



Experience the Unforgettable

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“I am dispatching every available reporter to Hopewell, New Jersey so it’s every man for himself. If you run out of angles, make one up.”

—William Randolph Hearst, *Baby Case*

A vibrant new musical about the media circus that surrounded the Lindbergh baby kidnapping, the investigation, and the “Trial of the Century!”

SAINT PAUL, MN – History Theatre is proud to present the regional premiere of an award-winning new musical about the spectacle created by the media around the Lindbergh baby kidnapping and the “Trial of the Century.” Featuring nearly 90 characters portrayed by 11 actors, the story is narrated by Walter Winchell and is populated by the famous and infamous personalities of 1932 including Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Norman Schwarzkopf, Violet Sharpe, William Randolph Hearst, Al Capone, Ginger Rogers, J. Edgar Hoover, Bruno Richard Hauptmann, and more.

Baby Case originally premiered at the Arden Theater Company in Philadelphia in 2001 and received four Barrymore Awards including Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical and Outstanding Original Music (with 11 nominations). In 2012 it played at the New York Musical Festival where it received the “Best of Fest” audience prize. *Baby Case* celebrates its regional premiere at History Theatre in Charles Lindbergh’s boyhood home state of Minnesota. The production is directed by Ron Peluso, with music direction by Jake Endres (*Coco’s Diary*), and choreography by Jan Puffer (*Christmas of Swing*), and features Peter Middlecamp (*Lombardi*) as Charles Lindbergh/Bruno Richard Hauptman, Kendall Anne Thompson (*This Side of Paradise*) as Anne Morrow Lindbergh/Anna Hauptman, and John Hegge as Walter Winchell. They are joined by Gary Briggie, Kym Chambers Otto, Paul R. Coate, Ron Collier, Laurie Flanigan Hegge, Nicholas Freeman, James Ramlet, and Emily A. Grodzik.

Production photos will be posted on Fri, October 4 at www.historytheatre.com/about/press

Baby Case

Opens: Saturday, October 5, 2013 (Previews: 10/3 – Pay What You Can, 10/4 – \$20 general Admission)
Through: Sunday, November 3, 2013
Thursdays @ 10:00 a.m. | Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays @ 8:00 p.m. | Sundays @ 2:00 p.m.

Audio Described and ASL interpreted performance on 10/27/13 at 2:00 p.m.
Complete performance schedule is included on page 6 (*a list of special events is included on page 4*)

Performing at History Theatre, 30 East Tenth Street | St. Paul, MN 55101

TICKETS: Tier 1 **\$40**; Tier 2 **\$36**; Tier 3 **\$32**
Seniors (60+ years old) get \$2 off regular ticket prices | Students (5 to 18 years old): **\$15**
Discount rates are available for groups of 12 or more.

History Theatre Box Office at 651.292.4323 or www.historytheatre.com/tickets/

continued

About the Show

Narrated by Walter Winchell, the show begins with Charles Lindbergh's rise to superstar status in 1927 when his solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean launched him into the media spotlight as an American hero. From there, the media dogs Charles and his wife Anne until the fateful night in 1932 when their first son is taken from his crib. Eager to be the first to report any part of the story, the media covers the case to an absurd degree, turning the Lindbergh's family tragedy into a national pastime including jingles, Vaudeville shows, and countless headlines and special reports. Act one ends with the investigation pointing the FBI and New Jersey police to the doorstep of Bruno Richard Hauptmann. Act two follows the courtroom drama as Hauptmann is put on trial and the main street of Flemington, New Jersey is turned into an event center with vendors, movie stars, photographers, and spectators all vying to get in on the action.

The production features 11 actors portraying nearly 90 characters; everyone is onstage nearly all of the time. Costume designer E. Amy Hill (*Capital Crimes: The St. Paul Gangster Musical*) is employing dozens of hats and no small amount of wardrobe magic to help the actors transition from one character to another as seamlessly as possible. With 26 songs, the show's tight vocal harmonies and 1930's jazzy style keeps the ensemble and the four-piece pit band, led by music director Jake Endres (*Coco's Diary, Capital Crimes: The St. Paul Gangster Musical*), on their toes. The scenery, designed by Michael Hoover (*Lombardi*) consists of several balconies in front of large backdrops made up of the newspaper headlines as well as video projections of photos and sound bites from the real event designed by C. Andrews Mayer (*Nellie, Christmas of Swing*). Lighting design is created by Chris Johnson (*Lombardi*), and properties are designed by Kirby Moore (2012-2013 season).

Baby Case Awards and Honors:

2002 Barrymore Awards

- Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical (*winner*)
- Outstanding Original Music (*winner*)
- Outstanding Ensemble in a Musical (*winner*)
- Outstanding Leading Actor in a Musical (*two nominees, one winner*)
- Also nominations for Harold Prince Award For Outstanding Direction of a Musical,
- Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical (*two nominees*), Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical (*two nominees*), and Outstanding New Play

2012 New York Musical Festival Awards

- "Best of Fest" Audience Prize
- Excellence in Writing – Music
- Excellence in Writing – Lyrics
- Excellence in Direction

More information about Charles A. Lindbergh, the investigation, and the trial is available in the Play Guide which can be downloaded at: www.HistoryTheatre.com/2013-2014/baby-case.

