FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE EXTENDS MONSOON WEDDING AGAIN
By popular demand, seven additional performances added – now playing through Sunday, July 9

May 25, 2017 - Following an overwhelmingly positive response from audiences and critics alike, Berkeley Rep has announced that the world premiere musical of Mira Nair’s Monsoon Wedding will extend for a second week. The beloved musical will now run through Sunday, July 9.

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

Praise for Monsoon Wedding:

- “As Hemant, [Michael] Maliakel has a baritone so tender that your eyes well as if by involuntary muscle trigger. As the servant Alice, Anisha Nagarajan trills bewitchingly among microtones. And as Aditi’s troubled cousin Ria, Sharvari Deshpande has the pure but weathered tone of a young Joni Mitchell.” – San Francisco Chronicle

- “A swirling typhoon of sound and color…. There’s a sweetness and lightness to the production that’s intoxicating…. Vishal Bhardwaj’s infectious score and bewitching choreography by Lorin Latarro invoke traditional tropes while embracing the pulse of the now. Arjun Bhasin's costumes, a shimmering sea of silk and sequins in saffron hues, never cease to dazzle the eye.” – San Jose Mercury News

- “Monsoon Wedding delivers on high hopes…. A triumphant celebration…. Without question, and unsurprisingly, Monsoon Wedding’s greatest moments come in song. (Music for the show was written by Vishal Bhardwaj, with lyrics by Susan Birkenhead….” – San Francisco Magazine

Monsoon Wedding is the perfect storm that starts brewing when family members from around the world descend on Delhi for a nonstop four-day celebration of an arranged marriage between a modern upper-middle-class Indian family’s only daughter and an Indian-American guy she’s never met. But the bride is having an affair, her father’s financial troubles deepen, and dark family secrets surface. The forecast calls for drama, love, hope, laughs, and a whole lot of rain.

Cast members include Monsoon Bissell (Shashi Chawla), Meetu Chilana (Grandmother), Emielyn D. Das (Aliya Chawla), Namit Das (PK Dubey), Sharvari Deshpande (Ria Verma), Palomi Ghosh (Vijaya/Naani), Rohan Gupta (Varun Verma), Jaaved Jaaferi (Lalit Verma), Dani Jazzar (Swing), Mahira Kakkar (Pimmi Verma), Namita Kapoor (Swing), Krystal Kiran (Saroj Rai), Michael Maliakel (Hemant Rai), Ali Momen (Vikram/Congress), Anisha Nagarajan (Alice), Andrew Prashad (Mohan Rai/Tameesudin), Alok Tewari (Tej), Levin Valayil (Lottery), Kuhoo Verma (Aditi Verma), and Sorab Wadia (Cl Chawla).
Monsoon Wedding features a book by Sabrina Dhawan, music by Vishal Bhardwaj, lyrics by Susan Birkenhead, scenic design by Mikiko Suzuki MacAdams, costume design by Arjun Bhasin, lighting design by Donald Holder, sound design by Scott Lehrer, projection design by Peter Nigrini, music supervision by Carmel Dean, music direction by Greg Kenna, and choreography by Lorin Latarro.

ABOUT BERKELEY REP
Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its core values of imagination and excellence, as well as its educated and adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. In four decades, four million people have enjoyed nearly 400 shows at Berkeley Rep. These shows have gone on to win five Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, and many other honors. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Its bustling facilities – which include the 400-seat Peet’s Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, and a spacious new campus in West Berkeley – are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at berkeleyrep.org