



For Immediate Release: January 25, 2008  
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**OLD GLOBE ANNOUNCES CASTING FOR**  
**WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL *DANCING IN THE DARK*,**  
**LED BY ACCLAIMED ACTOR SCOTT BAKULA**

**CAST ALSO FEATURES BROADWAY VETERANS PATRICK PAGE AND BETH LEAVEL**

San Diego – CEO/Executive Producer Lou Spisto of the Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to announce casting for the upcoming world-premiere musical *Dancing In The Dark*, with book by **Douglas Carter Beane** (*Xanadu*, *The Little Dog Laughed*), adapted from the screenplay by **Betty Comden and Adolph Green**, music by **Arthur Schwartz**, lyrics by **Howard Dietz**, and directed by **Gary Griffin** (*The Color Purple*), produced by Permission of **Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures, Inc.**, running in the Old Globe Theatre **March 4 – April 13**.

Golden Globe®-winner and multi Emmy®-nominated stage and screen star **Scott Bakula** (*Quantum Leap*, *American Beauty*) will play the role of “Tony Hunter.” **Patrick Page** (who just wrapped up his second season playing the title role in the Broadway production of *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*) will portray the role of “Jeffrey Cordova,” and Tony Award-winner **Beth Leavel** (*The Drowsy Chaperone*) will play “Lily” in this delightful new musical based on the classic MGM movie *The Band Wagon*.

The complete cast includes **Mara Davi** as “Gabrielle,” **Adam Heller** as “Lester,” **Benjamin Howes** as “Hal” and **Sebastian LaCause** as “Paul.” Ensemble members include: **Clyde Alves**, **Rachel Coloff**, **Dylis Croman**, **Nicolas Dromard**, **Cara Kjellman**, **Adam Perry**, **Eric Santagata**, **Kiira Schmidt**, **Jacob Ben Widmar**, **Branch Woodman** and **Ashley Yeater**.

*Dancing In The Dark* revolves around Tony Hunter, a Hollywood star with a career on the wane, and Jeffrey Cordova, a Shakespearean actor-manager with a taste for high art. Together they team up with a diverse assortment of theatrical personalities to create a new musical that’s strictly “entertainment.” With a delightful Arthur Schwartz/Howard Dietz score packed with such classics as “A Shine on Your Shoes,” that quintessential ode to show business “That’s Entertainment!,” and the title song, “Dancing in the Dark” – made famous by Fred Astaire and Cyd Charisse in the film’s memorable dance sequence – this world-premiere musical comedy will have audiences dancing in the aisles!

