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**WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS'
WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION OF
INVINCIBLE - THE MUSICAL
FEATURING THE SONGS OF PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO
OPENS ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022**

Inventive New Work Weaves the
Four-Time GRAMMY® Award and 2022 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Inductees' Legendary
Catalogue and Inspired New Songs
throughout a Reimagining of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* for the 21st Century

Featuring the Music of Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo
Book by Bradley Bredeweg
Music Direction and Vocal Arrangements by Jesse Vargas
Arrangements by Jesse Vargas and Neil Giraldo
Orchestrations by Neil Giraldo and Jesse Vargas
Choreography by Galen Hooks
Directed by Tiffany Nichole Greene

December 2 - 18, 2022
The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater

(Beverly Hills, CA, December 2, 2022) – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts' **WORLD PREMIERE** production of *INVINCIBLE - THE MUSICAL*, featuring the songs of **PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO**, opens December 2 and runs through December 18, 2022, in The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater. This inventive new work weaves the four-time GRAMMY® Award and 2022 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Inductees' legendary catalogue and inspired new songs throughout a reimagining of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* for the 21st century. Directed by Tiffany Nichole Greene (resident director of *Hamilton*), with a book by Bradley Bredeweg (creator of "Good Trouble" and GLAAD Award-winning "The Fosters" TV series), music direction and vocal arrangements by Jesse Vargas, arrangements by Jesse Vargas and Neil Giraldo, orchestrations by Neil Giraldo and Jesse Vargas, casting by The Telsey Office, Ryan Bernard Tymensky, CSA, and choreography by Galen Hooks,

Invincible – The Musical is presented by special arrangement with Jamie Cesa, Cody Lassen, and Bel Chiasso Entertainment.

The cast features **Khamary Rose** as Romeo (*Next to Normal* at The Kennedy Center), **Kay Sibal** as Juliet (original *INVINCIBLE* staged reading), **Sharon Leal** as Madame Capulet (*Dreamgirls*), **Dionne Gipson** as Madame Montague (The Wallis & For The Record's *Scorsese: American Crime Requiem*), **Brennin Hunt** as Paris (*Pretty Woman: The Musical* on Broadway), **Ari Notartomaso** as Benvolio (*Paranormal Activity: Next of Kin*), **Julia Harriman** as Nura (*Hamilton*), **Jon Patrick Walker** as Friar (*Peter & The Starcatcher* on Broadway), **Aaron Alcaraz** as Mercutio/Ensemble/Romeo Understudy (*Rent - 20th Anniversary National Tour*) and **Josh Strobl** as Tybalt/Ensemble/Romeo Understudy (*Dear Evan Hansen* on Broadway). Other cast members are **Steven Agdeppa** (Ensemble/Friar Understudy), **Gillian Bozajian** (Ensemble), **Cameron Field** (Ensemble), **Sophia Hall** (Ensemble/Dance Captain), **Nadja Hayes** (Ensemble), **Eric Myrick** (Ensemble/Mercutio and Tybalt Understudy), **Ian Joseph Paget** (Ensemble), **Lyric Rachae** (Ensemble/Juliet and Nura Understudy), **Krystle Rose Simmons** (Ensemble/Madame Montague and Madame Capulet Understudy), **Kelsey Lee Smith** (Sampson/Ensemble/Benvolio and Juliet Understudy), **Ian Ward** (Gregory/Ensemble/Paris and Tybalt Understudy), and **Kendyl Sayuri Yokoyama** (Ensemble/Nura Understudy).

Invincible – The Musical is set in the modern, war-torn metropolis of Verona where the newly elected Chancellor Paris vows to destroy the progressive resistance and return the city to its traditional roots. The star-crossed lovers' story, exploring how love and equality battle for survival in times of great transformation, envisions peace in a divided world.

Singer-songwriter Benatar and producer-musician Giraldo were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in November. Their partnership, which combines her staggering vocals and take-no-prisoners attitude along with his trailblazing artistry as a guitarist, producer and songwriter, forged the undeniable chemistry and unique sound that created eternal rock hits including "We Belong," "Invincible," "Love Is A Battlefield," "Promises In The Dark," "We Live For Love," "Heartbreaker" and "Hell Is For Children." Together, Benatar and Giraldo created two multi-platinum, five platinum, and three gold albums as well as 19 Top 40 hits. They have sold over 36 million records worldwide and have won an unprecedented four consecutive GRAMMY® awards.

Tickets for *Invincible* (\$39-\$125) are on sale now, as are single tickets and subscriptions to all performances in The Wallis' 2022/2023 Season. TheWallis.org/Invincible

WARNING: This production features haze and strobe lights, and some adult language and content. Recommended for ages 13+.

