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Full Cast Announced for The 5th Avenue Theatre's World Premiere of *MRS. DOUBTFIRE*, Playing this Holiday Season November 26 – December 29, 2019

Book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell
Music and Lyrics by Wayne Kirkpatrick and Karey Kirkpatrick
Based upon the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Picture
Music Supervision by Ethan Popp
Choreographed by Lorin Latarro
Directed by Jerry Zaks

(Thursday, October 24, 2019—SEATTLE) Complete casting has been announced for *Mrs. Doubtfire*, the new musical that will have its world premiere this holiday season at **The 5th Avenue Theatre** in Seattle, playing November 26 – December 29, 2019. Newly announced cast includes **Cameron Adams** (*The Music Man*), **Akilah Ayanna**, **Calvin L. Cooper**, **Kaleigh Cronin** (*Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*), **Casey Garvin** (*Bullets Over Broadway*), **David Hibbard** (*Cats*), **KJ Hippensteel** (*The Book of Mormon*), **Aaron Kaburick** (*Hello, Dolly!*), **Erica Mansfield** (*Kiss Me, Kate*), **Alexandra Matteo** (*A Bronx Tale*), **Doreen Montalvo** (*On Your Feet*), **Justin A Prescott**, **Travis Waldschmidt**, and **Alena Watters** (*The Cher Show*). They join the previously-announced principal cast that features **Rob McClure** in the title role, **Jenn Gambatese** as Miranda Hillard, **Brad Oscar** as Frank Hillard, **Analise Scarpaci** as Lydia Hillard, **Jake Ryan Flynn** as Christopher Hillard, **Avery Sell** as Natalie Hillard, **J. Harrison Ghee** as Andre, **Mark Evans** as Stuart Dunmeyer, **Charity Angél Dawson** as Wanda Sellner, and **Peter Bartlett** as Mr. Jolly.

Mrs. Doubtfire, which is produced by multi-Tony Award winner **Kevin McCollum** (*Avenue Q*, *Rent*, *In The Heights*, *Something Rotten!*) and based on Twentieth Century Fox Motion Picture, will open on Broadway this spring at the **Stephen Sondheim Theatre** following the world premiere at The 5th Avenue Theatre. *Mrs. Doubtfire* marks the 22nd new musical produced by The 5th Avenue Theatre (*Hairspray*, *Memphis*, *Aladdin*, *The Wedding Singer*) and is the 10th to go on to receive a Broadway run.

"We are thrilled to welcome this outstanding cast to The 5th this holiday season," said The 5th Avenue Theatre's Producing Artistic Director **Bill Berry**. "Watching this treasured tale come to life onstage, told by some of Broadway and the nation's finest talent, is the perfect treat for the whole family. We can't wait for audiences to experience Broadway-bound, heartfelt comedic storytelling at its best."

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Mrs. Doubtfire features a book by **Karey Kirkpatrick** and **John O'Farrell** and music and lyrics by **Wayne Kirkpatrick** and **Karey Kirkpatrick**, the Tony Award nominated team behind *Something Rotten!* Four-time Tony Award winner **Jerry Zaks** (*Hello, Dolly!*) will direct and **Lorin Lattaro** (*Waitress*) will choreograph. **Ethan Popp** (*Tina*) will serve as Music Supervisor.

The creative team for **Mrs. Doubtfire** includes **David Korins** (Scenic Design), **Catherine Zuber** (Costume Design) **Philip Rosenberg** (Lighting Design), **Brian Ronan** (Sound Design), and **David Brian Brown** (Hair & Wig Design).

Mrs. Doubtfire is presented by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical.

When out-of-work actor Daniel Hillard loses custody of his kids in a divorce, he disguises himself as Scottish nanny Euphegenia Doubtfire in a desperate attempt to stay in their lives. As he gets lost in his new persona and grows closer to his kids, Mrs. Doubtfire teaches Daniel more than he bargained for about how to be a father.

About the Principal Cast

Rob McClure (*Daniel Hillard*) received Tony, Drama League, Astaire, and Outer Critics Circle nominations and won Theatre World and Clive Barnes awards for his performance in *Chaplin: The Musical*. Other Broadway: *Beetlejuice*; *Something Rotten!*; *Noises Off*; *Honeymoon In Vegas*; *I'm Not Rappaport*; and *Avenue Q*; as well as *Where's Charley?* and *Irma La Douce* at Encores!. Regional; The MUNY, Paper Mill, Old Globe, Arden, Cleveland Playhouse, A.R.T, Walnut Street, Delaware Theatre, Flat Rock, McCarter, and La Jolla Playhouse. For the film *Recursion*, McClure won Best Actor at both The Queen's World and Williamsburg Independent film festivals. TV: *Person of Interest*, *Elementary*, and *The Good Fight*.

