

THE HARTMAN GROUP

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THE Last Ship

Featuring an Original Score by 16-Time Grammy Award® Winner

STING

Book by Tony Award® Winner

JOHN LOGAN (*Red*)

and Pulitzer Prize Winner

BRIAN YORKEY (*Next to Normal*)

Direction by Two-Time Tony Award® Winner

JOE MANTELLO (*Wicked*)

Choreography by Olivier Award Winner and Tony Award® Nominee

STEVEN HOGGETT (*Once*)

WILL OPEN ON BROADWAY

Fall 2014

PRE-BROADWAY WORLD PREMIERE AT
CHICAGO'S BANK OF AMERICA THEATRE

June 10-July 13, 2014

(*New York, NY and Chicago, IL – September 19, 2013*) Producers **Jeffrey Seller** and **Kathryn Schenker** announced today that **THE LAST SHIP**, with an original score by 16-time Grammy Award® winner **Sting**, will open on Broadway in the fall of 2014, following a pre-Broadway World Premiere from Tuesday, June 10 – Sunday, July 13,

2014 at Chicago's Bank of America Theatre. An epic yet intimate tale inspired by Sting's own childhood experiences, this World Premiere production features direction by two-time Tony Award® winner **Joe Mantello** (*Wicked*), a book by Tony Award® winner **John Logan** (*Red*) and Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award® winner **Brian Yorkey** (*Next to Normal*) and choreography by Olivier Award winner and Tony Award® Nominee **Steven Hoggett** (*Once*).

Life in the English seafaring town of Wallsend has always revolved around the local shipyard, where the hardworking men of this close-knit community construct magnificent vessels with tremendous pride. But Gideon Fletcher dreams of a different future. He sets out to travel the world, leaving his life and his love behind. When Gideon returns home fourteen years later, he finds the shipyard's future in grave danger and his childhood sweetheart engaged to someone else. As the men of Wallsend take their fate into their own hands and build a towering representation of the shared dream that has defined their existence, Gideon realizes that he left behind more than he could have ever imagined.

"The memories at the heart of *THE LAST SHIP* have occupied my mind for most of my life," said Sting. "I was compelled to tell this story, and I've had the great fortune of collaborating with an enormously talented team."

"I can only produce a show that I fall in love with," said producer Jeffrey Seller. "The moment that I heard 'Shipyard,' which was the first song that Sting wrote for this show, I knew two things: that I was in love and that this extraordinary artist knew exactly how to write a Broadway musical."

Big, bold and hauntingly beautiful, *THE LAST SHIP* is a portrait of a group of people so bound together by passion and faith that they'll stop at nothing to preserve the only life they've ever known.

Casting, design team members, and details for the Broadway production will be announced at a later date.

On Tuesday, September 24, **Sting** will release a new album of original material entitled *The Last Ship*, inspired by the story of the forthcoming musical. In celebration of the album, **Sting** will perform a series of 10 concerts to benefit The Public Theater in New York City in their intimate, 260-seat Anspacher Theater from September 25 – October 9. A limited number of tickets are still available for purchase at <http://ticketing.publictheater.org/production/?prod=22099>.

Performances of *THE LAST SHIP* will begin at Chicago's Bank of America Theatre (18 West Monroe Street) on June 10, 2014 for a five-week-only limited engagement through July 13, 2014.

CHICAGO TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are available now for groups of 10 or more by calling Broadway In Chicago Group Sales at (312) 977-1710. **THE LAST SHIP** will be a part of the Broadway In Chicago 2014 Spring Season. Individual tickets will go on sale at a later date. For more information, visit www.BroadwayInChicago.com.

To download photos of the creative team of *THE LAST SHIP*:
<http://downloads.thehartmangrouppr.com/ncapatastohg/Creative.zip>

To view a video of Sting discussing the origins of *The Last Ship*, visit:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8vCuwE7kg1w>

Or to download the video in HD, visit:
<http://downloads.thehartmangrouppr.com/ncapatastohg/Origins.zip>

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

STING (Score). Sting was born in Newcastle, England before moving to London in 1977 to form The Police with Stewart Copeland and Andy Summers. The band released five albums, earned six Grammy awards, and in 2003 was

inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Since 1985, Sting has evolved into one of the world's most distinctive solo artists. His latest album, entitled *The Last Ship*, is inspired by his childhood memories of the shipbuilding community of Wallsend in the North East of England where he was born and raised. Sting has sold nearly 100 million albums from his combined work with the Police and as a solo artist and has earned an additional 10 Grammy awards, a Golden Globe, an Emmy, and three Oscar nominations.

