



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Broadway Tony Award-winning, laugh-out-loud musical  
*Avenue Q* is back and to be staged at Marina Bay Sands**

*Tickets are now on sale!*

**Singapore, July 23rd 2012** – Hilarious and uproariously entertaining, with songs performed by a cast of hugely talented performers and adult-minded puppets, *Avenue Q* is a musical like no other. Critically acclaimed and ranked as one of Broadway's longest running shows, *Avenue Q* brings colourful and quirky characters, both human and puppet, together to play out the difficulties in adjusting to early adult life. Part flesh, part felt and packed with heart, the highly entertaining musical will be staged at the Grand Theater, Marina Bay Sands from 27 September to 7 October 2012. Brought to you by MediaCorp VizPro International and BASE Entertainment Asia, tickets are now on sale.

*Avenue Q*'s characters are a broad sampling of New York City's outer borough denizens, mostly young people and nearly a dozen puppets with human problems. Audiences will meet PRINCETON the fresh-faced college graduate, BRIAN the out of work comedian, TREKKIE an internet porn addict, NICK the good-hearted slacker, ROD the Republican, KATE the kindergarten teaching assistant and LUCY the Slut (need we say more?) and other colourful types.

Chari Arespacochaga, the director of *Avenue Q* says, "Yes, the hilarious puppets are back along with the rest of the gang on Avenue Q!!!! We are thrilled that AVENUE Q will once again be delighting audiences in Singapore. The show was last in Singapore in 2008 after multiple hit runs in Manila. The audiences all loved it then and the clamor never stopped. So here we are again. Get ready for a rollicking good time at the theater."

The story follows Princeton, a wide-eyed college graduate who moves into a shabby New York apartment all the way out on *Avenue Q*, as he desperately tries to follow his dreams and discover his ever-elusive purpose in life. A tiny bank balance, the distraction of a busty blonde, and a variety of weird and wonderful friends and neighbours lead Princeton on a story of self-discovery, along the way realising fundamental truths about life – such as that "Everyone's a Little Bit Racist" and really, the Internet is just for porn. The

show is hilariously funny, a bit rude and perfect for anyone who has ever wondered just how you are meant to pay the bills with a Bachelor of Arts in English.

**“SWEETLY SATIRIC and SURPRISINGLY FRESH!”**

The New York Times

The **Avenue Q** puppets require unusually sturdy construction, with double-stitching, reinforced seams, steel boning, and custom fake fur and feathers, is necessitated by the rigors of an eight-shows-per-week performance schedule. Three distinct types of puppets are used in the show:

- Single-Rod Puppets
- Double-Rod Puppets
- Live-Hands Puppets

**“...the furrriest, and one of the funniest, shows you’re likely to ever see”**

Entertainment Weekly

The Singapore run of the show is directed by Bobby Garcia and Chari Arespachoga with music direction by MANUEL ANGSICO III. It features a cast of veteran actors and newcomers including NOEL RAYOS (Princeton/Rod), RACHEL ALEJANDRO (Kate/Lucy), BIBO REYES (Trekkie/Nicky), ANNA FEGLI (Christmas Eve), (Nicky), Pheona Baranda (Mrs. T), OJ MARIANO (Gary Coleman). Set & Costume Design by MIO INFANTE, Lighting Design is by JAY ARANDA.

**Avenue Q** is the result of a collaboration between Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, who began writing the show in 1999, originally thinking the idea would make a great TV series. Three years later it opened off-Broadway, and after extending four times at the Vineyard Theatre following rave reviews, it transferred to Broadway.

After opening at the Golden Theatre in 2003, Avenue Q scooped the 2003 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding New Musical, and in 2004 the show won three Tony Awards for Best New Musical, Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score. In 2006, **Avenue Q** travelled across the Atlantic, opening in London’s West End at the Noel Coward Theatre (formerly the Albery Theatre). Whilst in the West End, Avenue Q also enjoyed residencies at the Gielgud Theatre and Wyndham’s Theatre, where it ran until October 2010 ahead of the first UK tour in 2011.

**Avenue Q** has music and lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, book by Jeff Whitty, based on an original concept by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx; and directed by Directed by Bobby Garcia and Chari Arespachoga.

The puppets are conceived and designed by Rick Lyon. Music arrangement and orchestrations are by Stephen Oremus with musical supervision by Nick Finlow and incidental music by Gary Adler. Choreography is by Ken Roberson. Avenue Q's scenic design is by Anna Louizos, costume design by Mirena Rada, lighting design by Howell Binkley and Associate Lighting Designer Ryan O’Gara, with sound design by Terry Jardine for Autograph.

**“Avenue Q is, simply, two hours of pure joy...”**

Playbill.com

Take a trip down to **Avenue Q!** from 27 September to 7 October 2012 at the Grand Theater, Marina Bay Sands.

