



COLM WILKINSON: ON STAGE FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH **Broadway, Christmas & Beyond**

*“...ranks as one of the finest musical theatre performances ever.”
New York News Day*



“...a joy to enjoy...I rate the show 5 stars out of 5” – AM 740

Toronto, On – November 6, 2012 - Tony, Drama Desk and Olivier Nominated, Helen

Hayes and Theatre World Award winning performer Colm Wilkinson, one of theatre's most beloved voices, brings his astonishing vocal talents to Canadians for a holiday evening of unsurpassed entertainment. Colm's new Canadian tour "Broadway, Christmas & Beyond" begins in Belleville Ontario's enchanted Empire Theatre November 24 with dates across Canada ending December 22nd (see below for full tour schedule).

Theatre lovers around the world need no introduction to the man who originated such memorable, classic roles as Jean Valjean in "Les Miserables" and the Phantom in "The Phantom of the Opera". Broadway, Christmas and Beyond gives fans old and new an opportunity to see and hear a more intimate and personal side of this engaging phenomenal performer. Along with his seven-piece band, Colm is joined on stage by vocalists Susan Gilmour and Patricia O'Callaghan. Together Colm leads the audience with music and stories performing incomparable theatre favorites including "Music of the Night", "Some Enchanted Evening", "Somewhere", and his signature song "Bring Him Home". Definitive Irish classics such as "Danny Boy" and "Whiskey in the Jar", as well as "Silent Night" and Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" add yet another dimension to a program already rich in musical theatre and create an exceptional showcase for the complete depth, range, and variety of Mr. Wilkinson's talents.

"The voice is one-of-a-kind ...seemingly limitless" - Toronto Star

Born in Dublin, Ireland, Colm got his first break in 1972 when he was cast as Judas Iscariot in the Dublin production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Jesus Christ Superstar". In 1976 he sang the part of Che Guevara for Andrew Lloyd Webber on the concept album of the musical "Evita". Colm joined forces with Andrew Lloyd Webber once again in 1985, to originate the role of the Phantom in "The Phantom of the Opera" at the Sydmonton Festival. In that same year he also originated the role of Jean Valjean in Cameron Mackintosh's "Les Miserables", and would go on to perform the role in the London, New York productions as well as Washington DC and Toronto. He moved to Canada in 1989, taking on the title role in the original Toronto production of "The Phantom of the Opera", where he charmed and delighted audiences in over 1700 performances in his four and a half year run. In 1990 he was featured as Dr. Jekyll (and Mr. Hyde) in Frank Wildhors' original "Jekyll and Hyde" concept album.

The year 2002 saw Colm turning and making a departure from these signature theatre roles and releasing a solo album "Some of my Best Friends are Songs". In 2009 he turned his attention to the smaller screen, playing the role of Lord Thomas Darcy in the 3rd and 4th seasons of Showtime's miniseries, "The Tudors". The year 2010 brought about the release of the album "Broadway and Beyond: the Concert Songs" and his return to his historical theatrical roots as a special guest at the 25th Anniversary Concerts of Les Miserables, at the O2 Arena, alongside many other original cast members. The unique Anniversary Concerts' version of "Bring Him Home" was recorded as a single for UK release during the Royal Variety Performance in London England. In 2011 Mr. Wilkinson appeared -alongside a number of former Phantoms at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of The Phantom of the Opera, at The Royal Albert Hall. Most recently Colm has lent his talents back to "Les Miserables" as Bishop Myriel in the upcoming Working Title/Universal Studios film

production of Les Misérables to be released December 2012. Combining the stellar talents of Director Tom Hooper (The Kings Speech), Hugh Jackman portraying Jean Valjean, Russell Crow as Jalvert and Anne Hathaway as Fantine, the movie is sure to hit the awards lists this season.

Mr. Wilkinson invites you to tap your toes and sing along with his two-act show that celebrates Christmas Classics, legendary Broadway selections and the music that inspires him bringing his audiences to their feet over and over again. Broadway Christmas and Beyond is truly a magical evening that only a talent such as Colm Wilkinson could create.

Christmas and Beyond – Tour Dates

Nov 24 – Belleville, ON – Empire Theatre
Nov 28 – St. Catharines, ON – Brock Centre for the Arts
Nov 29 – Guelph, ON – River Run
Dec 01 – Markham, ON – Markham Theatre
Dec 02 – Oshawa, ON – Regent Theatre
Dec 07 – Sherwood Park, AB – Festival Place
Dec 08 – Sherwood Park, AB – Festival Place
Dec 10 – Medicine Hat, AB – The Esplanade
Dec 11 – Calgary, AB – Jack Singer Concert Hall
Dec 14 – Mississauga, ON – Living Arts Centre
Dec 15 – Peterborough, ON – Showplace
Dec 18 – Hamilton, ON – Hamilton Place Theatre
Dec 21 – Ottawa, ON – Centrepointe Theatre
Dec 22 – Kingston, ON – Grand Theatre

To download a **hi-res promo photo**, please click [here](#).
Bio: visit [here](#).

website:

www.colmwilkinson.com

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