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase single tickets, subscriptions and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 (Monday – Friday, 10 am to 6 pm) or visit TheWallis.org.

The Wallis is closely monitoring the ever-changing local health and safety environment carefully and addressing known health factors at the moment. Should plans change and any performance be required to be postponed or cancelled or if venue capacity limitations are instituted, ticket holders will be notified immediately with options for their purchased tickets per The Wallis' ticketing policies.

The health and safety of patrons, staff, and artists inside and outside the venue are a top priority for The Wallis. Facial masks are no longer required but are strongly encouraged and recommended. The Wallis' health and safety protocols are also subject to change at the venue's sole discretion or in accordance with LA County and City of Beverly Hills regulations. Current Health & Safety Protocols and updates may also be accessed at [TheWallis.org/Safety](https://www.thewallis.org/Safety). Policies are subject to change.

PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO In a pop culture world defined by its perpetual changes, the partnership of singer songwriter Pat Benatar and producer-musician Neil Giraldo has been a potent, steadfast union that has soared to the top of the charts and into fans' hearts on their own terms. Her staggering vocals and take-no-prisoners attitude, along with his trailblazing artistry as a guitarist, producer and songwriter, forged the undeniable chemistry and unique sound that created eternal rock hits including "We Belong," "Invincible," "Love Is A Battlefield," "Promises In The Dark," "We Live For Love," "Heartbreaker" and "Hell Is For Children." Their stunning achievements are a testament to their vision. Together, Benatar and Giraldo have created two multi-platinum, five platinum and three gold albums, as well as 19 Top 40 hits. They have sold over 36 million records worldwide and have won an unprecedented four consecutive GRAMMY® awards. They have also been feted with three American Music Awards, a People's Choice Award and a 2008 induction into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame. In November 2022, Benatar and Giraldo were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame. On top of his six-string and songwriting skills showcased with Benatar, Giraldo has also written, produced, arranged and recorded for multiple artists including John Waite (the *Ignition* album), Kenny Loggins (the GRAMMY®-nominated Top 20 hit "Don't Fight It"), and Rick Springfield (his #1, Grammy-winning classic "Jessie's Girl" and Top 10 hit "I've Done Everything For You"). Starting with the 1979 debut *In The Heat Of The Night*, Benatar's powerful vocals and fierce stage presence created a successful template for hard rocking women in the 1980s while also appealing to pop fans. The video for "You Better Run" was the second clip ever to be shown on MTV; she was the first female artist and Neil the first guitarist to be featured on the channel. Their videos dominated the first decade of MTV. Their 1991 release *True Love*, a collection of jump blues and swing tunes, anticipated the swing revival of the late '90s. Throughout their 43-year musical partnership, Benatar and Giraldo have always shirked trends and explored a wide variety of musical styles. Over four decades into their hit-laden, genre-blending repertoire, *Benatar and Giraldo* continue to play to sold out crowds on their annual tours. Their artistic journey is on-going with many exciting possibilities to come.

TIFFANY NICHOLE GREENE (Director) (she/her) is the resident director of *Hamilton* (Philip Tour) and directed the off-Broadway premiere of Steph Del Rosso's *53% Of* (Second Stage). Recent credits include the world premiere of Vichet Chum's *High School Play: A Nostalgia Fest* (Alley Theatre); Christina Ham's *Nina Simone: Four Women* (Arizona Theatre Company); the world premiere of Deneen Reynolds-Knott's *Shoebox Picnic: Route One* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); Adrienne Kennedy's *Ohio State Murders* (Goodman Theatre); and the world premiere of *Something Grim(M)* (Dallas Theater Center), which she also created. Digital credits include the world premieres of Lydia Diamond's *Whiterly Negotiations* and Lynn Nottage's *What Are The Things I Need To Remember?* for Octopus Theatricals (NYT Critic's Pick); Stacey Rose's *As Is: Conversations With Big Black Women In Confined Spaces* (Manhattan Theatre Club); Alice Childress' *Wine In The Wilderness* (Portland Center Stage); and *Battle Cry* by Bianca Sams (Cleveland Play House). Greene is the Associate Artistic Director of Dallas Theater Center and holds an MFA from Brown University/Trinity Rep. www.tiffanynicholegreene.com.