**AVENUE Q THE MUSICAL – TICKETING AND TOUR INFORMATION**

Day/Times	VIP	A Reserve	B Reserve	C Reserve	D Reserve
27 Sep to 7 October 2012  Tues – Fri 8.00pm Sat & Sun 2.00pm and 8.00pm	\$150	\$125	\$105	\$85	\$55

- Excludes the booking Fee of SGD\$3 per ticket
- Advisory 16 and above (Some Mature Content and Homosexual References)
- “Avenue Q has not been authorized or approved by the Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content.”

**FOR TICKET BOOKINGS:**

**THROUGH INTERNET:**

[www.BASEentertainmentasia.com](http://www.BASEentertainmentasia.com) or [www.MarinaBaySands.com/Ticketing](http://www.MarinaBaySands.com/Ticketing)

**BY PHONE:** 6688 8826

**BOOK IN PERSON AT:** Marina Bay Sands Box Offices (Museum, Theaters, SkyPark, Retail Mall and Hotel Tower 1 and 3 Lobby). For more information please log onto -

For VIP, Hotel and Dining Packages visit [www.showbizasia.com](http://www.showbizasia.com). Corporate and Group Bookings are available via Showbiz. Email: [corporate@showbizasia.com](mailto:corporate@showbizasia.com) or call **6688 1029**

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**ABOUT BASE ENTERTAINMENT**

BASE Entertainment specializes in the development, production, programming and management of live entertainment properties and theatre operations. BASE develops, produces and manages intellectual properties which reach audiences through various platforms, including live, digital, broadcast and licensing. BASE Entertainment founders include Brian Becker and Scott Zeiger, who have 45 years combined experience in the live entertainment industry. The company has offices in Singapore, New York, Las Vegas, and Houston. Since their Asia office opened in Singapore in 2010 Base Entertainment has brought a wide array of live entertainment to Singapore’s Marina Bay Sands’ two theaters, including Disney’s The Lion King, Riverdance, A R Rahman, Thriller Live, Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber, Cirque ÉloizeID, Bar at Buena Vista, The Imperial Ice Stars productions of Swan Lake on Ice, Disney Live, Abbamania, The Illusionists, The Wiggles, Oz Rocks featuring James Reyne& Mark Seymour, A Chorus Line, TRAIN, Gazillion Bubble Show, One Night of Queen, Slava’sSnowshow, ANNIE, Cesar Millan Live and most recently BASE was the local presenter of WICKED. For more information, please visit [www.BASEentertainmentAsia.com](http://www.BASEentertainmentAsia.com)

**Media contacts**

Amanda Osborne	(+65) 9046 7009	<a href="mailto:amanda@baseentertainmentasia.com">amanda@baseentertainmentasia.com</a>
Kimberly Mah	(+65) 6324 2504 / (+65) 9871 7187	<a href="mailto:kmah@fulfordpr.com">kmah@fulfordpr.com</a>
Khew Shu Ping	(+65) 6324 2260 / (+65) 9012 6194	<a href="mailto:spkhew@fulfordpr.com">spkhew@fulfordpr.com</a>

**ABOUT MEDIACORP VIZPRO INTERNATIONAL PTE LTD**

MediaCorpVizPro International Pte Ltd has more than 10 years of experience in managing and organising many successful entertainment and MICE events. We specialise in Kids & Family musicals, Western & Asian

concerts and Dance & Action shows. We have a professional, creative and passionate team of experts who can help you to reach and engage your specific target audience and propel your event into the spotlight. MediaCorpVizPro International also provides a one-stop event management service that includes consultation, conceptualisation and planning, project management and logistics support, creative design and production for event collaterals and integrated marketing and execution.

MediaCorpVizPro International Pte Ltd is a MediaCorp enterprise. MediaCorp is Singapore's leading media company with the most complete range of platforms, spanning television, radio, newspapers, magazines, movies, digital and out-of-home media. MediaCorp has over 50 products and brands in four languages (English, Mandarin, Malay and Tamil), including online classifieds, Internet TV-on-demand and High Definition TV broadcast. Winner of numerous international awards and accolades, including Asian Television Awards' Terrestrial Broadcaster of the Year, MediaCorp's vision is to become Asia's top media company, delivering valued content to the world.

**Media contact:**

Carol Wee - carolwee@mediacorp.com.sg

**ABOUT MARINA BAY SANDS**

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit [www.marinabaysands.com](http://www.marinabaysands.com)

**Media contacts**

Sarina Pushkarna (+65) 9298 5728/ Sarina.Pushkarna@marinabaysands.com

Gayathri Ramasamy (+65) 8468 6992/ Gayathri.Ramasamy@marinabaysands.com