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HOWL’S MOVING CASTLE:
A Fresh Take on a Book-It Favorite

[Seattle, Wash., October 11, 2019]—Book-It Repertory Theatre is proud to announce the return of their smash hit musical *Howl’s Moving Castle*, adapted from the novel by celebrated fantasist **Diana Wynne Jones.** Adapted and directed by **Myra Platt** with original music & lyrics by **Justin Huertas** and musical arrangements & orchestrations by **Steven Tran**, *Howl’s Moving Castle* plays November 29 – December 29, 2019 (**Opening/Press Night on Saturday, November 30**) at **The Center Theatre**.

*Howl’s Moving Castle* was Book-It’s first full-scale musical production and attracted crowds from across the Pacific Northwest in 2017. It introduces audiences to the fantastical land of Ingary and to Sophie Hatter, a dutiful eldest child, who believes her destiny has been determined for her – she’ll take over the family hat shop and leave adventuring to her little sisters. Until she’s hit with a curse by the Witch of the Waste, that is. When she seeks refuge in the dread Wizard Howl’s castle, she finds unlikely allies, and friends, in the sorcerer, his fire demon, and a lovesick apprentice, who help Sophie realize that she has the power to decide her own fate.

This remount has given Platt and Huertas the chance to revisit Ingary and sharpen their storytelling. “It’s always fun to bring back a show where the response was so incredible and audiences lined up to get in,” says Platt. “We’ve been asking ourselves new questions about what the world is and how much of the story stays or goes and what wants to blossom. And we are having a blast incorporating some new, exciting ideas.” Huertas adds, “Expect the unexpected when it comes to music. Between the brand new songs I’m writing, Steven Tran’s beautiful work on the score, and our incredibly talented music director **Elisa Money**’s keen ear, this will indeed be a fresh take on the magic of Ingary.”

Returning cast members include **Randall Scott Carpenter** as Michael Fisher/Ensemble, **Rachel Guyer-Mafune** as Sophie Hatter and **Tyler Rogers** as Percival/Ensemble. New cast members include **Andi Alhadeff** as Witch of the Waste/Ensemble, **Nicholas Japaul Bernard** as Howl/Ensemble, **Varinique Davis** as Martha Hatter/Ensemble, **Adam Fontana** as Calcifer/Ensemble, **Alyssa Keene** as Fanny Hatter/Ensemble, and **Fawn Ledesma** as Lettie Hatter/Ensemble.

The design team includes scenic design by **Christopher Mumaw**, lighting design by **Andrew D. Smith**, costume design by **Jocelyn Fowler**, and properties design by **Robin Macartney**. **Jimmy Shields** is the choreographer, **Andrea Kovich** is the dramaturg, and **Gin Hammond** is the dialect coach. Performance tickets range from $26 to $50 with group rates available. $20 tickets will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at book-it.org or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box office is open Tues. through Fri., 12p.m. – 5p.m., located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

**ABOUT BOOK-IT REPERTORY THEATRE**

Book-It Repertory Theatre, a leader in the narrative theatre movement, was founded in 1990. Book-It is a non-profit organization with a dedication to great literature and quality theatre experiences employing simple, sensitive and imaginative production techniques, and to inspiring its audiences to read.

**FOR CALENDAR EDITORS**

In the fantastical land of Ingary, being the eldest of three means your destiny has already been decided. Or so Sophie Hatter believed, until she was hit by a curse from the Witch of the Waste. When she seeks refuge in the dread Wizard Howl’s castle, she finds unlikely allies, and friends, in the sorcerer, his fire demon, and a lovesick apprentice, who help Sophie realize that she has the power to decide her own fate. Book-It’s smash-hit musical is back and more magical than ever.

**WHEN:** Preview: Friday, Nov 29

 Opening: Saturday, Nov 30

 Closing: Sunday, Dec 29

**TIMES:** Wednesday-Saturday—7:30p.m. (Matinees on Dec 4, 11, 14, 21, 27, 28. No evening on Dec 11, no performances on Dec 25) and Sundays—2p.m.

**WHERE:** The Center Theatre (305 Harrison St., Seattle, WA 98109)

**TICKETS:** Performance tickets range from $26 to $50 with group rates and rush tickets available. $20 tickets will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at book-it.org or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box office is open Tues. through Fri., 12p.m. – 5p.m., located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

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