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## **Carmen Cusack, Zachary Levi, Ruthie Ann Miles, Phylicia Rashad, and more join Jake Gyllenhaal and Annaleigh Ashford in *Sunday in the Park with George* at New York City Center**

### **Matinee performance added at 2pm on Wednesday, October 26**

**New York, NY/Oct 4, 2016**—New York City Center today announced additional casting for the concert performances of **Stephen Sondheim** and **James Lapine**'s *Sunday in the Park with George*, October 24 through 26. **Jake Gyllenhaal** and **Annaleigh Ashford** will be joined by **Brooks Ashmanskas, Phillip Boykin, Max Chernin, Carmen Cusack, Gabriel Ebert, Claybourne Elder, Lisa Howard, Zachary Levi, Liz McCartney, Michael McElroy, Ruthie Ann Miles, Stephanie Jae Park, Solea Pfeiffer, Gabriella Pizzolo, Phylicia Rashad, Jaime Rosenstein, and Lauren Worsham**. A special matinee performance has just been added on Wednesday, October 26 at 2pm. The evening performance on October 26, previously announced with a 7pm curtain, will now begin at 7:30pm.

Funds raised by all four performances will allow City Center to make the best in the performing arts accessible to the widest possible audience by subsidizing affordable tickets throughout the year to programs such as *Fall for Dance* and *Encores! Off-Center*. Tickets for the 2pm matinee performance on October 26 start at \$75 and go on sale to New York City Center Members on Wednesday, October 5 at noon. Remaining inventory will go on sale to the General Public on Thursday, October 6 at noon.

Tickets for the October 24 Gala performance and dinner at The Plaza Hotel honoring business leader and philanthropist **Adrienne Arsht** are currently on sale for \$2,500, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Tables of ten are available at \$25,000, \$50,000, \$100,000 and \$150,000. For benefit table and ticket details, please call 212.763.1205.

City Center thanks Gala Performance Underwriters Luigi Caiola and Sean McGill and is grateful for additional support from the Zegar Family Foundation.

### ***Sunday in the Park with George***

**Mon, Oct 24 at 6pm (Gala performance); Tues, Oct 25 at 7pm; Wed, Oct 26 at 2pm & 7:30pm**

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Book by James Lapine

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine  
Originally Produced on Broadway by The Shubert Organization and Emanuel Azenberg  
By arrangement with Playwrights Horizons, Inc. New York City which produced the original production of *Sunday in the Park with George* in 1983.

**Sunday in the Park with George Artists**

**Annaleigh Ashford** (Dot) Broadway: *Sylvia*, *You Can't Take It With You* (Tony Award, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award), *Kinky Boots*, *Wicked*, *Hair*, and *Legally Blonde*. Off Broadway: *Rent* and *Dogfight*. TV: Betty on "Masters of Sex," "The Big C," "Gifted Man," "Law & Order SVU," "Law & Order," "Nurse Jackie," and "Smash." Film: *Sex and the City: The Movie*, *Love on the Run*, and Columbia in FOX TV's upcoming *Rocky Horror Picture Show* airing October 2016.

**Brooks Ashmanskas** (Mr.) City Center *Encores!*: *On A Clear Day*. Broadway: *Shuffle Along*; *Something Rotten*; *Bullets Over Broadway*; *Promises, Promises*; *Present Laughter*; *The Ritz*; *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*; *The Producers*; *Gypsy*; *Little Me*; *Dream*; and *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Off-Broadway: *Songs For A New World*, *Wise Guys*, *London Suite*, *Labor Day*, and *Clive*. Regional: Alliance, Ford's, Mark Taper, A.C.T., Huntington, McCarter, Hangar, Hartford, Williamstown, Kennedy Center, Old Globe, Arena, etc. Tours: *Cinderella*, *Noises Off*. Film: *Julie & Julia*. TV: "The Good Wife." B.A. from Bennington College.

**Phillip Boykin** (Boatman) Tony Award nominee for Crown in *The Gershwin's Porgy and Bess*. Other performances include *Big River* (Jim), *Pirates of Penzance* (Pirate King/Samuel), *Show Boat* (Joe), *On The Town*, *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Ken), and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Caiaphas). Film: *Top Five*, *Freedom*, and *Easter Mysteries*. Graduate of Hartt School of Music; also studied at SC State, Howard University, and NC School of the Arts.

**Carmen Cusack** (Yvonne) made her Broadway debut in Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's *Bright Star*, for which she received a Tony Award nomination, and most recently starred in *For the Record: Scorsese* at The Wallis in Beverly Hills. Previous credits include: *The First Wives Club: The Musical* (Oriental Theatre), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), *Carrie* (MCC), *South Pacific* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Wicked* (first US tour and Melbourne, Australia). West End credits include: *Over the Rainbow* (Eva Cassidy), *Les Misérables* (Fantine), *The Secret Garden* (Rose), *Personals* (Kim), and *Phantom of the Opera* (Christine). Cusack studied opera at the University of North Texas.

