



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TICKETS GO ON SALE **TOMORROW AT 10 A.M.!**



**THE FOUR-TIME TONY AWARD®-
WINNING NEW MUSICAL
IS STARTIN' SOMETHIN' IN CLEVELAND
JULY 16 – AUGUST 11 AT PLAYHOUSE SQUARE**

“UTTERLY ELECTRIC!”
Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*

“MJ IS A RUNAWAY HIT!”
Peter Marks, *The Washington Post*

March 14, 2024 (Cleveland, OH) – Producers **Lia Vollack, John Branca, John McClain** and Playhouse Square are thrilled to announce that individual tickets for the smash-hit musical, **MJ**, will go on sale starting Friday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m. **MJ** makes its Cleveland premiere at Playhouse Square July 16 – August 11 as part of the KeyBank Broadway Series. Ticket prices start at \$39. Additional ticket information at playhousesquare.org.

He is one of the greatest entertainers of all time. Now, Michael Jackson’s unique and unparalleled artistry comes to Cleveland as **MJ**, the multi Tony Award®-winning new musical centered around the making of the 1992 Dangerous World Tour, begins a tour of its own. Created by Tony Award®-winning Director/Choreographer **Christopher Wheeldon** and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner **Lynn Nottage**, **MJ** goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star, offering a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Michael Jackson into legendary status.

Roman Banks (Broadway’s *Dear Evan Hansen* and “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series”) will play the title role of ‘MJ’. Joining him in the First National Tour cast will be **Jamaal Fields-Green** (MJ – Alternate), **Brandon Lee Harris** (Michael), **Josiah Benson** (Little Michael), **Bane Griffith** (Little Michael), **Devin Bowles** (Joseph Jackson/Rob), **Mary Kate Moore** (Rachel), **J. Daughtry** (Berry Gordy/Nick), **Josh A. Dawson** (Tito Jackson/Quincy Jones), **Bryce A. Holmes** (Little Marlon), **Matt Loehr** (Dave), **Da’Von T. Moody** (Alejandro) and **Anastasia Talley** (Katherine Jackson/Kate).

The ensemble includes **JoJo Carmichael** (Swing/ Assistant Dance Captain), **Croix Dilenno** (Ensemble), **Kellie Drobnick** (Ensemble), **Kyle DuPree** (Swing/Dance Captain), **Zuri Noelle Ford** (Ensemble), **Jahir L. Hips** (Swing), **Skye Jackson-Williams** (Swing), **Jacobi Kai** (Jermaine Jackson/Ensemble), **Rajané Katurah** (Swing), **Jordan Markus** (MJ/Michael understudy), **Matteo Marretta** (Ensemble), **Jay McKenzie** (Jackie Jackson/Ensemble), **Kendrick Mitchell** (Swing), **Chelsea Mitchell-Bonsu** (Ensemble), **Zion Mikhail Pradier** (Swing), **Ayla Stackhouse** (Swing), **Brion Marquis Watson** (Marlon Jackson/Ensemble), **Charles P. Way** (Swing) and **Malcolm Miles Young** (Randy Jackson/Ensemble).

The **MJ** creative team features Scenic Design by two-time Tony and Emmy Award winner **Derek McLane**, Lighting Design by seven-time Tony Award winner **Natasha Katz**, Costume Design by Tony and Emmy Award winner **Paul Tazewell**, Sound Design by Tony Award winner **Gareth Owen**, Projection Design by two-time Tony Award nominee

Peter Nigrini, Hair & Wig Design by two-time Emmy Award nominee **Charles G. LaPointe** and Makeup Design by Emmy nominee **Joe Dulude II**. The creative team also features Musical Supervision by Tony Award nominee **David Holcenberg**, Orchestrations and Arrangements by **David Holcenberg** and Tony Award winner **Jason Michael Webb**, and Music Direction by **Victor Simonson**. Casting by **The Telsey Office / Rachel Hoffman, CSA, Lindsay Levine, CSA**.

The **MJ** First National Tour is general managed by **Bespoke Theatricals**. The stage management team is led by Production Stage Manager **Shawn Pennington**, Stage Manager **Geoff Maus** and Assistant Stage Managers **Maya Bhatnagar** and **Xavier Khan**. The company management team is led by Company Manager **Justin T. Scholl** and Assistant Company Manager **Bianca Jean-Charles**.

For more information worldwide, visit: www.mjthemusical.com • [Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [Instagram](#).

MJ is part of the KeyBank Broadway Series at Playhouse Square and will play the KeyBank State Theatre for 32 performances, July 16 – August 11, 2024. Show times are Tuesdays – Fridays at 7:30PM, Saturdays at 1:30 and 7:30PM, and Sundays at 1:00 and 6:30 PM. Tickets will be available online at playhousesquare.org or by calling 216-241-6000 beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 15th.

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First National Tour production photos are available [HERE](#)

First National Tour B-roll is available [HERE](#)

Additional Roman Banks photos are available [HERE](#)

Additional Roman Banks video content is available [HERE](#)

Playhouse Square, home to the largest Broadway season ticket holder community in North America, is Northeast Ohio's destination for entertainment. A not-for-profit performing arts center, Playhouse Square is a champion of arts education and downtown Cleveland, and proud to be the home of The City Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland State University Department of Theatre and Dance, DANCECleveland, Great Lakes Theater and Tri-C JazzFest.