

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Aja Jones

412-281-3973 ext. 224

ajones@pittsburghCLO.org

Images: Press Room

User: pressroom Pswd: pittstadium

**MAN OF LA MANCHA Rides into
Pittsburgh CLO's 2015 Summer Season
Audiences will Embark on an Extraordinary Journey
at the Benedum Center June 23-28**

Pittsburgh, PA · June 16, 2015 – Impossible dreams really do come true! Pittsburgh CLO is thrilled to bring Tony Award®-winner [**MAN OF LA MANCHA**](#) to the Benedum Center June 23-28. Set during the Spanish Inquisition, this moving musical is full of heart and adventure, complete with an extraordinary cast starring Ron Raines as Cervantes.

A celebrated Broadway hit and winner of five Tony Awards®, *MAN OF LA MANCHA* will leave you breathless with a score including the touching ode to romance, "Dulcinea," the heroic, "I, Don Quixote" and the unforgettable, "The Impossible Dream." Inspired by one of the greatest novels of all time, *MAN OF LA MANCHA* features Miguel de Cervantes and his faithful servant, who channel the power of storytelling to recount the legend of wannabe knight Don Quixote and his trusty sidekick Sancho as they embark on a journey full of laughter, love and unruly windmills. *MAN OF LA MANCHA* is a theatrical masterpiece sure to captivate all lovers of musical theater!

ABOUT THE CAST

[**Ron Raines**](#) (**Don Quixote/Cervantes**) appeared on Broadway in *Annie*, *Newsies*, *Follies* (Tony nomination), *Chicago*, *Teddy and Alice* and *Show Boat*. His touring credits include: *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* and *Can-Can*. He starred in *Man of La Mancha* at London's Covent Garden Festival and has been featured in four "PBS Great Performances." Mr. Raines began his career as a principal baritone in the world of opera, performing the role of Malatesta in *Don Pasquale*. Recordings: "Broadway Passion," "So In Love With Broadway," "Follies" (Grammy nomination), "Annie," "Guys and Dolls," "Man of La Mancha," "The Pajama Game," "110 in the Shade," and "Wonderful Town," among many others. For fifteen years he starred as the nefarious Alan Spaulding on CBS' "Guiding Light."

[**Jackie Burns**](#) (**Aldonza**) is a Broadway veteran appearing in *If/Then*, *Wicked*, *Hair*; Off-Broadway: *Rock of Ages* (original cast), *Hair* (original revival cast), *Unlock'd* (NYMF), *Ripper*. Her National Tour credits include: *Wicked* (IRNE Award nomination). Regional credits : *A Grand Night for Singing* (Connecticut Critics Circle Award), *The Full Monty*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Joseph.*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Candide* and *Smokey Joe's Café*. TV: "All My Children." Concept Albums: "Swept Away" (Disney), "Tears from Heaven," "Excalibur" (Frank Wildhorn).

[**Greg Hildreth**](#) (**Sancho**) has been seen on Broadway in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. His Off-Broadway credits include: *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. Regional credits: The Old Globe, The Paper Mill Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, Center Theatre Group, Williamstown Theatre Festival, The Huntington Theatre. He has also appeared in Film/Television, including: "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver," "The Good Wife," "Royal Pains," "Kings." Mr. Hildreth has a BFA in acting from Boston University and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts.

[**Danny Bevins**](#) (**Pedro**) returns to Pittsburgh CLO after appearing in *Legally Blonde* as Nikos, the flamboyant pool boy. Mr. Bevins has also worked at The Muny, Music Theatre of Wichita and Artpark.

Lindsey Bracco (Moorish Dancer/Fermina) appeared previously in the Pittsburgh CLO productions of *Footloose*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Legally Blonde*, *Curtains*, *The Producers*. Other credits: *Spamalot*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Babette), *42nd Street* (Annie), *White Christmas* (Rhoda), *Guys and Dolls*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and *Hello, Dolly!* Film/TV: ABC Family, "Lovestruck, the Musical." Point Park University Graduate.