### **Scott Bakula (“Tony Hunter”)**

Consistently recognized for his stellar work across a variety of mediums, versatile Hollywood everyman Scott Bakula continues to grace the stage and screen with his dashing good looks and charm, cherished by his actor peers and fans alike. On tap for Bakula this year is an episode of the Emmy-winning drama “Boston Legal,” airing February 12th on ABC, and a five-episode season run on Showtime’s newest entry, “State of Mind,” the latest sketch comedy endeavor from Tracey Ullman. The half-hour comedy, which takes a satirical look into the daily life of America, features Bakula as ‘Chris Fulbright’ and premieres March 30th at 10pm. Over the past couple of years, Bakula has been busy on the small screen and returning to his roots on the stage. Last fall he finished a critically acclaimed run in Jane Anderson’s *Quality of Life* at the Geffen Playhouse; the previous spring, he appeared in the Reprise! Broadway’s Best production of *No Strings* at UCLA’s Freud Playhouse, all after garnering great reviews for his starring turn in the Tony Award-winning musical *Shenandoah* at the Ford’s Theater in Washington, DC. Before that, Bakula served a four-year charge as ‘Captain Jonathan Archer’ in “Star Trek: Enterprise,” the fifth installment in the “Star Trek” television franchise. For his work on “Enterprise,” Bakula garnered a People’s Choice Nomination for “Favorite Male Performer in a New Television Series” as ‘Captain Archer,’ the physical and intensely curious leader who wasn’t afraid to follow his gut. USA Today stated, “The crew is led by SCOTT BAKULA as ‘Captain Jonathan Archer’ – a character perfectly in tune with the kind of regular-Joe heroes Bakula plays best: smart but not brilliant; handsome but not glamorous; strong but not overpowering!” Bakula is best known for his five-year stint on the innovative series “Quantum Leap.” His performance brought him a Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Drama Series, four Emmy Award nominations, three more Golden Globe Award nominations, and he was honored an unprecedented five times by the Viewers for Quality Television. Today, “Quantum Leap.” remains one of the most popular series in syndication around the world. There is also a “Quantum Leap.” album available on Crescendo Records, which features songs performed by Bakula in several episodes of the series. The complete series of “Quantum Leap” as well as “Star Trek: Enterprise” on DVD are in stores now. Bakula has also won praise for his work in a variety of feature film roles, including New Line Cinema’s LIFE AS A HOUSE, which was directed and co-produced by Academy Award-winner Irwin Winkler; the independent film *Ghost of a Chance*; 1999’s Oscar-winning Best Picture *American Beauty*; the supernatural thriller *Lord of Illusions*, written and directed by Clive Barker; Warner Bros' *Major League: Back to the Minors*; New Line Cinema's *Mi Familia/My Family*, Hollywood Pictures' *Color of Night* opposite Bruce Willis; the psychological thriller *A Passion to Kill*; and Paramount's football comedy *Necessary Roughness*. He made his feature film debut in 1990 starring opposite Kirstie Alley in Castle Rock's comedy *Sibling Rivalry* for director Carl Reiner. Alternating between film and television, Bakula has appeared in the CBS landmark comedies “Designing Women” and “Murphy Brown,” the Showtime mini-series “It’s A Girl Thing,” “The Invaders” mini-series for FOX, the ABC mini-series “Tom Clancy’s Net Force,” the Showtime telefilm “Mean Streak,” and CBS’s “Bachelor’s Baby,” executive produced by Bakula through his production company. Scott also pulled double duty in the CBS Movie of the Week “Papa’s Angels” and the Showtime original Picture “What Girls Learn,” starring and producing both telefilms. Last year, Bakula appeared in the CBS comedy “The New Adventures of Old Christine” and in the Lifetime movie adaptation of Nora Robert’s best-selling book “Blue Smoke. Born in St. Louis, Bakula moved to New York in 1976 where he pursued his first love, the theatre.

In 1988, Bakula was honored with a Tony nomination for his starring role in the Broadway musical *Romance/Romance*. Before that, Scott made his Broadway debut as 'Joe DiMaggio' in "Marilyn: An American Fable." His other theatre credits include the critically acclaimed off-Broadway and Los Angeles productions of "Three Guys Naked from the Waist Down" and the Los Angeles and Boston productions of "Nite Club Confidential." Bakula's singing prowess has afforded him some special opportunities. He has performed at Carnegie Hall, twice at the Kennedy Center Honors, and on several occasions at the Hollywood Bowl. In the Warner Bros animated musical "Cat's Don't Dance," he created the acting and singing voice for 'Danny' the cat.

### **Patrick Page ("Jeffrey Cordova")**

Actor/Playwright Patrick Page has been acclaimed on Broadway for his roles as the "Grinch" in Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, "Scar" in *The Lion King* and "Lumière" in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. Other Broadway credits include *The Kentucky Cycle* and *Julius Caesar*. Off-Broadway he has appeared in *Richard II* at the Public Theatre and *Rex* at the York Theater Company. At the Shakespeare Theatre he played the title role in *Macbeth* and "Iago" in *Othello*. Additional regional theater credits include the Long Wharf Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Missouri Repertory Theatre and Utah Shakespeare Festival, among others. In 2006 his play *Swansong* was among those featured at the Summer Play Festival in New York City.

### **Beth Leavel ("Lily")**

Beth Leavel made her Broadway debut in the 1980 production of *42nd Street* as a replacement for "Annie." She later appeared in *Crazy for You* as "Tess" and in *The Civil War* as "Mabel" and "Mrs. Bixby." She returned to the revival of *42nd Street* in 2001 as a standby for "Maggie Jones" and "Dorothy Brock." In 2006, Leavel starred as "Beatrice Stockwell" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Her performance garnered the 2006 Tony and Drama Desk Awards for Best Featured Actress in a Musical.

