

NEWS RELEASE

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THE WEST COAST PREMIERE OF WISE CHILDREN'S WUTHERING HEIGHTS

Now Playing at Berkeley Repertory Theatre

A National Theatre, Wise Children, Bristol Old Vic, and York Theatre Royal co-production in association with Berkeley Repertory Theatre

Adapted and directed by Emma Rice. Composer Ian Ross. Set and costume Vicki Mortimer. Sound and video Simon Baker. Lighting Jai Morjaria. Movement and Choreography Etta Murfitt.

BERKELEY, CA (November 22, 2022)—The West Coast premiere of Emma Rice's critically acclaimed *Wuthering Heights,* a reimagined version of Emily Brontë's gothic masterpiece with live music, dance, passion, hope, and a dash of impish irreverence, creating an intoxicating revenge tragedy for today, is now playing at **Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Roda Theatre** (2015 Addison St., Berkeley) **now through Sunday, January 1, 2023**. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online at <u>berkeleyrep.org/shows/wuthering-heights/</u>or by phone at **510-647-2949** (Tue-Sun, noon-7 p.m.).

Rescued from the Liverpool docks as a child, Heathcliff is adopted by the Earnshaws and taken to live at Wuthering Heights. He finds a kindred spirit in Catherine Earnshaw and a fierce love ignites. When forced apart, a brutal chain of events is unleashed. Returning to Berkeley Rep with her new company, **Wise Children**, acclaimed director Emma Rice (*The Wild Bride, Tristan & Yseult, Romantics Anonymous*) unleashes her latest wildly imaginative and uniquely theatrical experience on the Bay Area. *Wuthering Heights* is a **National Theatre, Wise Children, Bristol Old Vic,** and **York Theatre Royal** co-production in association with **Berkeley Repertory Theatre**.

The cast of *Wuthering Heights* includes (in alphabetical order) **Sam Archer** (Lockwood/Edgar Linton/The Moors), **Leah Brotherhead** (Catherine), **Georgia Bruce** (Isabella Linton/Little Linton/The Moors), **Ricardo Castro** (Robert/The Moors), **Katy Ellis** (Zillah/The Moors), **Lloyd Gorman** (Mr. Earnshaw/The Moors), **TJ Holmes** (Dr. Kenneth/The Moors), **Jordan Laviniere** (The Leader of The Yorkshire Moors), **Tama Phethean** (Hindley Earnshaw/Hareton Earnshaw/The Moors), **Eleanor Sutton** (Frances Earnshaw/ Catherine Linton/The Moors), and **Liam Tamne** (Heathcliff). The *Wuthering Heights* band includes **Sid Goldsmith**, **Pat Moran**, and **Vincent De Jesus**, with **TJ Holmes** and **Lloyd Gorman**.

Adapted and directed by **Emma Rice**, the creative team of *Wuthering Heights* includes **Ian Ross** (Composer), **Etta Murfitt** (Choreography), **Vicki Mortimer** (Scenic and Costume Design), **Jai Morjaria**

(Lighting Design), **Simon Baker** (Sound and Video Design), **John Leader** (Puppetry), and **Pat Moran** (Music Director).

Berkeley Rep announces select **\$25 front row and loge box tickets** for every performance of *Wuthering Heights*. Every Monday at noon PST during the run, the front row and loge box tickets for that week's performances will be available for \$25, with no order fees, through the <u>Berkeley Rep website</u>. Tickets will be available online only on a first-come, first-served basis.

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART** and **Peet's Coffee**, Berkeley Rep's official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to recognize the support at the season sponsor level of **Stephen** and **Susan Chamberlin**, Bruce Golden and Michelle Mercer, Louise Gund, Frances Hellman and Warren Breslau, Wayne Jordan and Quinn Delaney, Gisele and Kenneth F. Miller, Jack & Betty Schafer, and The Strauch Kulhanjian Family.

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EMMA RICE is the proud and excited artistic director of her company, Wise Children. She adapted and directed the company's *Bagdad Cafe* (The Old Vic), Angela Carter's *Wise Children* (The Old Vic/UK tour), and Enid Blyton's *Malory Towers* (Bristol Passenger Shed/UK tour). For the ENO she directed *Orpheus in the Underworld*. As artistic director of Shakespeare's Globe (2016-18), she directed *Romantics Anonymous, Twelfth Night, A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Little Matchgirl (and Other Happier Tales)*. For the previous 20 years, she worked for Kneehigh as an actor, director, and artistic director. Her productions for Kneehigh include *The Flying Lovers of Vitebsk, Tristan & Yseult, 946: The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips, The Wild Bride, The Red Shoes, The Wooden Frock, The Bacchae, Cymbeline* (in association with RSC), *A Matter of Life and Death* (in association with National Theatre), *Rapunzel* (in association with Battersea Arts Centre), *Brief Encounter* (in association with David Pugh and Dafydd Rogers Productions), *Don John* (in association with the RSC and Bristol Old Vic), *Wah! Wah! Girls* (in association with Sadler's Wells and Theatre Royal Stratford East for World Stages), and *Steptoe and Son*. Other work includes the West End production of *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, Oedipussy* (Spymonkey), *The Empress* (RSC), and *An Audience with Meow Meow* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre). In 2019 Rice received the UK Theatre Award for Outstanding Contribution to British Theatre.

ABOUT WISE CHILDREN

Created and led by Emma Rice, Wise Children launched in April 2018 and is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation. Based in Bristol, we make ground-breaking work with exceptional artists, and tour across the world. In the dark days of 2020, we led the field in livestreaming, becoming the first UK company to broadcast a full staged production, without social distancing, from a UK theatre after lockdown. Alongside our shows, we run a unique professional development programme, The School for Wise Children, training a new and more diverse generation of theatre practitioners. www.wisechildren.co.uk

ABOUT BERKELEY REP

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 5.5 million people have enjoyed nearly 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, which have gone on to win six Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, one Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre engages and educates some 20,000 people a year and helps build the audiences of tomorrow with its nationally recognized teen programs. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities which also include the 400-seat Peet's Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley — are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at <u>berkeleyrep.org</u>.