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## HOBOKEN TO HOLLYWOOD - EXTENDS ONCE MORE

Jan – 11 2011

The hottest, fun-est, swingiest musical show of 2010 has become a phenomenal smash hit and due to massive popular demand has been extended *once more*, through **February 27, 2011**. Adding fifteen performances next month, *Hoboken to Hollywood* is currently playing at the **Edgemar Centre for the Arts** in Santa Monica and is *not to be missed!*

Written by performer **Luca Ellis**, musical director and trumpet player **Paul Litteral** and **Jeremy Aldridge**, (the latter who also directs) *Hoboken to Hollywood: A Journey Through the Great American Songbook* is so much more than a superb evening of some of the best music ever composed. This musical play is set up as a behind-the-scenes insight into the taping of a television special, circa 1964, as we, the audience, are treated as a studio audience. Onstage, performing and live-taping the TV show, along with his killer 12-piece orchestra, is "That Famous Crooner From Hoboken" (a singer who is never named, but is clearly based on the legendary **Frank Sinatra**).

During the course of the television taping, a second assistant director named Andy (Pat Towne) experiences a professional coming of age when he is suddenly thrust into the role of Floor Manager. At first, Andy is a quivering mass of nerves and mistakes. Suffering withering criticism from the show's professional, perfectionist star, invariably Andy rises to the challenge, giving us, the audience, someone to root for throughout the night.

The cranky but smooth New Jersey crooner is backed by his orchestra as they give sterling renditions of about twenty or so sublime songs, including *Fly Me To The Moon*, *Old Black Magic*, *You're Nobody Until Somebody Loves You*, *One For My Baby* and so on. There are even hilarious sixties-style TV commercials – some pre-filmed, others performed live. There's all the fun and excitement of being the in-studio audience members of a fantastic live performance, one that is being recorded for the later enjoyment of millions. We get to experience the electrifying live performances of one fantastic song after another; that's why they call this material 'The Great American Songbook'.

*Hoboken to Hollywood: A Journey Through the Great American Songbook* is produced by **Peach Reasoner** and co-produced by **Michael Blaha**; Musical director is **Paul Litteral**. Starring **Luca Ellis** and **The Paul Litteral Orchestra**.

### BACKSTORY:

A couple of seasons ago, director **Jeremy Aldridge** won the **L.A. Drama Critics Circle Award** and the **Garland Award** as the original director of the much-loved show "*Louis & Keely, Live at the Sahara*," when it played at the **Sacred Fools Theater** and the **Matrix Theatre**. When that show moved to the **Geffen Playhouse**, trumpeter **Paul Litteral** became its musical director. "*Louis & Keely*" had one final local incarnation late 2009 at the **El Portal Theatre**, an abbreviated concert version for the holiday season called "*A Vegas Holiday, Songs From Live at the Sahara*." "*A Vegas Holiday*" featured a new artist, a tall, elegantly dressed crooner with a charming stage presence named **Luca Ellis**. **Ellis** had something else that made him unique – handsome and charismatic with smooth vocal stylings, **Ellis** is a vocal dead-ringer for Frank Sinatra.

The three men united to develop this new musical entertainment, "*Hoboken to Hollywood: A Journey Through the Great American Songbook*."

The cast of "*Hoboken to Hollywood*" also includes **Al Bernstein**, **Anna Hanson**, **Chandler Hill**, **Jeff Markgraf**, **Franci Montgomery** and **Pat Towne**.

**Luca Ellis** previously appeared in **Sandy Hackett's "Rat Pack Show"** at the Sahara in Las Vegas. **Ellis** also performed at the Las Vegas Hilton.

**"Hoboken to Hollywood: A Journey Through The Great American Songbook."**

**Edgemar Center for the Arts**, on the main stage.

2437 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Now through Sunday, **February 27, 2011**.