BRADLEY BREDEWEG (Book) is known for creating the critically acclaimed Freeform family drama "The Fosters," which garnered awards including Outstanding Drama Series at the GLAAD Awards, the Emmys' Television Academy Honors Award for Excellence in Television, the Television Critics Award for Outstanding Drama Series, and the Teen Choice Awards Best Drama Series. Executive Produced by Bredeweg, Peter Paige and Jennifer Lopez, the series ran for five season and resulted in the highly acclaimed spin-off "Good Trouble," now entering its fourth season on Hulu and Freeform. He currently has a blind script deal with Skydance Studios and has sold pilots to Showtime, Amazon, Netflix, The CW, ABC and USA. In partnership with Google, he wrote, produced and directed the new musical *Headless*, a re-imagining of *The Legend of*

Sleepy Hollow at Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, which starred *Hadestown's* Reeve Carney. Bredeweg also wrote, produced, and directed the musical smash-hit *Scissorhands*, a re-working of the classic Tim Burton tale as a modern queer love story. Other theatrical credits in LA include *SCISSORHANDS The Musical* and *The Last Breakfast Club*. He also continues to be an active producer and investor in the Broadway and West End scenes. Shows include the critically acclaimed revival of *Side Show*, Green Day's *American Idiot*, the smash hit *Dear Evan Hansen*, as well as the latest Broadway sensation, *Moulin Rouge*. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram: @BradleyBredeweg

JESSE VARGAS (Orchestrations and Arrangements) has worked internationally as a music director, arranger, orchestrator and music producer. Broadway: *Glory Days* (Arrangements & Orchestrations); *The Ritz* (Orchestrations). Off-Broadway: *bare-A Pop Opera* (MD & Vocal Arrangements); *Rooms-A Rock Romance* (Arrangements & Orchestrations); *Shida*; and *Saved*. National Tours: *Xanadu*; *Barry Manilow's Copacabana*. Other as Arranger/Orchestrator: *A Little More Alive*; *DCM*; *White Noise*; *One Hit Wonder*; *Peep Show*; *What A Wonderful World*; *Asphalt Beach*; *Bright Lights, Big City*; *Hair In Concert* (Grammy Nominated Album); *Pippin* (2006 Tour). Jesse served as music director/conductor/orchestrator for Clay Aiken from 2004-2008. He was also the MD/arranger for the bands *Nick Blaemire and The Hustle* and *The Midtown Men*. He's produced, arranged and orchestrated albums for Scott Alan, Kooman & Dimond, Daniel Reichard, Michael Longoria, and more. For the past six years, Jesse has been the Music Supervisor for the Los Angeles entertainment company FOR THE RECORD LIVE. He's arranged, and orchestrated FTR productions of *Baz-Star Crossed Love*; *The Brat Pack*; *Scorsese-American Crime Requiem*; *Tarantino Live*; and the critically acclaimed *Love Actually-Live* at The Wallis. TV credits include *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* (Orchestrations) and *Good Trouble* (Songwriter & Music Producer). @shouthollermusic

GALEN HOOKS (Choreography) (she/her) is a VMA-nominated choreographer, performer, and director who has worked with over 70 artists, including Camila Cabello, Justin Bieber, The Jonas Brothers, Miley Cyrus, Janet Jackson, Britney Spears, Usher, Chris Brown, Rihanna, Banks, Grimes, Ed Sheeran, Coldplay and John Legend. Previous theater work includes Associate Co-Choreographer for the Broadway revival of *Dreamgirls*. Producing credits include "America's Got Talent" (Associate Consulting Producer), "The Voice" (Associate Performance Producer), Disney Channel Presents: Radio Disney's Family VIP Birthday (Executive Producer and Creative Director), and YouTube's "Masterclass" (Consulting Producer and Host). An industry darling with 30 years of experience, she has won multiple World Choreography Awards with one of the most impressive dance and choreography careers of her generation, performing everywhere from The Oscars, The Guggenheim, the Super Bowl and in iconic music videos. Galen now shares invaluable knowledge through her life-changing intensives, THE GALEN HOOKS METHOD. From A-List celebrities to mothers who want to reconnect with their bodies, Galen is able to use dance to transform students of any background and ability with her unparalleled method. Her YouTube videos have become a viral sensation with over 300 million views across social media. From the strength, power and sensuality of *River* (+42 Million views) to the skilled ability to put a fresh twist on beloved classics like *West Side Story*, dancers and non-dancers alike are impacted globally by her work. Most impressively, Galen is a true visionary in her filmmaking. Whether she is choreographing, performing, directing, songwriting or producing (or wearing all of these hats at once as in the award-winning short film *Wait For Me* and her monumental 20-minute musical *There Once Was A Woman*), she has an eye for detail and storytelling that she breathes into every project.

