Do-It-Yourself events registration and ticketing platform Townscript and Fantain, a fantasy

sports platform for Cricket and Kabaddi. It is also committed to society at large by way of their charity initiative BookASmile, which provides entertainment experiences to the underprivileged. For more information, please visit [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

### **About Trafalgar Entertainment Group**

Trafalgar Entertainment Group is a live entertainment business that owns and operates distinctive, stylish cultural buildings as well as creating, distributing and live-transmitting innovative content to cinemas. Based at Trafalgar Studios in London's West End, it is the latest venture from Sir Howard Panter and Dame Rosemary Squire DBE – two of the most influential entertainment entrepreneurs of the last 20 years.

Launched in June 2017, TEG acquired both Trafalgar Studios and the market leader in event cinema, Picturehouse Entertainment (now Trafalgar Releasing). It has produced a number of critically acclaimed shows for the West End including *Apologia* starring Stockard Channing and new musical *The Grinning Man* as well as producing *The Rocky Horror Show* internationally and co-producing the UK tour of *Jersey Boys* and *Mary Stuart* in the West End. Trafalgar Studios currently hosts the hit US production of *Killer Joe* starring Orlando Bloom.

Tipped to be the theatrical event of 2018, TEG brings the multi award-winning Lincoln Center Theater production of *The King and I* to the London Palladium in June, prior to a UK national tour.

### **CAST**

**KELLI O'HARA** won the Tony Award for Best Lead Actress in a Musical for her performance in the Lincoln Center Theatre's production of *The King & I*. Kelli has also been nominated for Tony Awards for previous Broadway performances in *The Light in the Piazza*, *South Pacific*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Nice Work if You Can Get It* and *The Pajama Game*. Additional Broadway credits include *The Sweet Smell of Success*, *Follies*, *Dracula*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Off-Broadway: *Far From Heaven*, *King Lear*, *Bells Are Ringing*, *My Life With Albertin*, *Beauty and The Light in the Piazza* Film/TV: *Sex and the City 2*, *Scorsese's The Key to Reserva*, *Blood Brothers*, *Alexander Hamilton*, *Numb3rs* and *Masters of Sex*. Recordings: Her recordings include *Always and Wonders of the World* on Ghostlight Records. Kelli has most recently completed filming the upcoming motion picture *Independents* directed by Greg Naughton. Kelli is currently starring in New York City Center's concert presentation of *Brigadoon* and is set to star in Roundabout Theatre Company's Broadway revival of *Kiss Me, Kate* in 2019.

**KEN WATANABE's** Japanese theatre credits include *Dialogue with Horowitz*, *Hamlet*, *Shitayamannencho monogatari*, *The Lion in Winter*, and *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*. For his work in film, Watanabe received Oscar, Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild award nominations for *The Last Samurai*. His film credits also include *Inception*, *Letters from Iwo Jima*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Batman Begins*, *Godzilla*, *The Sea of Trees*, *Transformers*. He has just completed work on the upcoming films *Isle of Dogs*, *Bel Canto* and *Godzilla: King of Monsters*.

### **CREATIVE TEAM**

**BARTLETT SHER** won the Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics' Circle Awards for his direction of the Lincoln Center Theater's production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific*. He most recently directed the world premiere of J.T. Rogers' play *Oslo* which opened on Broadway in July 2016 and has since transferred to London. His other theatre credits include; *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Golden Boy*, *Blood & Gifts*, *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *Awake and Sing!*, and *The Light in the Piazza*. His other Broadway and off-Broadway credits include *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Prayer for My Enemy*, *The Butterfly Collection*, *Cymbeline*, *Waste*, *Don Juan* and

Pericles. He directed the operas Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Les Contes d'Hoffmann, Le Comte Ory, L'Elisir d'Amore (Metropolitan Opera); Romeo et Juliette (Salzburg Festival and La Scala); Mourning Becomes Electra (Seattle Opera and New York City Opera); and Two Boys (Met and ENO). He was the Artistic Director of Seattle's Intiman Theatre and was also a Resident Director of Minneapolis' Guthrie Theatre.

**MICHAEL YEARGAN** (Set Designer) LCT: Golden Boy (Tony nom.), Blood and Gifts, Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, Joe Turner's Come and Gone (Tony nom.), South Pacific (Tony, Drama Desk awards; Outer Critics Circle nom.), Edward Albee's Seascape and The Light in the Piazza (Tony, DD awards). Broadway: The Ritz, Bad Habits, A Lesson from Aloes and The Road to Meca (Roundabout). Also credits Off-Broadway, regional theatre London, ten productions at the Metropolitan Opera and work at major opera companies throughout the United States, Europe and Australia.

