

THE PUBLIC THEATER TO OFFER FREE TICKETS FOR *AN EVENING WITH STING*

PERFORMING SONGS FROM HIS
NEW ALBUM, *THE LAST SHIP*,
FOR THE FIRST AND ONLY TIME
SEPTEMBER 25-OCTOBER 9

Limited Number of Benefit Tickets Still Available

September 16, 2013 – For the first and only time, **Sting** will perform songs from his new album, *The Last Ship*, over 10 concerts to benefit The Public Theater. The Public will offer a limited number of **FREE** tickets via a lottery system for *AN EVENING WITH STING*, **September 25 through October 9** at 8:00 p.m.

As part of The Public's ongoing commitment to accessibility and affordable programming, these free tickets will be distributed the day of each performance at The Public Theater via a lottery system. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., persons can enter the lottery by filling out an entry card with their name and indicating if they want one or two tickets. If two tickets are requested, both attendees must be present. At 6:00 p.m., the lottery winners' names will be selected. All winners must be present at the time of the drawing. Entry cards will not be given out before 5:30 p.m. and the winners will be selected via random lottery. A minimum of 10 free tickets will be given out at each performance, excluding the special Sting.com fan club concert on October 2.

An evening of music and storytelling with one of the world's most prolific artists, these benefit performances to support The Public Theater will offer unique insight into the creative process of both his new album, *The Last Ship*, to be released September 24, and his forthcoming play of the same name, premiering on Broadway in 2014.

Sting also has a long tradition of hosting special events for members of his official fan club. 100 Sting.com Fan Club members have been selected via lottery, to receive free tickets to attend a very special concert in celebration of Sting's birthday on Wednesday, October 2 at The Public Theater.

A limited number of benefit tickets are still available for sale at <http://www.publictheater.org>, by calling **(212) 967-7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street. Tickets at the top tier to include VIP seating and a pre-show meet and greet with Sting.

On September 24, Sting will release a new album of original material entitled *The Last Ship*. Drawing inspiration from the shipbuilding community of Wallsend in the North East of England where he was born and raised, Sting has crafted both an entire world and a close-knit community of original characters. In celebration of the album, these intimate benefit concerts at The Public Theater will reveal Sting's influences behind the album through storytelling and visual projections paying homage to the traditional

roots of the North East of England, with music from pub-like folk tunes to a wall of sound from Sting's full band, many of whose members also hail from the North East.

ABOUT STING

Composer, singer, author, actor, activist – Sting was born in Newcastle, England before moving to London in 1977 to form The Police with Stewart Copeland and Andy Summers. The band released five albums, earned six Grammy awards, and in 2003 was inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Since 1985, Sting has released 13 solo albums. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of his solo career, *25 Years*, the definitive box set collection and the double disc, *The Best Of 25 Years* were released. *Sting 25*, the free iPad APP, which was awarded the prestigious Cannes Lion for Best Design/Aesthetic at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity, is also now available on iTunes and features exclusive all-star performances from his 60th birthday benefit concert, plus rare interviews, photos, music videos, and more. Sting has sold nearly 100 million albums from his combined work with the Police and as a solo artist and has earned an additional 10 Grammy awards, a Golden Globe, an Emmy, and three Oscar nominations. Additional information available at www.sting.com; for press materials, including high-resolution photos, please visit: <http://www.sting.com/PR>.

ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER AT ASTOR PLACE

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public Theater is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare, the classics, musicals, contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. The Public continues the work of its visionary founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force, and leading and framing dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for nearly 60 years, today the Company engages audiences in a variety of venues—including its landmark downtown home at Astor Place, which houses five theaters and Joe's Pub; the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, home to its beloved, free Shakespeare in the Park; and the Mobile Unit, which tours Shakespearean productions for underserved audiences throughout New York City's five boroughs. The Public's wide range of programming includes free Shakespeare in the Park, the bedrock of the Company's dedication to making theater accessible to all, new and experimental stagings at The Public at Astor Place, and a range of artist and audience development initiatives including its Public Forum series, which brings together theater artists and professionals from a variety of disciplines for discussions that shed light on social issues explored in Public productions. The Public Theater is located on property owned by the City of New York and receives annual support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; and in October 2012 the landmark building downtown at Astor Place was revitalized to physically manifest the Company's core mission of sparking new dialogues and increasing accessibility for artists and audiences, by dramatically opening up the building to the street and community, and transforming the lobby into a public piazza for artists, students, and audiences. Key elements of the revitalization included infrastructure updates to the 158-year old building, as well as construction of new exterior entry stair and glass canopy; installation of ramps for improved accessibility; an expanded and refurbished lobby; the addition of a mezzanine level with a new lounge, The Library at The Public, designed by the Rockwell Group. The LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust provides leadership support for The Public Theater's year-round activities. www.publictheater.org

TICKET INFORMATION

LOTTERY INFORMATION: A limited number of free seats will be distributed the day of each performance via a lottery system. Entries will be taken between 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. each performance day, excluding October 2, with a drawing beginning at 6:00 p.m. in The Public Theater lobby. Entry cards will not be given out before 5:30 p.m. so there is no need to come early since the distribution is all via a random lottery. If a person wants two tickets, both attendees must be present to win. A minimum of 10 tickets will be given out via the lottery each performance day, excluding October 2.

BENEFIT TICKETS: A limited number of benefit tickets are still available at <http://www.publictheater.org>, by calling **(212) 967-7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at 425 Lafayette Street. Benefit prices start at \$500, with tickets at the top tier to include VIP seating and a pre-show meet and greet with Sting. Benefit tickets are tax deductible for US residents. All performances begin at 8:00 p.m.

BIRTHDAY CONCERT: 100 Sting.com Fan Club members will receive free tickets, distributed via a lottery, to a birthday celebration concert on Wednesday, October 2. For details, please visit www.sting.com.

The Public Theater at Astor Place is located at 425 Lafayette Street. For more information, visit www.publictheater.org

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