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For immediate release.

PERFORMANCES OF "THE LAST SHIP" STARRING STING BEGIN JANUARY 14

THE SHOW MAKES ITS LOS ANGELES DEBUT AT CENTER THEATRE GROUP/AHMANSON THEATRE THROUGH FEBRUARY 16, 2020

Performances for **Sting's** acclaimed musical, "**The Last Ship**," will begin on January 14, 2020. The limited five-week engagement will play through February 16, 2020 at the Ahmanson Theatre. The opening is set for Wednesday, January 22 at 8 p.m.

Tickets for **"The Last Ship"** are currently on sale for the premiere Los Angeles engagement at Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre. To purchase tickets, visit CenterTheatreGroup.org, call Audience Services at (213) 972-4400 or visit the Center Theatre Group Box Office (at the Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center, 135 N. Grand Avenue in Downtown L.A. 90012). Ticket prices start at \$35.

Seventeen-time Grammy Award®-winner **Sting** stars as shipyard foreman, 'Jackie White,' and will perform the role at every performance. He is joined by Frances McNamee as 'Meg,' Jackie Morrison as 'Peggy White' and Oliver Savile as 'Gideon Fletcher.'

The remainder of the entirely British cast includes Marc Akinfolarin, Joe Caffrey, Matt Corner, Susan Fay, Orla Gormley, Annie Grace, Sean Kearns, Oliver Kearney, David Muscat, Tom Parsons, Joseph Peacock, Sophie Reid, Hannah Richardson and Jade Sophia Vertannes.

The company is appearing with the support of Actor's Equity Association.

For more information on the production and a video sneak peek, please visit <u>thelastshipmusical.com</u>

Inspired by Sting's 1991 album, "The Soul Cages," "**The Last Ship**" tells the story of Gideon, a prodigal son returning home after 17 years at sea to find that the local shipyard his town was built around is closing and Meg, the love he left behind, has moved on. Tensions flare and picket lines are drawn as foreman Jackie White (Sting) rallies the workers to take over the shipyard and build one last ship in the face of the gathering storm.

A love story, a tale of family and friendship, and a passionate homage to the shipbuilding community Sting grew up in, this "thrilling and stirring musical" (The Guardian) features a Tonynominated original score by Sting including some of his best-loved songs "Island of Souls," "All This Time" and "When We Dance." Completely reimagined since its Broadway debut in 2014, "**The Last Ship**" has thrilled audiences across the UK and in Toronto and has been described as "uplifting, intimate, heart-breaking and universal." (The Stage.)

"The Last Ship" has a new book and direction by incoming artistic director of the National Theatre Wales Lorne Campbell; is based on the original book by John Logan and Brian Yorkey; has set design by **59 Productions**, the multi award-winning studio behind the video design of the London 2012 Olympic Games, "Les Misérables" and "War Horse"; musical supervision and orchestrations by Emmy Award-winning, Drama Desk, Tony and Grammy nominated arranger/composer/producer **Rob Mathes** whose credits include arrangements for "The Greatest Showman" and work with the biggest names in music including Elton John, Tony Bennett, Lou Reed, Jay-Z, Aretha Franklin and many more; musical direction by **Richard John**; costume design by **Molly Einchcomb**; movement direction by **Lucy Hind**; lighting design by **Matt Daw** and sound design by **Sebastian Frost**.

"The Last Ship" is produced by Karl Sydow.

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 Artistic Director Michael Ritchie, Managing Director Meghan Pressman and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1600 to 2100-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.

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January 14, 2020