Susan Cella (Housekeeper) returns to Pittsburgh CLO for her seventh season, most recently as Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Her Broadway credits include: *The Graduate*, *Crazy He Calls Me*, *Me and my Girl*, *Evita*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Allegro* and *Lady in the Dark* for ENCORES!. National tours: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Hairspray*, *42nd Street*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Me and My Girl* and *Can-Can*. TV: "Person of Interest," "Law and Order," "The Sopranos," "All My Children," "Hi Honey I'm Home," "The Tavern," "The Astronaut's Wife" and "Follies."

J. Anthony Crane (Dr. Carassco) is making his Pittsburgh CLO debut. Recent credits include: Broadway: *The Country House* (MTC), *The Winslow Boy* (Roundabout) *Sight Unseen* (MTC), *Butley* (Booth). Off-Broadway/Regional: Scar in *The Lion King* (Nat'l Tour) and Harold in *The Music Man* (TUTS), *Spamalot* (Wynn Las Vegas), *The Odd Couple* (Dallas Theater Center), and many others, including The Humana Festival, CATF, Papermill Playhouse, Cleveland Playhouse, The Old Globe, PRT, and Capital Repertory.

Ixchel Cuellar (Innkeeper's Wife) is a rising senior in the B.F.A. Musical Theatre Program at Penn State. University credits: *Avenue Q*, *Leonard Bernstein's Mass*, *Funk it up About Nothin'* and *Into the Woods*.

Tim Hartman (Captain of the Inquisition) is a veteran of countless Pittsburgh CLO productions. Broadway: *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Finian's Rainbow*. Regional Theater: C.S. Lewis in *Shadowlands*, Don Quixote in *The Man of La Mancha* and Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*. Film: "Silence of the Lambs," "The Mothman Prophecies," "The Piano Lesson" and "The Fault in our Stars." Mr. Hartman is also an award-winning storyteller and cartoonist.

Jeffrey Howell (Innkeeper) recently performed with Virginia Musical Theatre in *Gypsy* and with the REP in *Souvenir*. Some favorite CLO shows include *42nd Street*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *A Musical Christmas Carol* (Bob Cratchit) *Beauty and the Beast*, *Bells are Ringing*, *Pajama Game*, *The Most Happy Fella*. Other credits include *Candide*, *Tigers Be Still*, *Chicago*, and *Tribute to Lerner and Loewe* with Marvin Hamlisch and the PSO.

Michael Misko (Barber) was last seen in Pittsburgh CLO's *Footloose* as the Cop. His regional credits include *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Big Bopper), *Guys & Dolls* (Nicely Nicely Johnson), *Oliver!* (Mr. Bumble), *The Pillowman* (Katurian), *Romeo & Juliet* (Mercutio).

Gavan Pamer (Padre) is a Pittsburgh CLO veteran. His touring credits include: *CATS* (Mungojerrie), *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street*. Pittsburgh CLO: *42nd Street* (Andy Lee), *Joseph...* (Reuben), *Carousel* (Heavenly Friend), *Me and My Girl* (Bob Barking), *Crazy for You* (Custus Perkins), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Annas), *Forever Plaid* (PSM), *My Way* (Choreographer). PPT: *A Grand Night for Singing* (Martin). LPPAC: *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *White Christmas*, *My Way*. Playhouse: *Big River*, *Drood*. WVPT: *Dames at Sea*, *Oklahoma!*, *Geroge M!*. PMT: *Chicago*, *Blood Brothers*, *Peter Pan*.

Emily Trumble (Antonia) is making her Pittsburgh CLO debut. A native of Berkely, California, some favorite regional credits include: The Muny, Berkeley Rep, The Wagon Wheel Theater, and the California Shakespeare Festival. She is a recent graduate of the College Conservatory of Music.