CAST BIOS [HERE](#)

About Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national, and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The campus, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 350 theater, dance, music, film, cabaret, conversation, and family entertainment programs since its doors opened in October 2013. Hailed as "au courant" (*LaLa*

Magazine), The Wallis was lauded by *Culture Vulture*, which proclaims, “If you love expecting the unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis.” Its programming has been nominated for 79 Ovation Awards and nine L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards. The campus itself, a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, has garnered six architectural awards. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), which serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and includes the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. Michael Nemeroff is Chairman of The Wallis' Board of Directors.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: TheWallis.org.

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EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

WORLD PREMIERE of The Wallis Production of *INVINCIBLE – THE MUSICAL* FEATURING THE MUSIC OF PAT BENATAR & NEIL GIRALDO

Book by Bradley Bredeweg

Music Direction and Vocal Arrangements by Jesse Vargas

Arrangements by Jesse Vargas and Neil Giraldo

Orchestrations by Neil Giraldo and Jesse Vargas

Choreography by Galen Hooks

Directed by Tiffany Nichole Greene

Presented by Special Arrangement with Jamie Cesa, Cody Lassen, and Bel Chiasso Entertainment

CAST

Khamary Rose	Romeo
Kay Sibal	Juliet
Sharon Leal	Madame Capulet
Dionne Gipson	Madame Montague
Brennin Hunt	Paris
Ari Notartomaso	Benvolio
Julia Harriman	Nura
Jon Patrick Walker	Friar
Aaron Alcaraz	Mercutio/Ensemble/Romeo Understudy
Josh Strobl	Tybalt/Ensemble/Romeo Understudy
Steven Agdeppa	Ensemble/Friar Understudy
Gillian Bozajian	Ensemble
Cameron Field	Ensemble
Sophia Hall	Ensemble/Dance Captain
Nadja Hayes	Ensemble
Eric Myrick	Ensemble/Mercutio and Tybalt Understudy
Ian Joseph Paget	Ensemble
Lyric Rachae	Ensemble/Juliet and Nura Understudy
Krystle Rose Simmons	Ensemble/Madame Montague and Madame Capulet Understudy
Kelsey Lee Smith	Sampson/Ensemble/Benvolio and Juliet Understudy
Ian Ward	Gregory/Ensemble/Paris and Tybalt Understudy
Kendyl Sayuri Yokoyama	Ensemble/Nura Understudy

CREDITS

Scenic Design	Arnel Sanciano
Projection Design	Yee Eun Nam
Costume Design	Lena Sands
Lighting Design	Elizabeth Harper
Sound Design	Cricket Meyers
Production Stage Manager	Christine Catti
Fight Director	Steve Rankin
Fight Captain	Eric Myrick
Casting by	The Telsey Office, Ryan Bernard Tymensky, CSA
Choreography by	Galen Hooks
Assistant Stage Manager	Morgan Zupanski
Assistant Stage Manager	Ben Shipley
Associate Music Director	David Saul Lee
Associate Sound Designer	Andrea Allmond
Associate Choreographer	Macy Swaim
Casting Associate	Dana Gaier
Wardrobe Supervisor	Deborah Hartwell
Assistant To Cody Lassen	Emily Wilhoit
A1	Andrea Allmond
Props Specialist	Joshua Sheldon
Dresser	Kim Foster
Rehearsal scenery	GYE Construction/Gary English
Sound Supervisor	Leslie Chow

ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard	David Saul Lee
Violin	Kathleen Robertson
Viola/Violin	Sharon Jackson
Cello	Alisha Bauer
Trombone/ Baritone Horn	Ivan Malespin
Bass	Paul Morin
Guitars	Andy Waddell, Justin Smith
Drums/Percussion	Greg Sadler
Co-Contractor	John Paul Nelson
Contractor	Dan Savant

MUSIC CREDITS

Music Assistant	Adam Beskind
Electronic Music Programmer	Ryan O'connell
Rehearsal Drummer	Greg Sadler
Sound Supervisor	Leslie Chew

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Prologue: Hell Is For Children / Out Of The Ruins
All Fired Up
Invincible
Let's Stay Together
Everybody Lay Down
Let's Stay Together (Reprise)
This
Looking For A Stranger
Red Vision
Treat Me Right / I Won't
In The Heat Of The Night
I Feel Lucky
We Live For Love
Kingdom Key
Don't Let It Show
Shadows Of The Night

Act II

Love Is A Battlefield
The Fight
One Love
Promises In The Dark
Heartbreaker
Disconnected / Queen Mab
I Won't (Reprise)
Purgatory
Brave
After The Fall
We Belong

WHEN:

Friday, December 2 – Sunday, December 18, 2022

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 pm

Saturday matinees, 2 pm

Sundays, 2 pm and 7 pm

RUNNING TIME:

Approximately one hour and forty-five minutes with no intermission

WARNING: This production features haze and strobe lights, and some adult language and content. Recommended for ages 13+.

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

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