Ensemble/Arts

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Philly's perennial percussion favorite @stomponline (Facebook)/@StompNYC (Instagram/Twitter/X) returns 12/26-29, presented by @EnsembleArtsPhilly (Facebook/Instagram)/@EnsembleArtsPHL (Twitter/X) and @shubertorg (Instagram/X/Twitter)/@theshubertorganization (Facebook). More info at www.ensembleartsphilly.org.

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PRESENTED BY ENSEMBLE ARTS PHILLY AND THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION, THE PERCUSSION SENSATION, STOMP – CELEBRATING 30 YEARS IN NORTH AMERICA – RETURNS TO PHILADELPHIA FOR THE HOLIDAYS, DECEMBER 26 – 29, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (October 31, 2024) – Ensemble Arts Philly and The Shubert Organization present *STOMP*, the international percussion sensation, for six holiday performances from December 26 – 29 at the Miller Theater. From its beginnings as a street performance in the UK, *STOMP* has grown into an international sensation over the past 29 years, having performed in more than 50 countries and in front of more than 26 million people.

Created by Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, *STOMP* continues to tour North America, Europe, Latin America, and Asia following 15 years in London's West End and 29 years at New York's Orpheum Theatre, along with lengthy sit down productions in San Francisco, Boston, and Las Vegas. Throughout its life, the show has continued to change by creating new material to bring music to everyday objects. It is safe to say you will never again look at supermarket carts or plumbing fixtures the same way... or paint cans, or kitchen sinks or...

"STOMPers create sound from objects most of us find utterly mundane, constructing beats and beauty from everything around them," said Frances Egler, Vice president of Theatrical Programming and Presentations. "A Philadelphia favorite, *STOMP* is a show the entire family can enjoy together this holiday season."

The performers "make a rhythm out of anything we can get our hands on that makes a sound," says co-founder/director Luke Cresswell. A unique combination of percussion, movement, and visual comedy, *STOMP* has created its own inimitable, contemporary form of rhythmic expression: both household and industrial objects find new life as musical instruments in the hands of an idiosyncratic band of body percussionists. It is a journey through sound, a celebration of the everyday, and a comic interplay of characters wordlessly communicating through dance and drum.

Synchronized stiff-bristle brooms become a sweeping orchestra, eight Zippo lighters flip open and closed to create a fiery fugue; wooden poles thump and clack in a rhythmic explosion. *STOMP* uses everything <u>but</u> conventional percussion instruments – dustbins, suitcases, radiator hoses, boots, hub caps – to fill the stage with a compelling and unique act that is often imitated but never duplicated.

STOMP, an overwhelming success marked by rave reviews, numerous awards, and sell-out engagements, is the winner of an Olivier Award for Best Choreography (London's Tony Award), a New York Obie Award, a Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatre Experience, and a Special Citation from Best Plays. The show garnered an Academy Award nomination, four Emmy nominations, and one Emmy Award for their acclaimed HBO special Stomp Out Loud; has had noteworthy TV appearances including The London 2012 Olympic Games Closing Ceremony, The Academy Awards (produced by Quincy Jones), Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, and a series of award-winning international commercials.

Critics and audiences have raved: "STOMP is as crisp and exuberant as if it had opened yesterday," says *The New York Times*. The San Francisco Chronicle declared "STOMP has a beat that just won't quit!" *The Los Angeles Times* exclaimed: "Electrifying! Triumphs in the infinite variety of the human experience." "A phenomenal show! Bashing, crashing, smashing, swishing, banging and kicking – a joyous invention!" said the *Chicago Tribune*.

Tickets

Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or online at www.ensembleartsphilly.org. Inperson ticket sales can be conducted daily from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at the Academy of Music Box Office, located at 240 S. Broad Street. Orders for groups of 10 or more may be placed by calling 215-790-5883 or emailing groupsales@ensembleartsphilly.org. See www.ensembleartsphilly.org for more information.

STOMP

Miller Theater December 26 – 29, 2024 Times Vary

STOMP is part of the 2024-25 Family Discovery Series, sponsored by Dietz and Watson.

For more information, visit www.stomponline.com.

THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION

The Shubert Organization is America's oldest professional theatre company and the largest theatre owner on Broadway. Since the dawn of the 20th century, Shubert has operated hundreds of theatres and produced hundreds of plays and musicals both in New York City and throughout the United States. Shubert currently owns and operates 17 Broadway theatres, six off-Broadway venues, and the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. Under the leadership of Robert E. Wankel, Chairman and CEO, The Shubert Organization continues to be a leader in the theatre industry. Shubert delivers innovative ticketing solutions via its Telecharge interface, API distribution, and private-label technology, offering unparalleled distribution and marketing to the theatre industry and beyond. Its consumer-facing brands—Telecharge for retail ticket sales and Broadway Inbound for group buyers, tour operators, and the travel industry—sell millions of tickets each year. The Shubert Foundation, sole shareholder of The Shubert Organization, Inc., is dedicated to sustaining and advancing live performing arts in the United States. The Foundation provides general operating support to not-for-profit theatres and dance companies. Foundation grants in 2023 totaled \$37.9 million to 635 grantees. For more information, visit www.shubert.nyc.

ABOUT ENSEMBLE ARTS PHILLY

For more information about ENSEMBLE ARTS PHILLY, visit www.ensembleartsphilly.org.

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