Jenn Gambatese (*Miranda Hillard*) Broadway credits include *School of Rock*, *Tarzan*, *Is He Dead*, *All Shook Up*, *Footloose*, and *Hairspray*. National Tours: *Wicked*. Off-Broadway: *Fiorello!*, *Stairway to Paradise*, *Reefer Madness*, and *The School for Lies*. TV: *Crashing*, *Law & Order*. Jenn is raising two wonderful daughters with one terrific husband! For more details and adventures, follow her @jengambatese.

Brad Oscar (*Frank Hillard*) Broadway: *Something Rotten!* (Tony nomination), *Big Fish*, *Nice Work...*, *The Addams Family*, *Spamalot*, *The Producers* (Tony nomination), *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Aspects of Love*. National Tours: *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Jekyll & Hyde*. West End: *The Producers*. Off Broadway: *Broadway Bounty Hunter*, *Nassim*, *Sweeney Todd* (Barrow Street Theatre), *Forbidden Broadway* (Theater East). Regional credits: *The Gods of Comedy* (McCarter/Old Globe), *Hairspray* (KC Starlight), *The Squirrels* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Barrington Stage), *Barnum* (Asolo Rep, Maltz Jupiter Theatre; Carbonell Award for Best Actor, Musical), *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Cabaret*, *Damn Yankees* (Arena Stage). Film: *Ghost Town*, *The Producers*. TV: *Madam Secretary*, *Smash*, *The Good Wife*, three *Law & Order*.

Analise Scarpaci (*Lydia Hillard*) is thrilled to be a part of this company and to bring her favorite movie to the stage! Broadway: *Matilda*, *A Christmas Story*. First National Tour: *Matilda*. Off-Broadway: *Lolita*, *My Love @ York Theater*. She is currently a junior in Pace University's Musical Theatre Program. Thanks to Kim, Erin and the team at CESD, Kat, Badiene, Michael, Marc, and Telsey. Instagram: @analyse.scarpaci.

Jake Ryan Flynn (*Christopher Hillard*) made his Broadway Debut originating the role of Charlie in *Charlie in the Chocolate Factory*. Other regional credits include: *A Christmas Carol*, *Shrek*, *Billy Elliot*, *Mary*

Poppins (IRNE Award), *Singin' in the Rain*, *Mame*, and *Peter Pan* (IRNE Award). TV: *Broad Squad*. Flynn wrote his first original musical *Frederick Douglass the Musical* with his co-writer Timothy Kercher and made his directorial debut at Plumfield Academy. Flynn studies voice at Noel Smith Studios.

Avery Sell (*Natalie Hillard*). Broadway debut. Recent credits: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (Cindy Lou Who, National Tour/ Madison Square Garden); *Mrs. Doubtfire* Industry Reading (Natalie Hillard/ Westside Theatre). TV: *Tales of the City* (Edie). IG @avery.sell

J. Harrison Ghee (*Andre*) A native of North Carolina, he is honored to be creating the role of Andre in the iconic *Mrs. Doubtfire*. J has appeared in stage productions on Broadway and regionally. Most recently closing *Kinky Boots* on Broadway as Lola and *The Sting* at Papermill Playhouse as Johnny Hooker. A couple TV credits include *High Maintenance: Globo* on HBO as Charles and *Raising Dion* on Netflix as Kwame. AMDA (NY) @jharrisonghee

Mark Evans (*Stuart Dunmeyer*) Broadway: *Waitress*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Off-Broadway: *Me and My Girl* (Encores!) and the Irish Repertory Theatre's revival of *Finian's Rainbow*. U.S. regional credits: *Mary Poppins*, *The Fix*, *Aida*, *Singin' in the Rain*; and the National Tour of *The Book of Mormon* as "Elder Price." West End/London credits: *Ghost*, *Wicked*, *Oklahoma*, *Spamalot*, *Rocky Horror*. Film: *The Tower of Silence*, *Lake Placid 3*, and *Dead Hungry*. @markevansactor.

Charity Angél Dawson (*Wanda Sellner*). Her credits include Broadway: *Waitress*, *Side Show*. Regional: *Waitress*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; *Ain't Misbehavin'*; *Smokey Joe's Café*; *Aida*; *West Side Story*; and *The Wiz*. Dawson is a graduate of The American Musical and Dramatic Academy. She would like to send love and gratitude to her family and friends for their continued love and support. 1 Cor 13:1-8.

Peter Bartlett (*Mr. Jolly*) Broadway: *She Loves Me*, *Something Rotten!*, *Cinderella*, *A Free Man of Color*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Frogs*, *Beauty and the Beast*. Off Broadway: *The IJ/usion*; *Mr. Charles*, *Currently of Palm Beach*; *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told* (Drama Desk nomination). Film: *The Producers*, Disney's *The Princess and the Frog*, *Meet the Parents*, *Jeffrey*. TV: *The Big C*, *Law & Order*, *One Life to Live* (20 years as Nigel).

