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For immediate release.

## DIRECT FROM BROADWAY THE LOS ANGELES ENGAGEMENT OF "THE LEHMAN TRILOGY" OPENS MARCH 6

The Los Angeles engagement of "The Lehman Trilogy" opens Sunday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at Center Theatre Group / Ahmanson Theatre. Written by Stefano Massini, adapted by Olivier Award-nominated Ben Power and directed by multiple Olivier Award, Academy Award and Tony Award winner Sam Mendes, "The Lehman Trilogy," comes to Los Angeles direct from a celebrated run on Broadway and follows sold-out runs at London's National Theatre, the Park Avenue Armory, and in London's West End. This epic portrayal will play through April 6, 2022.

Original London and Broadway cast members **Simon Russell Beale** and **Adam Godley** reprise their critically acclaimed performances joined by Broadway company member **Howard W. Overshown** to complete the cast of three who portray the Lehman brothers, their sons, grandsons and countless others.

"The Lehman Trilogy" has been hailed by The New York Times as "a genuinely epic production" with "superb" performances by Russell Beale and Godley. Howard W. Overshown joins the cast having understudied the role of Emmanuel Lehman on Broadway.

On a cold September morning in 1844, a young man from Bavaria stands on a New York dockside dreaming of a new life in the new world. He is soon joined by his two brothers, and an American epic begins. 163 years later, the firm they establish — Lehman Brothers — spectacularly collapses into bankruptcy, triggering the largest financial crisis in history. It is the story of a family — and a family business — that would transform and, finally, upend the world.

"The Lehman Trilogy" features set designs by **Es Devlin**, costume design by **Katrina Lindsay**, video design by **Luke Halls** and lighting design by **Jon Clark**. The composer and sound designer is **Nick Powell**, the co-sound designer is **Dominic Bilkey**, with music direction by **Candida Caldicot** and movement by **Polly Bennett**. The associate director is **Zoé Ford Burnett**.

The world premiere of Stefano Massini's "The Lehman Trilogy" opened at the Piccolo Teatro in Milan in 2015. It turned out to be Artistic Director Luca Ronconi's final production before his death. A long-term admirer of Ronconi's, Sam Mendes was inspired to begin planning an English adaptation for Neal Street Productions.

Ben Power was commissioned by Neal Street Productions to create a new version of this epic play, using a literal English translation by Mirella Cheeseman. This production opened at the National Theatre on July 4, 2018, before its North American premiere at the Park Avenue Armory where it garnered huge critical acclaim. The New York Times called it a "magnificent play... [a] genuinely epic production out of London, directed with surging sweep and fine-tooled precision by Sam Mendes...with a design team that understands the value of simplicity in doing justice to complex matters."

"The Lehman Trilogy" subsequently opened May 11, 2019, for a 16-week sold-out West End run at the Piccadilly Theatre. Following Broadway's 18-month shutdown, "The Lehman Trilogy" has returned to Broadway — where it had previously played four performances in March 2020 — and recently finished its run at the Nederlander Theatre for a limited engagement on January 2, 2022.

Recent Broadway productions from the National Theatre include "Network" (Tony Award for Best Actor in a Play for Bryan Cranston); "Angels in America," the most nominated play in Tony Award history (three Tony Awards including Best Revival of a Play; Drama Desk Award; Drama League Award; Outer Critics Circle Award); "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" (five Tony Awards including Best Play; Drama Desk Award; Drama League Award; Outer Critics Circle Award); and "Hadestown," (eight Tony Awards including Best Musical). Off-Broadway, "People, Places & Things," a co-production with Headlong Theatre, and "The Jungle," a Good Chance Theatre co-production with the National Theatre and the Young Vic, transferred to St. Ann's Warehouse.

Neal Street Productions' recent Broadway hits include "The Ferryman" (four Tony Awards, including Best Play and Best Director of a Play) and film includes "1917," which recently won two Golden Globes for Best Motion Picture and Best Director (Sam Mendes).

