

PRESS RELEASE

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Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
Presents
PigPen Theatre Co.'s Production of
THE OLD MAN AND THE OLD MOON
A New Musical Folktale

One-Of-A-Kind Theatrical Experience Featuring Spirited Indie-Folk Score Written and Performed by PigPen Theatre Co. Directed by Stuart Carden and PigPen Theatre Co.

Saturday, March 2 to Sunday, March 17, 2019, at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts

(Beverly Hills, CA January 28, 2019) — PigPen Theatre Co.'s *THE OLD MAN AND THE OLD MOON*, a fantastical song-filled fable for all ages, directed by Stuart Carden and PigPen Theatre Co., opens at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts on Saturday, March 2 and continues through Sunday, March 17, 2019, in The Wallis's Bram Goldsmith Theater. Featuring a spirited indie-folk score performed live by PigPen, this one-of-a-kind theatrical experience is the touching tale of a man charged with the task of keeping the moon shining bright. A mysterious disappearance sends him on an epic adventure over land, sea and sky and ultimately reminds him — and us — of the unwavering power of love. The production, which had award-winning runs in New York, Chicago and Boston, combines PigPen Theatre Co.'s signature shadow puppetry, wonderfully melodic music, wildly imaginative staging and ever-changing characters. *The Old Man and The Old Moon*'s high-energy ensemble is comprised of PigPen Theatre Co.'s Alex Falberg, Ben Ferguson, Curtis Gillen, Ryan Melia, Matt Nuernberger, Arya Shahi and Dan Weschler.

Critics have described The Old Man and The Old Moon as "a rare example of true

theatre magic" (*TheaterMania*) and "a glorious fusion of music and theatrics!" (*BroadwayWorld*). The *New York Times* said, "words play second fiddle to the giddy feelings it inspires." *New York Magazine* called PigPen Theatre Co. "absurdly talented, delightfully uninhibited and unpretentiously playful."

"It's a joy to bring *The Old Man and The Old Moon* to Los Angeles on the heels of its sold-out engagement at San Diego's Old Globe," says The Wallis' Artistic Director Paul Crewes. "With PigPen's inventive stagecraft, wonderful music and spellbinding storytelling, this production is sure to touch audiences of all ages."

Tickets, \$25 to \$85, are on sale now and, available at TheWallis.org/OldMan. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase tickets and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 or visit: TheWallis.org/OldMan.

About the Artists:

STUART CARDEN'S (Co-Director) credits include The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane (People's Light & Theatre Company, Chicago Children's Theatre), Marco Ramirez's The Rovale (City Theatre, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis), and PigPen Theatre Co.'s indie-folk ghost story *The Hunter and The Bear* (Writers Theatre). His other credits include *The Old Man and The* Old Moon (ArtsEmerson, The New Victory Theater, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Writers Theatre), Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody, Yellow Moon, Hesperia and Travels with my Aunt (Writers Theatre), Oblivion, Tribes, Blackbird, Mary's Wedding, A Picasso and The Moonlight Room (City Theatre), Circle Mirror Transformation, In the Next Room or the vibrator play, Crime and Punishment, and The Lieutenant of Inishmore (The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis), Butler (Northlight Theatre), Tribes (Philadelphia Theatre Company), The Pillowman, The Lieutenant of Inishmore, The False Servant, and Stones in His Pockets (Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre) and The Merchant of Venice, Golden Child, Back of the Throat and Ten Acrobats in an Amazing Leap of Faith (Silk Road Rising). Carden served five seasons as Associate Artistic Director at Writers Theatre in Chicago (2009-2014) and two seasons at City Theatre (2007-2009). He lives in the South Loop of Chicago with his wife, contemporary art curator Neysa Page-Lieberman, and their twins, Dashiell and Griffin. He is an alumnus of Carnegie Mellon University and a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

The members of **PIGPEN THEATRE CO.** (Co-Directors) are **Alex Falberg, Ben Ferguson, Curtis Gillen, Ryan Melia, Matt Nuernberger, Arya Shahi** and **Dan Weschler**. They began creating their unique brand of theatre, music and film as freshmen at the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama in 2007 and have since produced original plays in New York City and toured the country, earning critic's picks from *The New York Times, Time Out New York, Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, Boston Globe* and many more, ranking them in the top ten theatrical events of 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2016. They were the first group to win the NYC Fringe Festival's top honor for a

play two years in a row (2010/11) and have gone on to win IRNE (2012, 2015) and Jeff Awards (2014) for their theatrical productions. In 2016, Sir Trevor Nunn invited PigPen to be a part of his first American acting company for a production of Shakespeare's *Pericles*. PigPen's debut album, *Bremen*, was named the #10 album of the year in *The Huffington Post*'s 2012 Grammy preview, sending PigPen on tour playing to sold-out crowds across the country. *American Songwriter* premiered their follow-up EP, *The Way I'm Running*, in 2013 while the band was playing a series of concerts that became one of the most popular residencies of the past decade at the legendary Schuba's Tavern in Chicago. In 2015, PigPen released its sophomore album, *Whole Sun*, performed at Mumford & Sons' return to the Gentlemen of the Road Festival. They made their feature film debut in Jonathan Demme's *Ricki and the Flash* starring Meryl Streep. In 2018, PigPen announced that work on two stage musicals based on beloved novels: *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo (in partnership with Universal Theatrical Group) and *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen (in collaboration with Rick Elice).

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented more than 250 dance, theatre, opera, classical music, cinema and family programs to an ever-expanding audience. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, California, The Wallis brings audiences worldclass theater, dance and music, performed by many of the world's most talented and soughtafter artists. Featuring eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its notability as the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis offers original and revered works from across the U.S. and around the globe. The mission of The Wallis is to create, present and celebrate unique performing arts events and educational programs that reflect the rich cultural diversity of our community. Nominated for 48 Ovation Awards, seven L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of six architectural awards since opening in 2013. The Wallis is a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot venue that celebrates the classic and the modern and was designed by Zoltan E. Pali, FAIA, of Studio Pali Fekete architects. The building features the restored, original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places) that serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and houses the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW at The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education (a gift of Gregory Annenberg Weingarten and Family and the Annenberg Foundation) and the contemporary 500-seat, stateof-the art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Together, these structures embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. For more information about The Wallis, please visit: The Wallis.org.

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

A New Musical Folktale by PigPen Theatre Co.

THE OLD MAN AND THE OLD MOON

Written and Performed by PigPen Theatre Co.

Directed by Stuart Carden and PigPen Theatre Co.

PigPen Theatre Co.

Alex Falberg
Ben Ferguson
Curtis Gillen
Ryan Melia
Matt Nuernberger
Arya Shahi
Dan Weschler

CREDITS
Director Stuart Carden & PigPen Theatre Co.
Scenic, Costume & Puppet Designer Lydia Fin
Lighting Designer Bart Cortright
Sound Designer Mikhail Fiksel

WHEN:

Saturday, March 2 to Sunday, March 17, 2019 Weekdays, 7:30 pm; Saturdays, 2 pm and 7:30 pm; Sundays, 2 pm and 7 pm No performance on Tuesday, March 12

RUN TIME:

90 minutes with no intermission

WHERE:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Bram Goldsmith Theater 9390 N. Santa Monica Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

\$25 to \$85 (prices subject to change)
TheWallis.org/OldMan
310.746.4000
Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

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