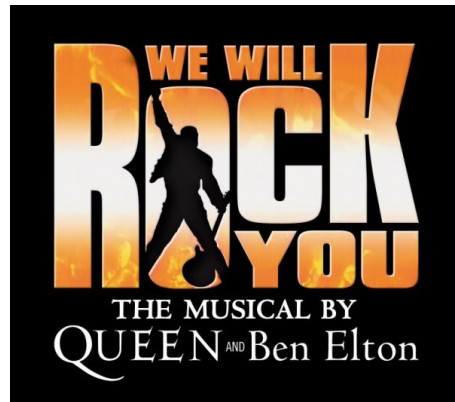




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BOHEMIANS, REJOICE!

**Queen and Ben Elton's *We Will Rock You*
Is Coming to Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre
July 8-July 13, 2014**

(June 18, 2014 – SEATTLE, WA) – The worldwide smash hit ‘rock theatrical’, Queen and Ben Elton’s ***We Will Rock You***, built around 24 of Queen’s biggest hits will rock The 5th Avenue Theatre **July 8-13**. *We Will Rock You* is produced by Queen Theatrical Productions, Tribeca Theatrical Productions, Phil McIntyre Entertainment and NETworks Presentations.

***We Will Rock You* plays July 8-13, 2014 (press opening July 8) at The 5th Avenue Theatre** (1308 5th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101). Tickets (starting at \$29.25) may be purchased online at www.5thavenue.org, by phone at 206-625-1900, or at the Box Office at 1308 5th Avenue in downtown Seattle.

This hilarious, multi-award-winning and record-breaking phenomenon is created by celebrated British comedian and writer Ben Elton (TV’s Mr. Bean and “The Young Ones”), and boasts a fantastic score of Queen’s biggest songs including “Another One Bites The Dust”, “Crazy Little Thing Called Love”, “We Are The Champions,” “Bohemian Rhapsody” and, of course, “We Will Rock You.”

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The cast features **Brian Justin Crum** as Galileo, **Ruby Lewis** as Scaramouche, **Jacqueline Arnold** as Killer Queen, **P.J. Griffith** as Khashoggi, **Ryan Knowles** as Buddy, **Erica Peck** as Oz and **Jared Zirilli** as Britney.

Rounding out the ensemble are **Todd Adamson**, **Danny Balkwill**, **Samantha Berman**, **Jessica Crouch**, **Alex DeLeo**, **Saccha Dennis**, **Sam Digiuseppe**, **Suzanna Dupree**, **Daniel Greenberg**, **Stephen Hernandez**, **Nathan Keen**, **Daniel Kermidas**, **Ryan Koss**, **Brooke Morrison**, **Corey Mosello**, **Jennifer Mote**, **Katie Murphy**, **Jennifer Noble**, **Stephanie Sy** and **Kasey Walker**.

The *We Will Rock You* band includes **Nate Patten** (Musical Director/Conductor), **Brandon Ethridge** (Assistant Conductor/Keyboards), **Emily Marshall** (Keyboards), **Tristan Avakian** (Guitar), **Bob Wegner** (Guitar), **Mike Cohen** (Bass), **David Stevens** (Percussion) and **Danny Young** (Drums).

For the US production, writer and director Ben Elton has redrafted his original script to resonate with US audiences as well as reflect the cultural changes since he first penned the storyline.

“Apart from addressing the broader social and technological changes, I also get the chance to update moments of topical humor,” says Elton. New additions to the show include the most current pop culture references (yes, there is a Miley Cyrus twerking joke!) and the addition of a new song, *You’re My Best Friend*.

“There is a scene where our two leads run away and discuss their loneliness and isolation,” Elton says. “In 2013, it seemed ridiculous for two kids to discuss friendship without reference to Facebook. Young people now live in a world where it’s possible to have many virtual ‘friends’ and ‘likes’ and yet still be entirely isolated and alone. The new dialogue with this changed emphasis brought the song *You’re My Best Friend* into the show.”

Tribeca producer Jane Rosenthal says, “With Ben’s updates, it’s almost a new show. However, in some ways, it was already ahead of its time when it opened in 2002. The overarching theme is a demand for individualism and intimacy in a world where everything is downloadable.”

Queen’s Brian May and Roger Taylor are musical supervisors to the show, taking an active role in casting the singer/actors and musicians for every production worldwide.

The show ran for 12 years at The Dominion in London’s West End, one of London Theatreland’s biggest theatres, making it the venue’s longest-running production ever. *We Will Rock You* was crowned the UK’s favorite show at the 2011 Olivier Awards, the UK equivalent of the Tony Awards, in a category voted entirely by members of the public.

Outside of the UK, the show has now been seen in local productions in 17 countries, playing to an audience of over 15 million people.

We Will Rock You takes place in a future age on a planet once called Earth that is now controlled by a mighty corporation. Globalization is complete. Individuality is taboo. Everyone watches the same movies, wears the same clothes and thinks the same thoughts. Music is generated by the corporation's computers, rock music is unheard and all musical instruments are banned. The hope of breaking free rests with an unlikely resistance – an alliance of rebel Bohemians, waiting for a hero to lead the battle to bring the power of rock back to the people.

