



MEDIA RELEASE

7 JULY 2013

MELBOURNE ONLY OR YOUR MONEY BACK

In an unprecedented move, the producers of KING KONG are offering interstate ticket buyers a money back guarantee if the show tours anywhere in Australia beyond Melbourne's Regent Theatre, where it is currently playing to sold out houses.

It is common in Australia for producers to premiere a show in one capital city, and then, once established, announce plans for a tour to other cities nationwide. Due to the size and scale of this production, KING KONG will not tour elsewhere in Australia

Victorian Minister for Tourism and Major Events Louise Asher said today "theatrical productions are a vital part of Victoria's major events calendar."

"This hugely successful and exciting production has already received critical acclaim and has been wowing audiences since it opened in mid-June. With performances selling out, visiting Melbourne to see the wonder of Kong is a 'must-do' event of the year," Ms Asher said.

In the case of KING KONG, due to the enormous scale of the production and the physical alterations necessary to any theatre to house the 6 metre tall, 1.1 tonne leading man, it cannot move to any other Australian theatre before it heads overseas.

To reinforce that message, Global Creatures, producers of KING KONG, have undertaken to refund costs to any interstate ticket buyers if the current production plays in Sydney, Brisbane or any other Australian city before it heads overseas for international engagements. Should this happen the producers will fully refund:

- The purchase price of tickets to see the Melbourne production of KING KONG
- The cost of return interstate travel from the ticket buyer's nearest capital city
- Accommodation costs incurred for the ticket buyer's stay in Melbourne

This covers not only the ticket buyer, but any other people included in the ticket buyer's purchase who live outside of Victoria.



Since beginning previews on May 28, this world premiere season of KING KONG has attracted just over half of its audience from Melbourne metropolitan areas, with the other half travelling from all over the country to experience this theatrical event.

This unprecedented 'MELBOURNE ONLY OR YOUR MONEY BACK' campaign is expected to result in an even stronger surge in KING KONG ticket sales from outside Victoria – driving more theatregoers from around Australia to see the production that critics have called 'a remarkable theatrical achievement of the highest quality'.

Winner of the 2013 Helpmann Award for Outstanding Theatrical Achievement for the design, creation and operation of King Kong, this multi-award nominated musical is currently playing at The Regent Theatre in Melbourne with bookings open through until October 6, 2013.

THE SHOW

KING KONG had its world premiere at Melbourne's Regent Theatre on June 15 immediately becoming a sensational landmark theatrical event. Featuring a 50-strong cast of actors, singers, dancers, circus performers and puppeteers led by **Esther Hannaford** as Ann Darrow, **Adam Lyon** as Carl Denham, **Chris Ryan** as Jack Driscoll, veteran stage actor **Richard Piper** as Captain Engelhorn and the queen of musical theatre and cabaret, **Queenie van de Zandt** as Cassandra.

KING KONG's score includes new and existing songs from some of the world's best contemporary artists, including **3D** from Massive Attack, **Sarah McLachlan**, **Justice**, **Guy Garvey** from Elbow and **The Avalanches** – all overseen by composer and arranger **Marius de Vries**, whose credits include the soundtracks for *Moulin Rouge* and *Romeo + Juliet*.

KING KONG is proudly sponsored by HONDA. The producers acknowledge the support of the Victorian State Government, through Victorian Major Events Company and Tourism Victoria.

RESOURCES

For high-resolution images, an EPK and footage of live performances visit:

<http://kingkongliveonstage.com/media/> (username "media", password "kong").

KING KONG

KING KONG

Playing exclusively at the Regent Theatre, Melbourne

<http://kingkongliveonstage.com/melbourne-only/>

Preview the show at http://youtu.be/HVGsR_1TzRQ

Bookings:

1300 111 011 or www.ticketmaster.com.au or Ticketmaster outlets

Groups 1300 889 278 or groups@ticketmaster.com.au

VIP Packages <http://www.showbiz.com.au/king-kong> or call 1300 4 SHOWS

ACCOR Stay & See® Packages <http://www.showbiz.com.au/king-kong> 1300 306 341

Ticket prices:

\$55 - \$145

Student rush tickets available through Facebook. Student group discounts available.

<https://www.facebook.com/KingKongStage>

<https://twitter.com/KingKongStage>

<http://www.youtube.com/KingKongStage>

<http://instagram.com/kingkongonstage>

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“King Kong has redefined the musical” **The Australian**

“You can taste the future in this unique and visionary theatrical event, and it's mind-blowing.” **The Age**

“The cast is superlative and Esther Hannaford is perfectly beguiling and quirky as Ann Darrow....The production is a triumph of state-of-the-art technology.” **The Herald Sun**

“..what emerges is a truth in performance that doesn't employ the common razzle dazzle fluff of musical theatre acting. Sure, King Kong is an event, but it is also a massive achievement in puppeteering, casting and music.” **Inpress Magazine / TheMusic.com.au**

“a remarkable theatrical achievement.” **The Guardian**

“Kong is a f*****g impressive sight on stage.” **Beat Magazine**