



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

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Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director*
Jerry Patch, *Resident Artistic Director*

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OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES FIRST ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING ON
NOVEMBER 12 TO KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON IN
CELEBRATION OF BELOVED HOLIDAY TRADITION:
DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!

AUDREY GEISEL (A.K.A. "MRS. DR. SEUSS") TO PULL THE "SEUSS-SWITCH"

MEMBERS OF GRINCH CAST TO SING HOLIDAY CAROLS

San Diego – Executive Director Louis Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch of the Tony Award[®]-winning Old Globe are pleased to announce that the Theatre will start a new tradition to kick off the holiday season in conjunction with its annual production *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* with a **free tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, November 12 at 5:30pm on the Globe plaza.**

This fun family event will feature a special live performance by members of the *Grinch* cast, along with remarks from Globe Executive Director **Louis Spisto** and **Audrey Geisel** (a.k.a. "Mrs. Dr. Seuss"), who will pull the "Seuss-switch" for the tree. Additionally, **STAR 94.1 radio personality HILARY** will be on-site to play holiday tunes and free refreshments will be provided by **Starbucks**, all while snow falls on the Globe Plaza.

This unique tree has been designed by **John Lee Beatty**, the scenic designer for *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* It will be built around the clock on the Globe Plaza and remain for the run of the show.

Now in its ninth amazing year, this wonderful musical will run in the Old Globe Theatre November 11 through December 24. Launched in 1998, the Globe is pleased to bring back this San Diego family favorite year after year. Tickets for *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* are currently on sale and can be purchased by calling the Old Globe's Ticket Services Department at **(619) 23-GLOBE**, by visiting the Globe box office in Balboa Park or on line at www.TheOldGlobe.org. Ticket prices range from \$19 to \$29 for children 3-17 years of age; and \$39 to \$59 for adults.

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How the Grinch Stole Christmas! has been hailed by critics: “This *Grinch* is a smash,” wrote the *L.A. Times*, while the *San Diego Union-Tribune* raved, “Jack O’Brien scaled this Globe holiday show...to the heartfelt humanity of the season.” As an added feature of this holiday celebration, the Globe again plans to feature many wonderful characters and graphic elements from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* in a mini *Who-ville* on the outdoor Copley Plaza throughout the run of the production.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego’s flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe’s 2006/7 Season include the acclaimed production of Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone, the world premiere of Kenneth Lonergan’s The Starry Messenger, starring Matthew Broderick, as well as Amy Freed’s Restoration Comedy, the co-world premiere of Pig Farm, August Wilson’s Two Trains Running and Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O’Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation’s leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.