FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP ADDS ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES TO EXTENDED RUN OF AMÉLIE, A NEW MUSICAL

— Hit musical must close Sunday, October 18 —

September 23, 2015 – Amélie, A New Musical continues to win the hearts of Bay Area audiences. Due to popular demand Berkeley Rep announces that the show, which was already extended by a week, will run for an additional eight performances — but it must close Sunday, October 18, 2015. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (510) 647-2949 or online at berkeleyrep.org. The theatrical world premiere presentation has been met with enthusiastic applause and rave reviews from critics:

“Sparkling musical comedy,” declares The Los Angeles Times. “Slyly revels in the infinite possibilities of theatrical merrymaking. The score...flowers with originality. Barks and Chanler-Berat, both in possession of sterling voices, rise in stature when they sing. The impressive lyric writing of Tysen and Messé made me want to listen harder. The best songs mix outlandish wit with genuine feeling. It’s a credit to the enchantment of the authors and MacKinnon’s production that the storybook ending feels both earned and true.”

“A dreamy movie becomes a dream of a stage musical,” proclaims the San Francisco Chronicle. “Wit crackles and charm fills the house... Director Pam MacKinnon creates a seamless blend of visual, narrative and performance delights. And Samantha Barks inhabits the title role so luminously she might make you forget there was anyone else onstage — if the rest of the cast weren’t perfectly brilliant in turn.”

Adds the Bay Area News Group, “It’s impossible not to be charmed by aspects of Daniel Messé and Nathan Tysen’s score and Craig Lucas’ (“Prelude to a Kiss,” “The Light in the Piazza”) quirky book.... Barks and Chanler-Berat generate more than enough chemistry as the young lovers and their first kiss is beyond precious.”

Amélie captured our hearts in the five-time Academy Award-nominated 2001 French film. Now she comes to the stage in an inventive and captivating new musical directed by Tony Award winner Pam MacKinnon, who is known for her work on Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? and Clybourne Park. With a book by Craig Lucas (An American in Paris, Prelude to Kiss), the musical features a stirring score by Daniel Messé of the band Hem and lyrics by Messé and Nathan Tysen (The Burnt Part Boys). Amélie, A New Musical is produced by special arrangement with Aaron Harnick, Triptyck Studios, and SBR Productions.

The cast for Amélie, A New Musical in alphabetical order includes David Andino (Blind Beggar/Garden Gnome), Samantha Barks (Amélie), Randy Blair (Hipoloto), Adam Chanler-Berat (Nino), Alison Cimmet (Amandine/Philomene), Savvy Crawford (Young Amélie), Carla Duren (Gina), John Hickok (Raphael/Bretodeaux), Alyse Alan Louis (Georgette), Maria-Christina Oliveras (Suzanne), Tony Sheldon (Dufayel/Collignon), Perry Sherman (Lucien), Paul Whitty (Joseph), Shannon O’Boyle (Swing), and Jacob Keith Watson (Swing).

The creative team features David Zinn (scenic and costume designer), Jane Cox (lighting designer), Kai Harada (sound designer), Peter Nigrini (projection designer), Kimberly Grigsby and Daniel Messé (vocal arrangers), and Bruce Coughlin (orchestrator).

###

RECIPIENT OF THE TONY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING REGIONAL THEATRE

Tony Taccone
Michael Leibert Artistic Director

Susan Medak
Managing Director

2025 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 - Administration: 510 647-2900
Fax: 510 647-2976 - Box Office: 510 647-2949 - berkeleyrep.org
FACT SHEET
AMÉLIE, A NEW MUSICAL

WHO:
Book by Craig Lucas
Music by Daniel Messé
Lyrics by Nathan Tysen & Daniel Messé
Musical direction by Kimberly Grigsby
Musical staging and choreography by Sam Pinkleton
Directed by Pam MacKinnon

Featuring: David Andino (Blind Beggar/Garden Gnome), Samantha Barks (Amélie), Randy Blair (Hipoloto), Adam Chanler-Berat (Nino), Alison Cimmet (Amandine/Philomene), Savvy Crawford (Young Amélie), Carla Duren (Gina), John Hickok (Raphael/Bretodeaux), Alyse Alan Louis (Georgette), Maria-Christina Oliveras (Suzanne), Tony Sheldon (Dufayel/Collignon), Perry Sherman (Lucien), Paul Whitty (Joseph), Shannon O’Boyle (Swing), Jacob Keith Watson (Swing).

Orchestra: Kimberly Grigsby (Conductor, Keyboards), Dana Bauer (Woodwinds), Kathy Marshall (Violin), Vanessa Ruotolo (Cello), Wendy Tamis (Harp), Schuyler McFadden (Guitar), Allen Biggs (Percussion), Richard Duke (Bass), Kevin Porter (Contractor).

Creative team: David Zinn (scenic and costume designer), Jane Cox (lighting designer), Kai Harada (sound designer), Peter Nigrini (projection designer), Kimberly Grigsby and Daniel Messé (vocal arrangers), and Bruce Coughlin (orchestrator).

WHAT: Amélie captured our hearts in the five-time Academy Award–nominated film — now she comes to the stage in an inventive and captivating new musical. Embark on a mesmerizing journey with inquisitive and charmingly shy Amélie as she turns the streets of Montmartre into a world of her own imagining, while secretly orchestrating moments of joy for those around her.

WHERE: Berkeley Repertory Theatre
Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison Street @ Shattuck Berkeley, CA 94704

WHEN: EIGHT PERFORMANCES ADDED – Must close October 18!
- Tue, Thu, Fri @ 8:00 PM
- Wed @ 7:00 PM
- Sat @ 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM (no matinees on 8/29 & 9/5)
- Sun @ 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM (no matinees on 8/30 & 9/6)

SPECIAL EVENTS:
FREE docent talks: Before Tue and Thu evening performances and discussions after all matinees.
FREE Post-play discussions: Fri 9/18, Tue 9/22, and Thu 10/1 following the performance.
Last Call: Friday 9/18 following the evening performance

HOW MUCH: $55 - $109 (subject to change) TIX & INFO: (510) 647-2949 – berkeleyrep.org
Discounts: Half-price tickets available under 30 years of age; $10 discount for students and seniors one hour before curtain; Groups of 10 or more, call (510) 647-2918 or groups@berkeleyrep.org

###