About the Director

Jerry Zaks was most recently represented on Broadway by *Hello, Dolly!* and the recent *A Bronx Tale: The Musical*. Mr. Zaks has directed more than 30 productions in New York. He has received four Tony Awards and been nominated eight times. He's also received four Drama Desks, two Outer Critics Circle Awards, and an Obie. His credits include *Meteor Shower*, *Shows For Days*, *Sister Act*, *The Addams Family*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *House of Blue Leaves*, *The Front Page*, *A Funny Thing...Forum*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Anything Goes*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *The Foreigner*, *A Bronx Tale*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, and the original production of *Assassins*. He began his career directing the extraordinary plays of Christopher Durang including *Sister Mary Ignatius...*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Baby with the Bath Water*, and *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*. He directed the award-winning film *Marvin's Room*, starring Meryl Streep and Diane Keaton; and *Who Do You Love*, which was featured in the Toronto Film Festival. Mr. Zaks is a founding member, and serves on the board, of the Ensemble Studio Theater. He received the SDC's George Abbott Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1967, received an MFA from Smith College in 1969, and was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Dartmouth in 1999. He is a 2013 inductee to the Theatre Hall of Fame.

About the Writers

Karey Kirkpatrick (*Book, Music & Lyrics*) began his career as a screen and songwriter for Walt Disney Feature Animation where he penned *The Rescuers Down Under* and *James and the Giant Peach*. Additional film credits include *Chicken Run* (Golden Globe Award nominee for Outstanding Comedy Film), *Charlotte's Web*, *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, and *Over the Hedge* which he also co-directed. He directed the Paramount Pictures feature film *Imagine That* starring Eddie Murphy and also co-produced and performed on the film's soundtrack. He received Tony Award nominations for co-writing the book, music and lyrics for *Something Rotten!* Most recently, Kirkpatrick directed, co-wrote the screenplay and the songs for the new Warner Brothers animated musical, *Smallfoot*.

Wayne Kirkpatrick (*Music & Lyrics*) Most people know Wayne Kirkpatrick from his 1996 Grammy Award winning song of the year, "Change The World", recorded by Babyface and Eric Clapton. What you may not know is that Kirkpatrick has had over 200 songs recorded in the last 30 years. He has enjoyed Pop, Country, R&B and CCM success with songs such as "Every Heartbeat" and "Good For Me" by Amy Grant, "Place In This World" by Michael W. Smith, as well as recordings by Don Henley, Wynonna, Faith Hill, Trisha Yearwood, Tyler Hilton, Gabe Dixon, Tim McGraw, Martina McBride, Joe Cocker and The Wreckers ("My, Oh My"). Kirkpatrick solely wrote Garth Brooks' single "Wrapped Up In You" and penned the song used in the Garth Brooks' Dr. Pepper commercial. He is also a writer on Bonnie Raitt's singles "I Can't Help You Now" and "I Will Not Be Broken" as well as "Take My Love With You" from her Grammy award winning *Slipstream* album and recently had the first single from her latest album, *Dig in Deep*, entitled "Gypsy in Me." He has produced and written on 3 Little Big Town records, yielding such top ten hits as "Boondocks", "Bring it on Home", "A Little More You" and "Little White Church". His songs have been featured in movies, including *Almost Famous*, *Phenomenon* and *Bruce Almighty*, as well as TV shows, such as *Grey's Anatomy*, *True Blood*, *Nashville*, and *Secrets and Lies*. His song, "When You Act," was written for and featured on an episode of the Netflix original series, "Julie's Greenroom," and was performed by Julie Andrews and Alec Baldwin. Kirkpatrick is also co-creator and co-composer/lyricist of the Broadway musical, *Something Rotten!*, nominated for 10 Tony awards and currently touring the country. He has just recently finished writing songs for the Warner Bros. animated feature, *Smallfoot*, scheduled for release this fall and will be inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame for 2018.

John O'Farrell (*Book*) is one of the UK's best-known comic authors and script writers. He received a Tony Award Nomination for co-writing *Something Rotten!* His best-selling novels have earned him three nominations for the Wodehouse Award for comic fiction and include *The Best a Man Can Get*, *May Contain Nuts* and *The Man Who Forgot His Wife*. Non-fiction includes *An Utterly Impartial History of Britain*, his political memoir *Things Can Only Get Better*, its recent sequel *Things Can Only Get Worse* and three collections of his satirical columns for the Guardian newspaper. One of a handful of British authors to have achieved best-seller status with both fiction and non-fiction, O'Farrell's books have been translated into 30 languages and adapted for BBC Radio and television. Previously a staff writer and later panelist on the BBC's *Have I Got News For You*, he was a lead writer on ten series of ITV's *Spitting Image*. Winner, British Comedy Award. Currently writing the sequel to *Chicken Run* and adapting one of his novels for Sony International Pictures.

