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Holiday favorite @StompNYC comes to the @KimmelCenter – 12/26-12/31! More info @ kimmelcenter.org

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**THE INTERNATIONAL PERCUSSION SENSATION RETURNS TO
THE KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS
JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
DECEMBER 26-31, 2017**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, October 18, 2017) — The Kimmel Center is ecstatic to welcome back *STOMP*, the international percussion sensation, to the Merriam Theater from Tuesday December 26 through Sunday, December 31, 2017. *STOMP* started as a street performance in the UK and has grown into an international sensation over the past 25 years. It has performed in more than 50 countries and in front of more than 24 million people.

Created by Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, *STOMP* continues its phenomenal run with four global productions: the ongoing sell-out production at New York's Orpheum Theatre, a permanent London company, and North American and European tours. Throughout its life, the show has continued to change by creating new material; next year, it will incorporate two new pieces. It is safe to say you will

never again look at supermarket carts or plumbing fixtures the same way... or paint cans, or kitchen sinks or...

“What better way to keep the holiday fun rolling than by gathering with family and friends at the Merriam Theater for a *STOMP*’ing good time,” said Anne Ewers, President & CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “Join us as we close out the year with this thrilling and endlessly entertaining international favorite!”

STOMP, an overwhelming success marked by rave reviews, numerous awards, and sell-out engagements, is the winner of an Olivier Award for Best Choreography (London's Tony Award), a New York Obie Award, a Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatre Experience, and a Special Citation from Best Plays.

In addition to the stage shows, *STOMP* has been an overwhelming success marked by rave reviews; numerous awards; an Academy Award nomination; four Emmy nominations; one Emmy Award for their acclaimed HBO special *Stomp Out Loud*; noteworthy TV appearances including *The London 2012 Olympic Games Closing Ceremony*, *The Academy Awards* (produced by Quincy Jones), *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, and a series of award-winning international commercials.

The performers “make a rhythm out of anything we can get our hands on that makes a sound,” says co-founder/director Luke Cresswell. A unique combination of percussion, movement, and visual comedy, *STOMP* has created its own inimitable, contemporary form of rhythmic expression: both household and industrial objects find new life as musical instruments in the hands of an idiosyncratic band of body percussionists. It is a journey through sound, a celebration of the everyday, and a comic interplay of characters wordlessly communicating through dance and drum.

Synchronized stiff-bristle brooms become a sweeping orchestra; eight Zippo lighters flip open and closed to create a fiery fugue; wooden poles thump and clack in a rhythmic explosion. *STOMP* uses everything but conventional percussion instruments - dustbins, tea chests, radiator hoses, boots, hub caps - to fill the stage with a compelling and unique act that is often imitated but never duplicated.

Critics and audiences have raved: “*STOMP* is as crisp and exuberant as if it had opened yesterday,” says *The New York Times*. The *San Francisco Chronicle* declares “*STOMP* has a beat that just won’t quit!” The *Los Angeles Times* exclaims: “Electrifying! Triumphs in the infinite variety of the human experience.” “A phenomenal show! Bashing, crashing, smashing, swishing, banging and kicking – a joyous invention!” says the *Chicago Tribune*.

STOMP

Merriam Theater

Dates and times:

Tuesday, December 26, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Thursday, December 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm

Thursday, December 28, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Friday, December 29, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, December 30, 2017 at 2:00 pm

Saturday, December 30, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 31, 2017 at 1:00 pm

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$40.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-731-3333, online at kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See kimmelcenter.org for more information.

The Shubert Organization

For more than 100 years, The Shubert Organization has been in the forefront of the American theatre. Under the leadership of Philip J. Smith, Chairman, and Robert E. Wankel, President, the Shubert Organization owns and operates 17 Broadway theatres and six Off-Broadway venues, as well as the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia. The company has produced and co-produced hundreds of plays and musicals, including the original Broadway production of *CATS*, *Dreamgirls*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Amadeus*, *The Real Thing*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Equus*, *The Elephant Man*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *School of Rock The Musical*, and *The Humans*. The Shubert Organization is proud of its ongoing refurbishment program for its theatres, seeking to preserve the historic character while modernizing them to accommodate the needs of today's audiences.

The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center's mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit kimmelcenter.org.

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