



**Media Contact: Kevin Lohmann**  
klohmann@sdrep.org | 619.231.3586 x 613  
For Immediate Release

## **HERSHEY FELDER TO PERFORM 'HERSHEY FELDER AS IRVING BERLIN' LIVE FROM FLORENCE, ITALY TO BENEFIT THEATRES ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

**San Diego, CA – April 27, 2020 - San Diego Repertory Theatre** (San Diego REP) and **Hershey Felder Presents** announced today the details of a one-time-only live streaming musical event to benefit San Diego REP, among other theatres. On **Sunday, May 10**, Mother's Day, at **5PM PDT**, renowned performer **Hershey Felder** will present his one-man show, ***Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin***, streamed live from Florence, Italy. Tickets are \$50 per household and are available for purchase now at [sdrep.org](http://sdrep.org). Says Hershey Felder:

"Over the past 25 years, the stages of many theatres across the United States have been my home for eleven out of twelve months each year. Yet, for the first time in all these years, I find myself at that elusive "home," here in Florence, Italy. As otherworldly as it is here, I am still drawn to the many theatres that have given me homes over the years, and so together we have created a nationwide event paying tribute to America's greatest songwriter, Irving Berlin. Proceeds from this event will benefit each of the many participating theatres throughout the nation.

To present this event, we have recreated here in Florence, the set of Irving Berlin's home on Beekman Place in Manhattan, and we have a film crew that has been safe and in quarantine here in Florence. If you've seen the production some time ago, there is some new additional material that speaks to our times, as well as a few surprises. Because audiences always request the now infamous "audience encore," we have even made it possible for you to ask your questions by cellphone; text directly to me during the encore section, and I will answer live, just as I do in the theatre."

For more information on how to view *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*, streamed live, visit [sdrep.org/irving](http://sdrep.org/irving).

For the first time ever, audience favorite Hershey Felder comes to you with a live stream from Florence, Italy with his hit production of *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin!* Even if you don't know Irving Berlin by name, you've heard plenty of his songs: "God Bless America," "White Christmas," "Easter Parade" "Puttin' on the Ritz," "There's No Business Like Show Business" — the list goes on and on. Now you have the opportunity to experience the quintessential American composer through the performance of an immensely talented actor, pianist and playwright. Felder has previously performed as George Gershwin, Beethoven and Chopin, and in *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*, he takes on the role of one of America's most prolific and iconic composers. Felder's masterful creation of character and performance features Berlin's songs performed by Felder, as well as stories about Berlin's life and how he created the music we still love today. Don't miss this memorable show — hailed as "richly entertaining and ultimately touching" and a critics' pick by the *Los Angeles Times*.

### **About San Diego Repertory Theatre**

San Diego Repertory Theatre (San Diego REP) produces intimate, provocative and inclusive theatre. Founded in 1976, San Diego Repertory Theatre is downtown San Diego's resident theatre, promoting

an interconnected community through vivid works that nourish progressive political and social values and celebrates the multiple voices of our region. The company produces and hosts over 550 events and performances year-round on its three stages at the Lyceum Theatre. Since moving to the Lyceum, The REP has produced 54 main stage productions by Latino playwrights, and more than 45 world premieres. The company has received more than 200 awards for artistic excellence from the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle, Patté Theatre Awards, NAACP, Backstage West, Dramalogue and StageSceneLA. In 2005, the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle presented The REP with the Craig Noel Award "For 30 Years of Artistic Dedication to Downtown and Diversity." San Diego Repertory Theatre feeds the curious soul. To learn more about San Diego Repertory Theatre, to purchase tickets, or make a donation, visit [sdrep.org](http://sdrep.org). Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (@SanDiegoREP).

XXX