About the Choreographer

Lorin Latarro is a director and one of the leading choreographers in the theatrical world today. On Broadway, she choreographed *Waitress*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, and *Waiting for Godot* with Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellen. As director and choreographer, Latarro's credits include *A Taste of Things to Come* (Chicago, York Theatre Company, Bucks County Playhouse) and the upcoming production of

#DateMe at the Westside Theatre. Additional choreography: *Waitress* (West End and National Tour), *Superhero* (Second Stage), *Merrily We Roll Along* (Roundabout), *La Traviata* (The Met), *Chess* (Kennedy Center), *Twelfth Night* (Delacorte), Lin-Manuel Miranda's *21 Chump Street* (BAM), *The Heart of Rock and Roll* (Old Globe), *Assassins*, *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater* (Encores!), *Between The Lines* (KC Rep), *Queen of The Night* (Drama Desk Award), *Kiss Me, Kate* (Barrington), *The Best Is Yet To Come* (59E59, Drama Desk Award). Latarro has performed in twelve Broadway shows and danced for Tharp, Momix, and Graham. She is a Bucks County Artistic Associate and Juilliard graduate. Upcoming choreography: *Almost Famous* (Old Globe), *The Outsiders* (Goodman).

About the Music Supervisor

Ethan Popp is a Grammy Award nominated music producer and Tony Award nominated orchestrator whose work has been seen and heard worldwide. As music supervisor, arranger and orchestrator for *Motown The Musical*, Popp earned a 2013 Tony Award nomination for Best Orchestrations and a 2014 Grammy Award nomination for Best Musical Theater Album. He has also served as music supervisor, arranger and orchestrator for the 2008 Tony Award nominated Best Musical, *Rock of Ages* for which he also co-produced the highly acclaimed Original Broadway Cast Recording. Popp served as the music supervisor for the Broadway world premiere and 2016 Tony Award nominated Best Musical, *School of Rock*, music supervisor for the Broadway premiere and 2015 Tony Award-winning Best Musical Revival of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* starring Neil Patrick Harris. Popp is the orchestrator of the hit West End musical *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*, which opens on Broadway in November 2019 and will soon be collaborating with Glen Ballard and Alan Sylvestri as orchestrator for the highly anticipated adaptation of *Back To The Future*. On film, his work can be heard as vocal coach for 2019 Oscar Award winner Rami Malek in 20th Century Fox's *Bohemian Rhapsody*, while in 2016 his work as Music Director and Music Production Supervisor for the 20th Century Fox film, *The Greatest Showman on Earth* helped bring the 2019 Grammy Award winning soundtrack to worldwide acclaim. On television, Popp has served as a music producer, arranger and orchestrator on NBC/Universal's *Smash* and as composer, music producer, arranger, and orchestrator on HBO's *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver*.

About the Producer

Kevin McCollum (Producer) has produced some of the most acclaimed and successful shows on Broadway over the past 25 years. His shows have received more than 100 Tony Award nominations and won the Tony Award for Best Musical for *In the Heights*, *Avenue Q*, and *RENT*, which was also awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. McCollum is currently represented by the national tour and off-Broadway productions of the Olivier Award-winning *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Other notable productions include *Hand to God*, *Something Rotten!*, *Motown: The Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Baz Luhrmann's La Boheme*, *West Side Story* (2009 revival), *Ragtime* (2009 revival), [title of show], *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, and the off-Broadway hit *De La Guarda*. In addition to *Mrs. Doubtfire*, he is currently developing stage adaptations of *The Devil Wears Prada*, *The Notebook*, and several other well-loved titles. McCollum is also a producer on the upcoming *West Side Story* film directed by Steven Spielberg.

About The 5th Avenue Theatre

The 5th Avenue Theatre is one of America's leading musical theater companies. We enrich the community we love with the art form we love—giving the Pacific Northwest a front-row seat to original powerhouse productions that go on to light up marquees and audiences all the way to Broadway. From the page to the stage, we bring passion and epic scale to every musical we create. With big talent. Bigger-than-life productions. And did we mention dazzle? As a nonprofit theater company and our region's largest performing arts employer, we spread the joy of great musicals with people of all ages

across our region and state. Each year, we reach 75,000 young people through our nationally acclaimed education programs. Programs designed to develop new musicals ensure that the next generation of great musicals will be there to tell the stories that captivate tomorrow's audiences. On the national stage, we are a leading voice for the power of this American art form to lift the human spirit.

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

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