MAN OF LA MANCHA is complete with a talented ensemble, including **Ben Bogen**, **Ryan Cavanaugh**, **Lucas Fedele**, **Michael Graceffa**, **Kate Johnson**, **Evan Rugierro**, **Joseph Sammour** and **Blake Stadnik**.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Marc Robin (Director & Choreographer) has staged over 300 shows throughout the country including theatres such as Walnut Street, Chicago Shakespeare, Steppenwolf, Marriott, Skylight, Maine State, TUTS

and The Fulton Theatre, where he has served as Artistic Director for the past five seasons. He has received many awards and honors including 54 Jeff nominations, 16 Jeff Awards, 13 After Dark Awards, four Barrymore nominations, six Broadway World Nominations and one Broadway World award, three Arizoni Awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award and others.

Tom Helm (Music Director) returns for his 20th season with Pittsburgh CLO. His theater credits include the Broadway productions of *Souvenir*, *Les Miserables*, *Me and My Girl*, *CATS* and *Brigadoon*. He has also contributed his talents to television programs such as "Crazy For You" and the "Today Show." Mr. Helm has conducted at Radio City Music Hall, Paper Mill Playhouse and many other regional and national theaters.

Andrew David Ostrowski (Lighting Designer) counts the following among his national credits: The National High School Musical Theater Awards in NYC, The Asolo, NSMT, George Street Playhouse, TheatreWorks, Philadelphia Theatre Company, New York Theater Institute, The Blumenthal Center, Spoleto Festival USA, Madison Opera, DSM, TOTS. Local credits include productions for PPT, City Theatre, Pittsburgh CLO, CLO Cabaret, Pittsburgh Opera, PSO, PBT, PICT, THE REP, Barebones Productions, as well as others.

HISTORY OF THE SHOW

The story of Don Quixote was first a literary success, written as a Spanish novel titled, "The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha," by Miguel de Cervantes in the seventeenth-century. The epic story had a major influence on the literary community, and was later written as a non-musical teleplay "I, Don Quixote," in 1959.

Years after this television broadcast, director Albert Marre called Dale Wasserman, an American playwright, and suggested that he turn his play into a musical. Mitch Leigh was selected as composer, with orchestrations by Carlyle W. Hall.

The musical first played at the Goodspeed Opera House in Connecticut in 1965. After 21 previews, the musical opened at the ANTA Washington Square Theatre in Greenwich Village November 22, 1965. The show played for 2,328 performances in New York at the ANTA Washington Square Theatre and on Broadway at the Martin Beck, Eden and Mark Hellinger Theatres. After much success on Broadway, the musical earned five Tony Awards®, including Best Musical. In 1972, the musical was adapted into a film, starring Peter O'Toole, James Coco and Sophia Loren.

The show has since been revived on Broadway several times, most recently at the Martin Beck Theatre starring Brian Stokes Mitchell. The show played for 253 performances in London at the Piccadilly Theatre.

ABOUT THE ORIGINAL CREATIVE TEAM

Dale Wasserman (Book) wrote the scripts for two Broadway hits of the 1960s—*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, adapted from Ken Kesey's best-selling novel, and *Man of La Mancha*, which in 1966 won the Tony Award® for best musical. Dale's many other credits include screenplays for "The Vikings," "Cleopatra" and "A Walk with Love and Death," as well as countless TV dramas. Other successful plays include: *Boy on Blacktop Road* and *The Stallion Howl*.

Mitch Leigh (Music) was the brains behind the award-winning score of *Man of La Mancha*. He wrote the music for several more Broadway shows, including *Cry for Us All* (1970), *Home Sweet Homer* (1976) and *Sarava* (1979), but they all closed after painfully short runs. He did go on to produce the 1983 Broadway revival of *Mame*, starring Angela Lansbury, and to direct the 1985 revival of *The King and I*, with Yul Brynner. Mr. Leigh's last original contribution was the music for *Ain't Broadway Grand*, a musical comedy about the producer Mike Todd, which ran for three weeks at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater in 1993.