About the Artists

Michael Ogborn

Playwright, Composer, and Lyricist

Michael Ogborn was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, and currently lives in New York City. A graduate of DeSales University, he made his Off-Broadway debut in 1993 with the musical revue *Box Office of the Damned*. His productions have received over 40 Barrymore Awards nominations and have received 10 Awards. In 2002,

his musical **Baby Case**, received 11 Barrymore nominations and 4 Awards including “Outstanding Music” and “Best Musical of the Year.” In 2012 **Baby Case** was produced at the New York Musical Festival (NYMF) and received 4 Awards including “Best Music & Lyrics” and “Best of the Festival”. Since 2007 Michael has written five scores for the holiday pantos at Peoples Light & Theatre Co. in Malvern, PA. In 2008, *Cinderella: A Musical Panto* received 7 Barrymore nominations and 4 Awards including “Outstanding Original Music” and “Best Musical of the Year.” His first panto, *Treasure Island*, was recently published with Playscripts Inc. and is available for production. Please visit www.michaelogborn.com for more information. Mr. Ogborn is a member of Pi Kappa Phi, the Dramatists Guild Inc., BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, and the owner of Leydensdong Music Co.

Ron Peluso

Artistic Director / Director

Now in his 19th season as Artistic Director, Ron has commissioned over 60 playwrights and composers and produced more than 50 original works, including the popular *Sisters of Swing* and *Beyond the Rainbow*. He has also commissioned and directed Jeffrey Hatcher’s critically acclaimed scripts *A Piece of the Rope* and *Tyrone & Ralph*. He directed Eric Simonson’s *Lombardi* in 2012 and commissioned a new play from Simonson for the 2013-14 season. He has directed over 150 professional productions with such companies as Florida Stage, Riverside Theatre, Pennsylvania Opera Theater, Mixed Blood Theatre, Old Creamery Theatre and The Minnesota Opera. Ron holds an M.F.A. in Directing from the University of Minnesota.

Jake Endres

Music Director

Jake lives in St. Paul and is delighted to return to History Theatre after appearing as an actor in *Coco’s Diary* and *Capital Crimes: The St. Paul Gangster Musical* in 2012. A freelance singer, actor, music director, and composer, he has appeared with many regional groups, including The Minnesota Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Flying Foot Forum/Guthrie Theater, Children’s Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Skylark Opera, Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Mu Performing Arts, Frank Theatre, Nautilus Music-Theater, American Folklore Theatre, and Minnesota Dance Theatre. Favorite roles have included Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ko-Ko in *The Mikado*, Falstaff in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and just this summer, George in *She Loves Me*.

Jan Puffer

Choreographer

At History Theatre Jan has choreographed both *Sisters...* and *Christmas of Swing, Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story, A Piece of the Rope, The Gangster Musical, Meet Me at the Fair, Snapshots: Life in the City, A Servants’ Christmas, Main Street, Orphan Train, and The Christmas Schooner*. She’s also choreographed shows at Meadow Brook Theatre, Totem Pole Playhouse, Riverside Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Old Log Theater, Paul Bunyan Playhouse, and Theatre L’Homme Dieu, as well as the national tour of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Jan is a graduate of the Academy of Dramatic Art and holds a B.F.A. in Dance from Florida State University. She’s currently a Guthrie Theater Teaching Artist, and professor of Dance at Concordia University, St. Paul.

Peter Middlecamp

CHARLES A. LINDBERGH / BRUNO RICHARD HAUPTMANN

Peter is happy to return to History Theatre after his debut in last fall’s *Lombardi* which also played at Theatre L’Homme Dieu in Alexandria this summer. A graduate of St. Olaf, Peter has performed recently with Frank Theatre, The Moving Company, the Jungle Theater, Skylark Opera, Nimbus Theatre, and others.

Kendall Anne Thompson

ANNE MORROW LINDBERGH / ANNA HAUPTMANN

Kendall is thrilled to return to the History Theatre stage after appearing in *This Side of Paradise* (Young Zelda). She has performed locally with Skylark Opera, Minnetonka Theatre, MacPhail, Open Window, Candid Theatre Co., and Season’s Players. Other credits include: *9 to 5: The Musical* (Doralee) at Minnetonka Theatre; *Romeo & Juliet* (Mercutio), *Spring Awakening* (Ilse), and *The Sound of Music* (Maria) at Roxy Regional Theatre; *Machinal* (Young Woman) and *RENT* (Joanne) at Boston Conservatory. She is a graduate of the B.F.A. Musical