Stefano Massini's work has been translated into 22 languages and performed around the world. His plays have been directed by Luca Ronconi, Lluis Pasqual, Arnaud Meunier, Irina Brook, Anton Kouznetsov, Declan Donnellan, Marius von Mayenburg, Stephan Bachmann and Sam Mendes. In 2015 he became the artistic consultant at Piccolo Teatro di Milano/Teatro d'Europa. Stefano Massini is the author of many novels and essays and contributes regularly to Italian newspaper La Repubblica. In film, he has collaborated with production companies such as Fandango and Cattleya. He appears weekly on Italian talk show "Piazzapulita" on La7.

The National Theatre and Neal Street Productions' "The Lehman Trilogy" is presented in Los Angeles at the Ahmanson Theatre by Center Theatre Group.

Tickets, starting at \$35, for "The Lehman Trilogy" are available through <a href="CenterTheatreGroup.org">CenterTheatreGroup.org</a>, Audience Services at (213) 972-4400 or in person at the Center Theatre Group Box Office (at the Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center, 135 N. Grand Avenue in Downtown L.A. 90012).

The National Theatre's mission is to make world-class theatre, for everyone. The NT creates and shares unforgettable stories with audiences across the UK and around the world. On its own stages, on tour, in schools, on cinema screens and streaming at home, it strives to be accessible, inclusive and sustainable. The National Theatre empowers artists and craftspeople to make world-leading work, investing in talent and developing new productions with a wide range of theatre companies at its New Work Department. Our nation thrives on fresh talent and new ideas, so the National Theatre works with young people and teachers right across the UK through performance, writing and technical programs to ignite the creativity of the next generation. Together with communities, the NT creates ambitious works of participatory theatre in deep partnerships that unite theatres and local organizations — showing that nothing brings us together like theatre. The National Theatre needs your support to shape a bright, creative future. For more information, please visit nationaltheatre.org.uk. The National Theatre is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation. For social media: @NationalTheatre @LehmanTrilogyUS.

**Neal Street Productions** is one of the UK's most respected production companies, producing film, television and theatre. Set up in 2003 by Sam Mendes, Pippa Harris and Caro

Newling, the company celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2013, as Nicolas Brown was appointed to the Board of Directors. In 2015 Neal Street moved under the umbrella of parent company, All3Media. All3Media is owned jointly between Discovery Communications and Liberty Global. Neal Street Productions makes distinctive, popular award-winning projects on both sides of the Atlantic. Most recent theatre productions include "The Ferryman" by Jez Butterworth, "Local Hero" by Mark Knopfler & David Greig. <a href="www.nealstreetproductions.com">www.nealstreetproductions.com</a>.

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation's preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles' leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under the leadership of Managing Director / CEO Meghan Pressman and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1,600 to 2,100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation's leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics and circumstance to serve Los Angeles.

**Bank of America** is Center Theatre Group's 2021 — 2022 Season Sponsor. Bank of America believes in the power of the arts to help economies thrive, to educate and enrich societies, and to create greater cultural understanding. For more than 20 years, the company has supported Center Theatre Group's innovative Education and Community Partnerships programs as well as world-class productions. Bank of America is also an instrumental supporter in accelerating Center Theatre Group's commitment to becoming an anti-racist, equitable, diverse and inclusive organization.

**American Express** is the official credit card for Center Theatre Group and the presenting sponsor of the Digital Stage.

Center Theatre Group requires all guests to wear a mask and provide proof of full vaccination along with proof of booster shot for those eligible and a government or education issued photo ID upon arrival. Per the guidelines set by the CDC, "full vaccination" means that at least 14 days have passed since receiving the final dose of an FDA-authorized or WHO-listed COVID-19 vaccine. There is no waiting period required following a booster shot. Unvaccinated guests, including children or those with a medical or religious reason, or those that are eligible for a booster shot and have not yet received it must provide proof of a negative PCR COVID-19 test taken no more than 48 hours prior to attending an indoor performance, or a negative rapid antigen test taken no more than 24 hours prior to attending an indoor performance. All tests must be administered by a professional. At-home tests will not be accepted.

Center Theatre Group will continue working closely with The Music Center and L.A. County officials to ensure they are following all applicable health and safety protocols. More information regarding safety updates as well as audience vaccination, testing and mask requirements is available at CenterTheatreGroup.org/Safety.