Joe Darion (Lyrics) wrote the Broadway stage lyrics for *Man of La Mancha*, winning a Tony Award® for his work. Joining ASCAP in 1951, he wrote for radio, TV, films, theatre and concerts. His chief musical collaborators include George Kleinsinger, Ezra Laderman, Guy Wood, John Benson Brooks, Herman Krasnow, and Mitchell Leigh. His popular-song compositions also include "A Woman Wouldn't Be a Woman," "Toujours

Gai," "Christmas Is a Feeling In Your Heart," "The Growing-Up Tree," "The Ho Ho Song," "The Midnight Train," "The Lollipop Tree," "The Goonie Bird Song" and "Little Red Train to the Zoo".

Albert Marre (Director) won a Tony Award® for his direction of the original Broadway production of *Man of La Mancha*. The enduring show had 2,328 performances from November 1965 through June 1971. Marre was also involved in three (1972, 1977, and 1992) of the musical's four revivals. In addition, his other notable stage directing efforts included *Kismet* (1953–55), *The Chalk Garden* (1955–56) and *Milk and Honey* (1961–63). Marre's last original Broadway credit was *Chu Chem* (1989).

Albert W. Selden and Hal James (Producer) co-produced *Man of La Mancha* first at the Goodspeed Opera House, and later on Broadway, where it won Tony® and New York Drama Critics Circle awards. Selden also produced the award-winning "Baby" in the 1960s, and co-produced the hit musical "Irene," starring Debbie Reynolds. James won two additional Tony Awards®, one in 1968, as one of four co-producers for Best Producer (Musical) and as a co-producer of Best Musical winner *Hallelujah, Baby!*

Performance Schedule for *Man of La Mancha*

Tuesday	June 23	8 p.m.
Wednesday	June 24	8 p.m.
Thursday	June 25	8 p.m.
Friday	June 26	8 p.m.
Saturday	June 27	2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday	June 28	2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

TICKETS

Tickets are available online at pittsburghCLO.org, by calling **412-456-6666** or at the Box Office at Theater Square. Tickets start at \$35. Groups of 10 or more enjoy exclusive discounts and specialty packages. Call our [Group Sales](http://pittsburghCLO.org) Hotline at **412-325-1582** for more information. Visit pittsburghCLO.org for further information.

Pittsburgh CLO gratefully acknowledges the generosity of PNC for its sponsorship of the PNC Spotlight Series and our Season Sponsors: the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and WTAE-TV.

Media members may access photos and other show materials by visiting the [Press Room](http://pittsburghCLO.org) at pittsburghCLO.org. When prompted, simply enter "pressroom" as the username and "pittstadium" as the password.

#

Since 1946, the Pittsburgh CLO has been the driving force behind live musical theater in Pittsburgh and the entire Southwestern Pennsylvania region. Under the direction of Van Kaplan since 1997, this not-for-profit arts organization appreciates the support of nearly 200,000 patrons each year and produces a subscription series, educational programs, national tours and develops and invests in new works, including 20 Broadway shows (29 Tony Awards®) featuring the current productions of Cinderella, Kinky Boots and Matilda. Its dedication to the musical theater art form extends to include such programs as the CLO Academy, the CLO Mini Stars, the Gene Kelly Awards, the Richard Rodgers Award the National High School Musical Theater Awards, the Construction Center for the Arts and the CLO Cabaret.

PITTSBURGH CLO

The Benedum Center ■ 719 Liberty Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, PA 15222 ■ 412-281-3973 ■ Fax 412-281-5339

CLO Cabaret Theater ■ 655 Penn Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, PA 15222 ■ CLOcabaret.com

Academy of Musical Theater ■ Penn Avenue Place ■ 130 CLO Academy Way ■ Pittsburgh, PA 15222 ■ 412-281-2234 ■ Fax 412-281-2232

The Construction Center for the Arts ■ 997 Sherosky Way ■ Springdale, PA 15144 ■ 724-558-1016 ■ Fax 724-558-1022

pittsburghCLO.org ■ mail@pittsburghCLO.org