“This show is all about legend,” says Ben Elton. “We take the legend of Queen and create our own fantastical story of young kids battling the mighty corporation who wants to suppress their individuality and their love of music. They need a hero who can help them in their struggle, and we have two – the dreamer Galileo, and the sassy rock chick Scaramouche. Guess who ends up winning?”

“Creating the show with Ben was very much a three-way thing,” says Roger Taylor. “It was great because he was a pleasure to work with and because he has such a fertile mind. He never stops churning out ideas.”

Brian May adds, “The amazing bonus is that Ben's script subtly works as a metaphor too. People definitely come out of the theatre feeling that in a strange way they now know us, Queen, and our struggle, our journey.”

The original production of *We Will Rock You* is a Phil McIntyre Entertainment, Tribeca Theatrical Productions and Queen Theatrical Productions presentation. Book and direction by Ben Elton. Music and Music Supervision by Queen/Roger Taylor and Brian May. Musical staging and choreography by Arlene Phillips. Production Design by Mark Fisher and Lighting Design by Willie Williams. Sound by Bobby Aitken. Costumes by Tim Goodchild. Tracey Flye is the Associate Director and Associate Choreographer of the North American tour.

Queen Theatrical Productions is a production entity created especially by the band's parent company Queen Productions Ltd to handle the development and production of *We Will Rock You*.

Headquartered in New York, Tribeca Theatrical Productions was founded in 2001 by Robert De Niro and Jane Rosenthal, the acclaimed producers of the *Meet the Parents* franchise, *Analyze This* and *Wag the Dog*. Through Tribeca Theatrical Productions, De Niro and Rosenthal co-produced, along with Queen Theatrical Productions and Phil McIntyre Entertainment, the theatrical musical *We Will Rock You*, based on the music of Queen.

Since 1995, NETworks has produced and managed over 55 touring productions in the US., U.K. and internationally. Current productions include *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Blue Man Group* National Tour, *Elf The Musical*, *Flashdance the Musical*, The National Theatre of Great Britain's production of *War Horse*, *Memphis the Musical*, and Cameron

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Mackintosh's spectacular new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*.

About The 5th Avenue Theatre

The 5th Avenue Theatre is one of the nation's premier incubators for new musical theater. Since 2002, the celebrated company has produced 16 new musicals. To date, nine have moved on to Broadway premieres, earning a combined 15 Tony Awards, including two for Best Musical (*Hairspray* and *Memphis*). The 5th Avenue Theatre is also known for its world class, critically acclaimed productions of musicals chosen from both the contemporary canon and the Golden Age of Broadway.

Unique in its Chinese-inspired design, this exquisite theater opened in 1926 as a venue for vaudeville and film. In 1980, the non-profit 5th Avenue Theatre began producing and presenting top-quality live musical theater. Today, under the leadership of Executive Producer and Artistic Director David Armstrong, Managing Director Bernadine C. Griffin and Producing Artistic Director Bill Berry, The 5th Avenue Theatre attracts an annual attendance of more than 287,000 and ranks among the nation's largest and most respected musical theater companies.

In addition to its main stage productions, The 5th Avenue Theatre is also committed to encouraging the next generation of theatergoers through its extensive educational outreach programs which include: The Adventure Musical Theatre Touring Company, The 5th Avenue Awards Honoring High School Musical Theater, the Rising Star Project, Show Talks with Albert Evans, Curtain Up!, the Student Matinee Program, and Spotlight Nights.

For more information about The 5th Avenue Theatre, its season and its programs, please visit www.5thavenue.org.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: The worldwide smash hit 'rock theatrical', Queen and Ben Elton's *We Will Rock You*, built around 24 of Queen's biggest hits, opens at The 5th Avenue Theatre for one week only, July 8 through July 13. This hilarious, multi-award-winning and record-breaking phenomenon is created by celebrated British comedian and writer Ben Elton (TV's "Mr. Bean" and "The Young Ones"), and boasts a fantastic score of Queen's biggest songs including "Another One Bites The Dust", "Crazy Little Thing Called Love", "We Are The Champions," "Bohemian Rhapsody" and, of course, "We Will Rock You."

We Will Rock You takes place in a future age on a planet once called Earth that is now controlled by a mighty corporation. Globalization is complete. Individuality is taboo. The hope of breaking free rests with an unlikely resistance – an alliance of rebel Bohemians, waiting for a hero to lead the battle to bring the power of rock back to the people.

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WHEN: Opening Night: 7:30 PM Tuesday, July 8, 2014 (press night)
Closing Performance: Sunday, July 13, 2014

SHOW Tuesdays & Wednesdays – 7:30 PM

TIMES: Thursdays & Fridays – 8:00 PM
Saturdays – 2:00 PM & 8:00 PM
Sundays – 1:30 PM & 7:00 PM

WHERE: **The 5th Avenue Theatre** (1308 5th Avenue, Seattle)

TICKETS: For single tickets (starting at \$29.25) and information, please visit www.5thavenue.org or call the Box Office at (206) 625-1900. Tickets may also be purchased at (888) 5TH-4TIX.

Special thanks to The 5th Avenue Theatre 2013/14 season sponsors ArtsFund, US Bank, and Safeco Insurance, official airline Delta Air Lines, and media sponsor *The Seattle Times*.

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