### **Douglas Carter Beane (Book)**

Douglas Carter Beane's works include the screenplays for *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*; *Advice from a Caterpillar* (Best Film, Aspen Comedy Festival; Best Feature, Toyota Comedy Festival); and the upcoming *Skinner's Eddy*. His plays include *The Little Dog Laughed* (Tony Award nomination), *As Bees in Honey Drown* (Outer Critics Circle Award, John Gassner Playwriting Award; Drama Desk Award nomination), *The Country Club* (LA Times Critic's Choice and Dramalogue Awards), *Music from a Sparkling Planet: Advice from a Caterpillar* (Outer Critics Circle Award nomination), *White Lies*, *Devil May Care* and *Old Money*. Beane also wrote the book for a stage musical adaptation of the 1980 film *Xanadu*, which is currently playing to great critical and audience acclaim on Broadway. His new musical, *The Big Time* (with music and lyrics by Douglas J. Cohen), was recently produced by the Drama Dept Theater Company, where he serves as Artistic Director.

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### **Howard Dietz (Lyricist) and Arthur Schwartz (Composer)**

Howard Dietz and Arthur Schwartz formed a popular songwriting team in the 1930s. They began their association in 1929 when they teamed up for the Broadway revue *The Little Show*. They collaborated again with *The Second Little Show*, *Three's a Crowd*, *Flying Colors*, *Revenge with Music*, *At Home Abroad* and *Between the Devil*. They had a major success with the movie musical *The Band Wagon* in 1931, which introduced one of their best-known songs, *Dancing in the Dark*. Other hits included *Alone Together*, *You and the Night and the Music*, *That's Entertainment*, *I Love Louisa*, *I See Your Face Before Me*, and *Love Is a Dancing Thing*. During the war years, Dietz served as editor of Navy Life magazine and assisted the U.S. Treasury Department with the promotion of War Bonds, while creating stage shows for the Coast Guard with composer Vernon Duke. Schwartz concentrated his efforts on Hollywood, writing music and producing such films as *Cover Girl* and *Night and Day*. He returned to Broadway with the revue *Inside USA* and in 1951 with *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. Dietz and Schwartz resumed their partnership in the 1960s with musicals *The Gay Life* and *Jennie*.

### **Gary Griffin (Director)**

Gary Griffin made his Broadway debut with the hit musical *The Color Purple*. Also in New York, Griffin has directed *The Apple Tree*, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, *Pardon My English* and *The New Moon* for City Center Encores and *Beautiful Thing* at the Cherry Lane Theatre. His production of *Pacific Overtures* was seen at London's Donmar Warehouse and received the Olivier Award for Outstanding Musical Production. He is Associate Artistic Director of the Chicago Shakespeare Theatre where he has directed *A Little Night Music* and *Sunday in the Park with George*. His production of *My Fair Lady* played at the McCarter Theatre and Hartford Stage last season after its debut at Chicago's Court Theatre. He has received eight Joseph Jefferson Awards and has twice been named a "Chicagoan of the Year in the Arts" by the Chicago Tribune.

Tickets are available through subscription by calling **(619) 23-GLOBE**, online at [www.TheOldGlobe.org](http://www.TheOldGlobe.org), or by visiting The Old Globe Box Office at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Individual tickets go on sale Sunday, January 27 at 10am.

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*The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award® -winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 72 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.*

*Highlights of the Globe's 2007/2008 Season include the world premiere musical, A Catered Affair, written by Harvey Fierstein and John Bucchino, the West Coast Premiere of Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's Oscar and the Pink Lady, the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, In This Corner, by Steven Drukman, Howard Korder's Sea of Tranquility, as well as the world-premieres of Dancing in the Dark and Beethoven, As I Knew Him. Under the leadership of CEO/Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto and Co-Artistic Directors Jerry Patch and Darko Tresnjak, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.*