

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* WILL PLAY KANSAS CITY'S STARLIGHT THEATRE**



*Jesus Christ Superstar* will play June 20 - 25 as part of the 2023 AdventHealth Broadway Series.

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Following critically acclaimed, sold-out engagements in the UK, the reimaged 50th Anniversary tour of *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* will come to Starlight Theatre from June 20-25. The 2017 Olivier award-winning production from Regent's Park Open Air Theatre is on sale to the general public and can be purchased at [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com).

"*Jesus Christ Superstar* was all 'the buzz' when it premiered to audiences more than fifty years ago and still has the same fascination surrounding it today," Lindsey Rood-Clifford, President + C.E.O. of Starlight, said. "This show is filled with eye-catching choreography that is sure to dazzle audiences at Starlight and create a memorable show experience."

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary, a new mesmerizing production of the iconic musical phenomenon returns to the stage. Originally staged by London's Regent's Park Open Air Theatre and helmed by the acclaimed director Timothy Sheader (*Crazy for You*, *Into the Woods*) and cutting-edge choreographer Drew McOnie (*King Kong*, *Strictly Ballroom*), this production won the 2017 Olivier Award for Best Musical Revival garnering unprecedented reviews and accolades. Appealing to both theater audiences and concert music fans, this production pays tribute to the historic 1971 Billboard Album of the Year while creating a modern, theatrical world that is uniquely fresh and inspiring.

**About the Cast:**

Jack Hopewell stars as Jesus, joined by Elvie Ellis as Judas and Faith Jones as Mary. The tour also welcomes Grant Hodges as Caiphas, Nicholas Hambruch as Pilate, and Kodiak Thompson as Annas.

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The ensemble includes Ethan Hardy Benson, Joshua Bess, Jordan Wesley Brown, Jahlil M. Burke, Cooper Clack, Kalei Cotecson, Emma Cook, Lydia Eku, Savannah Fisher, Domanick Anton Hubbard, Haley Huelsman, Jeremy Makana Hurr, Brett Hennessey Jones, Lena Matthews, Hosea Mundi, L'Oréal Roaché, Colin Robertson, Darren James Robinson, Erich W. Schleck and Lauren Soto.

### **About the Creative Team:**

Featuring lyrics and music by Emmy, GRAMMY, Oscar and Tony winners Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the North American tour of this iconic musical is helmed by acclaimed director Timothy Sheader and cutting-edge choreographer Drew McOnie. Rounding out the creative team is costume design by 2016 Tony Award nominee Tom Scutt, with a set based on original designs by Tom Scutt, lighting design by Lee Curran, sound design by Keith Caggiano, with music supervision by David Holcenberg and music direction by Mark Binns.

### **About *Jesus Christ Superstar*:**

*JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* is set against the backdrop of an extraordinary series of events during the final weeks in the life of Jesus Christ, as seen through the eyes of Judas. Reflecting the rock roots that defined a generation, the legendary score includes 'I Don't Know How to Love Him,' 'Gethsemane' and 'Superstar.'

*JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* is a proven musical phenomenon with a world-wide fan base. As demonstrated by NBC's *Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert*, this epic work attracted over 9.6 million viewers, earned the highest ratings in its time period, and received the highest critical ranking of any live musical event on network TV. On September 17th, 2021, a variety of special edition *Jesus Christ Superstar* albums, remastered at Abbey Road, were released. These special anniversary editions are a celebration of the original 1970 double concept album and its continued success spanning an incredible 50 years.

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre production of *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* won the 2017 Olivier Award for Best Musical Revival, selling out two consecutive engagements in 2016 and 2017. The production played a West End engagement at the Barbican in 2019 before returning to Regent's Park Open Air Theatre in concert version during the summer of 2020.

The 2022-2023 North American Tour of *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* is produced by Work Light Productions. The original production was produced by London's Regent's Park Open Air Theatre.

For additional information about this production, please visit [ustour.JesusChristSuperstar.com](http://ustour.JesusChristSuperstar.com)

Facebook & Instagram: @JesusChristSuperstar | Twitter: @JCSTheMusical

### **How to Purchase Tickets:**

Tickets to *Jesus Christ Superstar* are on sale now and available online at [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com), by calling (816) 363-7827, or by visiting the ticket office at 4600 Starlight Road, Kansas City, Mo., 64132.

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All Broadway performances begin at 8 p.m. For more information, including show content considerations, please visit [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com). Season tickets are still available and include additional benefits like free parking, a “weatherproof” season, and more.

Discount prices for groups of 10 or more are available by contacting Starlight’s group sales department at 816-997-1137 or [groups@kcstarlight.com](mailto:groups@kcstarlight.com). Please note that [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com) is the only official ticket source for all shows in the 2023 Broadway Series. If you purchase tickets from another website or ticket broker, we cannot guarantee those tickets are legitimate.

### **About Starlight**

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts organization in Kansas City, Missouri, and connects our community through live arts experiences that entertain, inspire, and engage audiences of all ages. Offering diverse programming year-round, Starlight presents Broadway musicals, concert events, and extensive community engagement programming, including classes, scholarships, and one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation. Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, the historic, city-owned venue is the second largest outdoor producing theatre in the country with almost 8,000 seats.

Follow Starlight on social media [@kcstarlight](https://www.instagram.com/kcstarlight) and visit [kcstarlight.com](http://kcstarlight.com) for more information.

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