**CATHERINE ZUBER** (Costume Designer) LCT: The King and I (Tony Award, OCC Award), South Pacific (Tony Award), The Light in the Piazza (Tony Award), Macbeth, Golden Boy (Tony nom.), Edward Albee's Seascape (Tony nom.). Broadway: Fiddler on the Roof, Gigi, The Royal Family (Tony Award), How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Born Yesterday (Tony nom.), Doubt and The Father. TV: NBC's The Sound of Music Live! And Peter Pan Live!

**DONALD HOLDER** (Lighting Designer) Broadway: Fifty productions, two Tony awards (The Lion King and South Pacific) and eleven Tony nominations. Recent projects include The Cherry Orchard, She Loves Me, Fiddler on the Roof, The Father, On the Twentieth Century, The Bridges of Madison County, Golden Boy, Spiderman: Turn off the Dark, Ragtime, Movin' Out, Bullets Over Broadway, Thoroughly Modern Millie, The Boy From Oz and many others. Television: Smash Seasons 1 and 2 (NBC-Dreamworks). Education: Yale School of Drama.

**SCOTT LEHRER** (Sound Designer) Received the first Tony awarded to sound for the Lincoln Centre Theatre revival of South Pacific directed by Bartlett Sher. Recent Broadway: The Front Page Shuffle Along, Fiddler on the Roof, Dames at Sea, The King and I, Living on Love, Honeymoon in Vegas, A Delicate Balance, Love Letters, A Raisin in the Sun, Betrayal, Lucky Guy, Chaplin (Drama Desk), Death of a Salesman (Tony nom.), the revival of Chicago and over 50 City Centre Encores!. Recording projects include the Broadway cast recording of An American in Paris (Grammy nom), Loudon Wainwright III's Grammy-winning High Wide and Handsome, Bebe Neuwirth's Porcelain and Meredith Monk's Mercy.

**CHRISTOPER GATTELLI** (Choreographer) LCT: The King and I (Tony Nom.), South Pacific (Tony, OCC noms.), and Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown. Broadway: Newsies (Tony, Drama Desk, OCC Awards for best choreography), Sunday in the Park with George, Casa Valentina, 13, The Ritz, Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me and High Fidelity. West End: Silence! The Musical, Sunday in the Park with George and Tick Tick... BOOM! Sydney Opera House: My Fair Lady with Julie Andrews. Film: Hail! Caesar. Upcoming: Warpaint, The Spongebob Musical and Frozen on Broadway.

**TED SPERLING** (Musical Supervisor) Broadway: Fiddler on the Roof, The King and I, South Pacific, Guys and Dolls, The Light in the Piazza (Tony and Drama Desk Awards), Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty, Titanic (actor), Kiss of the Spider Woman, How to Succeed..., My Favourite Year, Droid, Sunday in the Park with George. Off Broadway: Red Eye of Love, The Other Josh Cohen, Striking 12 and See What I Wanna See (all as director); A Man of No Importance, Satan Returns, A New Brain, Floyd Collins, Romance in Hard Times (as musical director). Artistic Director of MasterVoices, Principal Conductor of Westchester Philharmonic. Creative Director, the 24 hour musicals.

**STEPHEN RIDLEY** (UK Musical Director) As Musical Supervisor: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Oklahoma!, Annie Get Your Gun and Private Lives (UK Tours). As Musical Director: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers and The Sound of Music (Regent's Park), Guys and Dolls(Phoenix Theatre), Urinetown (Guest MD,



Apollo), Crazy for You (Novello, Oliver Award for Best Musical Revival), Love Story (Duchess Theatre/Minerva Theatre Chichester), Privates on Parade (Associate MD, Noel Coward), The Music Man (Chichester), The A to Z of Mrs P (Southwark Playhouse), Soho Cinders (Soho Theatre), High Society (UK tour), The Secret Garden (WYP), Peter Pan – A Musical Adventure (Birmingham Rep/WYP), The Wizard of Oz (Birmingham Rep/WYP), Mercury Musicals 25th Anniversary Gala (Novello) and The Wind in the Willows (Regent's Park). Stephen recently conducted the BBC Concert Orchestra recording the music for BBC Radio 4's Home Front. Other work includes The Whipping Man (Theatre Royal, Plymouth), Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Theatre Royal, Drury Lane), A Chorus Line and Wizard of Oz (London Palladium).