**Gabriel Ebert** (Franz) Broadway: *Therese Raquin*, *Casa Valentina*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Brief Encounter*, and *Red*. Off Broadway/Regional: *Peer Gynt* (Classic Stage); *Preludes* (LCT); *Suicide, Incorporated* (Roundabout); *4,000 Miles* (recipient of 2011 OBIE award, LCT), *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *Prometheus Bound* (ART), a site specific *Seagull* at the majestic Lake Lucille. Film: *Ricki and the Flash*, *The Family Fang*, and *Jane Wants a Boyfriend*. Upcoming: Film: *the Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks*, Theater: *Gently Down The Stream* w/Harvey Fierstein At The Public in 2017.

**Claybourne Elder** (Soldier) Broadway/New York theater: *Bonnie and Clyde* (Buck), *Sondheim's Road Show* (Hollis), *Venice* (Michael Victor), *One Arm* (Ollie, Drama Desk Award nomination), *Allegro* (Joe, Lucille Lortel Award nomination), and *Two by Two* (Japheth, with Jason Alexander). City Center: *Do I Hear a Waltz?* (*Encores!*) and *Sondheim's 80th Birthday Gala Celebration*. Regional: *Sunday in the Park with George* (George, Signature Theatre), *Take Flight* (McCarter), and *Angels in America* (Kansas City Rep, dir. David Cromer). TV: Pete O'Malley on "The Carrie Diaries."

**Jake Gyllenhaal** (George) Broadway: *Constellations* (Drama League Award nom). Off-Broadway: *Encores! Off-Center Little Shop of Horrors, If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet* (Lucille Lortel and Drama League Award noms). West End: *This Is Our Youth* (Evening Standard Theatre Award). Films include *Nightcrawler* (Golden Globe, BAFTA, and SAG noms), *Brokeback Mountain* (Academy Award and BAFTA noms), *Southpaw*, *Prisoners*, *Demolition*, *Enemy*, *Everest*, *End of Watch*, *Jarhead*, *Zodiac*, *Proof*, *The Good Girl*, *Moonlight Mile*, *Lovely and Amazing*, *October Sky*, *Source Code*, *Love & Other Drugs* (Golden Globe nom), *Brothers*, and *Donnie Darko*. Upcoming films: *Nocturnal Animals*, *Stronger*, *Life*, *Okja*.

**Lisa Howard** (Nurse) Broadway: *It Shoulda Been You* (2015 Drama Desk Nominee: Outstanding Actress in a Musical; 2015 Drama League Awards Nominee: Distinguished Performance), *Priscilla Queen of the Dessert*, *9 to 5: The Musical*, *South Pacific*, and *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble Performance). Film/TV: *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2* and "Ugly Betty." Education: Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

**Zachary Levi** (Jules) is a longtime Hollywood favorite. He just completed a successful run in the Broadway revival of *She Loves Me*, for which he earned a Tony Award nomination. He previously made his Broadway debut in *First Date*. His television credits include *Alias Grace* (Netflix, upcoming); *Tangled: Before Ever After* (Disney Channel, upcoming); *Heroes Reborn* (NBC); and *Chuck* (NBC), in which he starred for five seasons. Film: *Fandral in Thor: The Dark World*, Flynn Rider in Disney's *Tangled*, *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel*, *Spiral* with Amber Tamblyn, and *Big Momma's House 2*. Mr. Levi is a longtime ambassador for Operation Smile.

**Liz McCartney** (Mrs.) City Center *Encores! Off-Center: God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*. Broadway: *Annie*, *The Phantom Of The Opera*, *South Pacific*, *Mamma Mia*, *Taboo*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Dance Of The Vampires*, and *Les Misérables*. Regional/Tour: *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Marie), *Ever After* (Louise), *Chicago* (Mama Morton), *The Little Mermaid* (Ursula), *Wicked* (Madame Morrible), *Sweeney Todd* (Mrs. Lovett), *Souvenir* (Florence Foster Jenkins), *Into The Woods* (Witch), and *PIRATES!* (Ruth). TV: "Law & Order: SVU," "The Prosecutors," "Route 66," and "My Baby Boy" (upcoming).

**Ruthie Ann Miles** (Frieda) City Center debut. Broadway: *The King and I* (Lady Thiang; Tony Award). Off-Broadway: *Here Lies Love* (Imelda Marcos; Lucille Lortel and Theatre World Awards), *Avenue Q* (all the puppets and sometimes people). Television: *The Americans* (Young Hee). Masters, NYU Steinhardt.

