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For Immediate Release

**Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone* to be streamed live from Florence, Italy  
on Sunday, September 13 benefitting US arts organizations**

**San Diego, CA – August 11, 2020 - San Diego Repertory Theatre** (San Diego REP) and **Hershey Felder Presents** announced today the details of **Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone*, streamed live from Florence, Italy.** Following up the successful live streams of *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin* and *Hershey Felder: Beethoven*, acclaimed performer **Hershey Felder** will present his one-man show, **Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone*** streamed live on **Sunday, September 13 at 5 PM PDT.** Tickets are \$55 per household and are available for purchase at [sdrep.org/gershwin](http://sdrep.org/gershwin) or 619.544.1000.

*George Gershwin Alone* has had over 3000 performances worldwide, including Broadway, London's West End, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Diego, San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington DC, and more. As with his previous live stream performances, this production will benefit national US theatres and arts organizations.

*George Gershwin Alone* tells the story of America's great composer, who with the groundbreaking "A Rhapsody in Blue," made a "Lady out of Jazz." The show incorporates the composer's best-known songs from *The Man I Love* and *Someone to Watch Over Me*, through the hits of *An American In Paris* and *Porgy and Bess*, to a complete performance of "Rhapsody In Blue." As the only actor-musician to create the role of George Gershwin on the stage, and with over three-thousand performances, from California to Broadway to London's West End, for the first time, Hershey Felder will bring George Gershwin to life in a live streamed broadcast from Florence, Italy. *Hershey Felder as George Gershwin Alone* is produced by Hershey Felder Presents: LIVE FROM FLORENCE.

George Gershwin was born in 1898 to Russian-Jewish immigrant parents in Brooklyn. Together, he and his brother Ira wrote standards such as "The Man I Love," "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Embraceable You," "Fascinating Rhythm," "I Got Rhythm," "S Wonderful" and "They Can't Take That Away from Me." His groundbreaking opera, *Porgy and Bess*, is now considered an American classic. All told, George Gershwin wrote more than 1,000 songs for the stage and screen as well as works for the opera house and the symphony orchestra. In 1937, Gershwin died of an undiagnosed brain tumor at the age of 38, never knowing how famous and beloved he and his work would become.

Hershey Felder as *George Gershwin Alone* features the music and lyrics of **George Gershwin** and **Ira Gershwin**, with a book by Felder. The production is directed by **Stefano de Carli** and Felder, adapted from the stage play directed by **Joel Zwick**. The Associate Director is **Trevor Hay**. Scenic design is by **Hershey Felder**. Film production and-live editing is by the **DeCarli Live film company**. Live broadcast and Sound design production are by **Erik Carstensen**. **Meghan Maiya** is Special Projects and Broadcast Projects Director.

For tickets and more information on how to view Hershey Felder in *George Gershwin Alone*, streamed live, visit [sdrep.org/gershwin](http://sdrep.org/gershwin).

### **About Hershey Felder**

Named to Time Magazine's 2016 Top 10 Plays and Musicals, Hershey Felder has played over 6,000 performances of his self-created solo productions at some of the world's most prestigious theatres and has broken box office records consistently. American Theatre Magazine has said, "Hershey Felder is in a category all his own." His shows include: *George Gershwin Alone* (Broadway's Helen Hayes Theatre, West End's Duchess Theatre); *Monsieur Chopin*; *Beethoven*; *Maestro* (Leonard Bernstein); *Franz Liszt in Musik*, *Lincoln: An American Story*, *Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin*, *Our Great Tchaikovsky*, and *A Paris Love Story*. His compositions and recordings include *Aliyah*, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*; *Fairytale*, a musical; *Les Anges de Paris*, *Suite for Violin and Piano*; *Song Settings*; *Saltimbanques for Piano and Orchestra*; *Etudes Thematiques for Piano*; and *An American Story for Actor and Orchestra*. Hershey is the adaptor, director and designer for the internationally performed play-with-music *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* with Steinway artist Mona Golabek; producer and designer for the musical *Louis and Keely: 'Live' at the Sahara*, directed by Taylor Hackford; and writer and director for *Flying Solo*, featuring opera legend Nathan Gunn. Upcoming projects include *Anna and Sergei*, a new play featuring the music of Sergei Rachmaninoff, as well as a new musical based on the award-winning book *Out on a Ledge* by Eva Libitzky. Hershey has operated a full-service production company since 2001, and in 2020 created a new brand LIVE FROM FLORENCE, that operates a "theatre at home broadcast company," based in Florence, Italy. He has been a scholar-in-residence at Harvard University's Department of Music and is married to Kim Campbell, the first female Prime Minister of Canada.

### **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).

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