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See Broadway's 'Full Monty' In the Cohan Center Feb. 24

SAN LUIS OBISPO – On Thursday, February 24, at 8 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Center, Cal Poly Arts presents the smash hit musical, “The Full Monty” for one night only.

With book by Tony Award winner Terrence McNally and music and lyrics by pop composer David Yazbek, “The Full Monty” is based on the record-breaking 1997 Academy Award-nominated hit film by the same name.

When it opened on Broadway in October, 2000, “The Full Monty” was hailed by critics as “a genuine musical comedy,” “full of brilliance,” “witty,” “funny,” and “exhilarating.”

The New York Post raved, “It’s a blockbuster. A one-of-a-kind Broadway musical.”

Critics on the road agree: ”(The Full Monty)is a slam-dunk musical sensation” (Los Angeles Times); “It’s hilariously staged with a terrific score, witty choreography and a first-rate cast” (Boston Herald).

“The Full Monty” is the raucous, heartfelt story of six unemployed steelworkers in Buffalo, New York who go to great lengths to make some cash and help out a friend in trouble.

When a local male strip show – whose dancers venture down to their G-strings – is a hit with the local women, the cash-strapped factory workers figure they can really cash in if they go “the full Monty.”

The buddies, desperate for self-respect, must overcome their fears, their nerves, and their clothes for a shot at success.

Four-time Tony Award-winning writer McNally adapted the screen hit for the stage and added his own unique brand of American comedy to the story.

“The show is about friendship, about being a parent,” said McNally. “It’s also about an image-obsessed society that says you have to look
like Brad Pitt."

“This show says quite the opposite,” he continues. “It celebrates everybody for exactly who they are.”

Composer and lyricist David Yazbek, winner of the 2001 Drama Desk Award for his music, explains: “The Full Monty is a sports story. It’s not about stripping. It’s a bunch of guys who get together and form a team. There are ups and downs, and, in the end, they win.”

“The Full Monty” is directed by Madeleine Loftin, based on original direction by Jack O’Brien. Original choreography is by Jerry Mitchell, restaged by Denis Jones.

The original cast recording was nominated for a 2001 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album.

This show contains adult themes and mature language.

A pre-concert lecture will be held by Cal Poly Music professor Alyson McLamore, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Philips Recital Hall.

Tickets for the performance range from $52 - $64, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.


Sponsored by Clifford Chapman and Gene Shidler, Jim and Joan Sargen, and Embassy Suites Hotel.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.