**Solea Pfeiffer** (Celeste #1) City Center debut. A University of Michigan graduate, Pfeiffer was most recently seen in as Maria in *West Side Story* at the Hollywood Bowl and Sandy in *Grease* at the 5th Avenue Theatre. She has performed at both the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center.

**Gabriella Pizzolo** (Louise) City Center debut. Broadway: *Fun Home* (Small Alison) and the title role in *Matilda*. Television: "Braindead" and the upcoming remake of "Beaches" on Lifetime as the young CC Bloom.

**Phylicia Rashad** (Old Lady) Broadway/Off-Broadway: *August Osage County*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Raisin in the Sun*, *Gem of the Ocean*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Into the Woods*, *Dreamgirls*, *The Wiz*, and *Cymbeline*. The Public Theatre: *Head of Passes*, *The Story*, *Helen*, and *Everybody's Ruby*. Select Directing: Seattle Repertory Theater, Ebony Repertory, Mark Taper Forum, Kirk Douglas Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, and McCarter Theater. Film: *Creed*, *Good Deeds*, *For Colored Girls*, and *Just Wright*. TV: *Empire*, *Jean-Claude Van Johnson*, *Cosby*, and *The Cosby Show*.

**Lauren Worsham** (Celeste #2) was nominated for a Tony Award and won Drama Desk and Theatre World awards for her performance in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Other performances include *Dog Days* (Lisa) at Montclair Peak Performances, Fort Worth Opera, and LA Opera; *Turn of the Screw* (Flora) at New York City Opera; *Where's Charley?* (Amy) at New York City Center's *Encores!*; *Candide* (Cunegonde) at New York City Opera, and the first national tour of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Olive). Worsham performs frequently in concert. She placed second in the Kurt Weill Foundation's Lotte Lenya competition. Worsham is co-founder and executive director of the downtown opera company The Coterie and is a founding member of the band Sky-Pony.

**Stephen Sondheim** (Music and Lyrics) wrote the music and lyrics for *Saturday Night, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Anyone Can Whistle, Company, Follies, A Little Night Music, The Frogs, Pacific Overtures, Sweeney Todd, Merrily We Roll Along, Sunday in the Park with George, Into the Woods, Assassins, Passion, and Road Show*, as well as lyrics for *West Side Story, Gypsy, and Do I Hear A Waltz?*, and additional lyrics for *Candide*. Anthologies of his work include *Side by Side by Sondheim, Marry Me A Little, You're Gonna Love Tomorrow, Putting It Together*, and *Sondheim on Sondheim*. He composed the score of the film *Stavisky*, co-composed *Reds*, and wrote songs for *Dick Tracy* and for the television production *Evening Primrose*. His collected lyrics with attendant essays have been published in two volumes: *Finishing the Hat* and *Look, I Made A Hat*. In 2010 the Broadway theater formerly known as Henry Miller's Theatre was renamed in his honor.

**James Lapine** (Librettist) has worked with Stephen Sondheim on *Sunday in the Park with George, Into the Woods*, and *Passion*. With William Finn: *Falsettos, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Muscle, and Little Miss Sunshine*. He also directed the City Center *Encores!* productions of *Merrily We Roll Along* and *A New Brain*, and the original revue *Sondheim on Sondheim* for the Roundabout Theatre. He has written six plays: *Table Settings; Twelve Dreams; Luck, Pluck & Virtue; The Moment When; Fran's Bed; Mrs. Miller Does Her Thing*; and *Act One* which he adapted from Moss Hart's memoir.

**New York City Center** (Arlene Shuler, President & CEO) has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city since 1943. It was Manhattan's first performing arts center, dedicated by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia with a mission to make the best in music, theater, and dance accessible to all audiences. Today, City Center is home to many distinguished companies, including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, City Center's Principal Dance Company, as well as Manhattan Theatre Club; a roster of renowned national and international visiting artists; and its own critically acclaimed and popular programs. The Tony-honored *Encores!* musical theater series has been hailed as "one of the very best reasons to be alive in New York." In summer 2013, City Center launched *Encores! Off-Center*, a series that features landmark Off-Broadway musicals filtered through the lens of today's most innovative artists. Dance has been integral to the theater's mission from the start—and dance programs, including the annual *Fall for Dance* Festival, remain central to City Center's identity. Vital partnerships with arts organizations including Jazz at Lincoln Center and London's Sadler's Wells Theatre enhance City Center's programmatic offerings. City Center brings dance and musical theater to over 9,000 New York City students each year through its robust education program, and other learning opportunities are offered to seniors, families, and the general public. City Center is expanding its programming beyond the proscenium and activating its alternative spaces with pre-show talks, master classes, exhibitions of visual art, and intimate performances that give an up-close look at the work of the great theater and dance artists of our time. In October 2011, City Center completed an extensive renovation project to revitalize and modernize its historic theater.

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