Theatre program at The Boston Conservatory. Thank you to friends, family, and teachers for their love and support! www.kendallannethompson.com

Jon Andrew Hegge

WALTER WINCHELL

Jon most recently appeared in the History Theatre's *Tales Along the Minnesota Trail* at the Minnesota Zoo. Regional credits include *1776*, *Stuff of Dreams* and *A Christmas Carol* (six seasons) at the Guthrie, *Ragtime* and *Democracy* at Park Square, and *All Shook Up* and *The Wonderbread Years* at Chanhassen Dinner Theatre. He just returned from Door County, WI, where he directed the world premiere of *Victory Farm* for the American Folklore Theatre (AFT.) He has also performed extensively at AFT in numerous productions such as *Loose Lips Sink Ships* and *Muskie Love*, and with Door Shakespeare in *As You Like It* and as Petruchio in *Taming of the Shrew*. Upcoming: *Cyrano* at Park Square.

Special Events

Opening Night Dinner Party

Saturday, October 5 at 6:00 p.m.

History Theatre launches 2013-2014 season with a special evening including dinner and dessert, live musical entertainment, and the opening performance of the award-winning musical ***Baby Case***. Special guest Michael Ogborn (playwright, lyricist, and composer of ***Baby Case***) will be sharing a few words about the show and the creative process he went through to complete this new musical about the Charles Lindbergh baby kidnapping.

\$125 per person or \$100 for subscribers to add-on.

Afterthoughts

Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

Join special guests for an informal discussion following every Sunday matinee:

Sun, Oct. 6: playwright, composer, and lyricist Michael Ogborn

Sun, Oct. 13: Brian Horrigan, author and exhibit curator at the Minnesota History Center

Sun, Oct. 20: Melissa Peterson, director of the Charles A. Lindbergh Historic Site in Little Falls, MN

Sun, Oct. 27: the cast of *Baby Case*

Sun, Nov. 3: the cast of *Baby Case*

FREE to ticketed patrons

Minnesota Beer Tasting

Saturday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Sample five different Minnesota beers before the show. Price includes five 2-ounce pours of different brews, some fun facts about the featured breweries, and a ticket to the 8 p.m. performance of *Baby Case*

\$50 Tier 1 / \$45 Tier 2 / \$40 Tier 3

Complete performance schedule for *Baby Case* is included on page 6

About History Theatre

For 35 years, the History Theatre Experience has created:

- Inspiration. The History Theater Experience brings real stories about real people to the stage in an immediate experience that touches our lives.
- 112 world premiere performances, more than any other theater in the Twin Cities. The History Theatre is one of the country's most impressive new play development homes – bringing to full production new work by Jeffrey Hatcher, Melanie Marnich, Craig Wright, Kim Hines, Dorie Baizley, John Olive, Kira Obolensky, and more.
- Brave, entertaining explorations of all the histories that make up our diverse community. From *Farm Boys* to *Snapshots: Life in the City*, from the celebratory *Wellstone!* to the dark, complex *Piece of the Rope* about Minnesota's first public execution, HT has moved Minnesotans to rediscover, relive, and respect every piece of their history. More than 200,000 students have connected with history through performances at HT.

ACCESSIBILITY

History Theatre is equipped with an FM hearing enhancement system. We offer ASL interpreted and Audio Described performances. We have complimentary wheelchairs for those patrons who need extra assistance into the building. The handicap-accessible entrance is on Cedar St. Just inside the entrance is an elevator that will take patrons to the theatre level. Patrons are asked to indicate any special needs that when ordering tickets.

History Theatre
Baby Case
 At the HISTORY THEATRE
 Performance Schedule, 2013

Thursday, October 3	<i>Preview</i>	8:00 p.m.
Friday, October 4	<i>Preview</i>	8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 5	<i>Dinner Party</i>	6:00 p.m.
	<i>Opening</i>	8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 6	<i>Afterthoughts</i> – Michael Ogborn	2:00 p.m.
		4:15 p.m.
Thursday, October 10		10:00 a.m.
		8:00 p.m.
Friday, October 11		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 12		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 13	<i>Afterthoughts</i> – Brian Horrigan	2:00 p.m.
		4:15 p.m.
Thursday, October 17		8:00 p.m.
Friday, October 18		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 19		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 20	<i>Afterthoughts</i> – Melissa Peterson	2:00 p.m.
		4:15 p.m.
Thursday, October 24		10:00 a.m.
		8:00 p.m.
Friday, October 25		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 26	<i>MN Beer Tasting</i>	6:30 p.m.
		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 27	<i>Afterthoughts</i> – The Cast	2:00 p.m. ASL/AD
		4:15 p.m.
Thursday, October 31		10:00 a.m.
		8:00 p.m.
Friday, November 1		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 2		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 3	<i>Afterthoughts</i> – The Cast	2:00 p.m.
		4:15 p.m.

AD/ASL = Audio Description & American Sign Language interpreted performance