JOHN LOGAN (Book) John Logan received the Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, and Drama League awards for his play *Red*, directed by Michael Grandage. This play premiered at the Donmar Warehouse in London and at the Golden Theatre on Broadway. Since then *Red* has had more than 200 productions across the US and has been presented in over 30 countries. He is also the author of more than a dozen other plays including *Never The Sinner* and *Hauptmann*. In 2013, his new play *Peter and Alice* premiered in London and *I'll Eat You Last: A Chat With Sue Mengers* opened on Broadway. As a screenwriter, Logan has been three times nominated for the Oscar and has received a Golden Globe, BAFTA and WGA award. His film work includes *Skyfall*, *Hugo*, *The Aviator*, *Gladiator*, *Rango*, *Coriolanus*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Last Samurai*, *Any Given Sunday*, and *RKO 281*. He is currently writing the next James Bond film and is in production for "Penny Dreadful," a drama series he created and is producing for Showtime.

BRIAN YORKEY (Book) received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, as well as the 2009 Tony Award for Best Score, for *Next to Normal*. Brian was also nominated for the Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical for *Next to Normal*, and his work on the show earned him the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Score. Brian is currently at work on *If/Then*, a new musical with *Next to Normal* composer Tom Kitt, director Michael Greif, and producer David Stone, which will open at the National Theatre in Washington, DC, in November 2013, in advance of an opening at the Richard Rodgers Theatre on Broadway in March 2014. He is also working with Tom Kitt on a stage musical adaptation of Tom McCarthy's acclaimed film *The Visitor*. Brian and Tom are also writing songs for the stage adaptation of the much-loved movie *Magic Mike* and for Diablo Cody's feature film adaptation of the *Sweet Valley High* books. Brian's musical film *Time After Time* is in pre-production at Lionsgate/Summit. Film projects in active development include *Score!* for Team Downey and Warner Bros., *Love Undercover* for Pandemonium Films, and *Chase* for Anonymous Content and Rosenzweig Films. Brian's other theatre credits include *Making Tracks*, which has played off-Broadway and regionally, the musical adaptation of Ang Lee's *The Wedding Banquet* and the country musical *Play It By Heart*. Brian has directed off-Broadway and regionally and for seven years was associate artistic director at Village Theatre in Washington state, one of the nation's leading producers of new musicals. He's a graduate of Columbia University, where he was artistic director of the Varsity Show, an alum of the BMI/Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop and a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and the WGA.

JOE MANTELLO (Direction). Directing credits include *I'll Eat You Last*, *The Other Place*, *Dogfight*, *Other Desert Cities*, *The Pride*, *Pal Joey*, *9 to 5*, *November*, *The Receptionist*, *The Ritz*, *Blackbird*, *Three Days of Rain*, *The Odd Couple*, *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Tony® nomination), *Laugh Whore*, *Assassins* (Tony Award®), *Wicked*, *Take Me Out* (Tony Award®), *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Design for Living*, Terrence McNally and Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* for San Francisco Opera, *The Vagina Monologues*, *Bash*, *Another American: Asking and Telling*, *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (Tony® nomination), *Proposals*, *The Mineola Twins* and *Corpus Christi*. As an actor: *The Normal Heart* (Tony® nomination), *Angels in America* (Tony® nomination) and *The Baltimore Waltz*. He is the recipient of Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Lucille Lortel, Helen Hayes, Clarence Derwent, Obie and Joe A. Callaway Awards. He is a member of Naked Angels and an associate artist at Roundabout Theatre Company.

STEVEN HOGGETT (Choreography). Broadway: *Once* (also West End. Obie Award, Lortel Award, Calloway Award), *The Glass Menagerie* (also A.R.T.), Green Day's *American Idiot*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Lortel Award). West End: *The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-Time* (also National Theatre). *Rocky The Musical* (Stage Entertainment, Hamburg), *Rigoletto* (Metropolitan Opera), *The Full Monty* (Sheffield Theatres), *Dr Dee* (Manchester International Festival / ENO), *The Light Princess*, *Dido Queen Of Carthage*, *The Hothouse* and *Market Boy* (National Theatre), *Let The Right One In*, *Black Watch* (Olivier Award, Best Choreographer), *The Bacchae*, *365*, *The Wolves in the Walls* (National Theatre of Scotland). As founding Artistic Director of Frantic Assembly, his director/choreographer credits include *Little Dogs* (with National Theatre Wales), *Lovesong*, *Beautiful Burnout*, *Othello*, *Stockholm*, *Pool (No Water)* and

Dirty Wonderland. With Scott Graham, Steven co-wrote *The Frantic Assembly Book of Devising Theatre* (Routledge).

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