NEWS RELEASE

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Stark Sands and Adrian Blake Enscoe Perform "Murder in the City" from *Swept Away* <u>https://bit.ly/3EAwKla</u>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP

BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE EXTENDS SWEPT AWAY FOR SECOND AND FINAL EXTENSION

By popular demand, eight additional performances added – now playing through Sunday, March 6

December 7, 2021 –On the first day of rehearsals and following an overwhelmingly demand from audiences, Berkeley Rep has announced that the world premiere musical *Swept Away* will extend for an additional second and final week. The new musical will now run through **Sunday, March 6.**

Starting today, tickets for the added **eight** performances can be purchased online at berkeleyrep.org and by phone at 510 647-2949.

Tony Award-winning director **Michael Mayer** (*Spring Awakening, Hedwig and the Angry Inch*) blew the roof off Berkeley Rep in 2009 with Green Day's *American Idiot*. Now he returns with a captivating world premiere musical, this time featuring a book by Tony Award-winning stage and screen writer **John Logan**

(*Red*, Broadway's *Moulin Rouge!*, *Skyfall*, *Gladiator*), and music and lyrics by "America's biggest roots band" (*Rolling Stone*) and multiple Grammy Award nominee **The Avett Brothers**.

Swept Away is set in 1888, off the coast of New Bedford, MA. When a violent storm sinks their whaling ship, the four surviving souls—a young man in search of adventure, his older brother who has sworn to protect him, a captain at the end of a long career at sea, and a worldly first mate who has fallen from grace—each face a reckoning: How far will I go to stay alive? And can I live with the consequences?

Swept Away is produced by special arrangement with Matthew Masten, Sean Hudock, and Madison Wells Live.

Cast members include John Gallagher, Jr. (Mate), Stark Sands (Older Brother), Adrian Blake Enscoe (Little Brother), and Wayne Duvall (Captain). Members of the ensemble include Taurean Everett, Cameron Johnson, Ben Toomer, Vishal Vaidya, and Jacob Keith Watson.

The creative team includes **Rachel Hauck** (scenic designer), **Susan Hilferty** (costume designer), **Kevin Adams** (lighting designer) **Kai Harada** (sound designer), and **David Neumann** (choreographer).

For the 2021/22 season, 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 **Bruce Golden** and **Michelle Mercer**, **Frances Hellman** and **Warren Breslau**, **Wayne Jordan** and **Quinn Delaney**, **Gisele** and **Kenneth F. Miller**, and **The Strauch Kulhanjian Family**. **Swept Away** is made possible by executive sponsors **Lauren Edgerton**, **Jean** and **Michael Strunsky**, and **The Ira and Leonore S. Gershwin Philanthropic Fund**, and the **Mosse Artistic Development Fund**. **Swept Away** is a recipient of an **Edgerton Foundation New Play Award**.

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>

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