



"A must-see younger brother to The Book of Mormon" The Daily Express

Following an acclaimed sold-out UK premiere when it received 6 Off West End Award nominations including Best New Musical cult rock show **'The Toxic Avenger The Musical'** a bizarre love story with an environmental twist by the Tony award-winning writers of the West End hit 'Memphis' is to transfer to the Arts Theatre for a strictly limited season!



Following a sold-out UK premiere at Southwark Playhouse, when it received 6 Off West End Award nominations including Best Musical, acclaimed rock musical 'The Toxic Avenger The Musical' is to transfer to the Arts Theatre for a strictly limited 10-week season from Thursday 28 September.

### Press night is Monday 2 October at 7.00pm.

'The Toxic Avenger' is the brainchild of the Tony Award-winning creative team behind the smash hit West End musical 'Memphis', Joe DiPietro and David Bryan, an original founding member and keyboardist/vocalist for rock giants, Bon Jovi.

Prior to the London season, the production will have a month-long run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival - full details to be announced soon.



Cast photos from the original London production by Claire Bilyard

Based on Lloyd Kaufman's cult 1984 comedy schlock-horror Troma film, "The Toxic Avenger", 'The Toxic Avenger The Musical' tells the story of the citizens of Tromaville, who are crying out for a hero... Enter nerdy Melvin Ferd the Third, an aspiring earth scientist, determined to clean up the state's major toxic waste problem. When a corrupt Mayor and her government goons get wind of his plans, they vow to stop this heroic feat. Melvin is attacked and tossed into a vat of toxic waste... transforming him instantly into The Toxic Avenger, New Jersey's first superhero!

Toxie is a 7-foot mutant freak with superhuman strength and a supersized heart to match. He's out to save heavily polluted New Jersey, end global warming, win the heart of the prettiest (blindest) librarian in town and get home in time for dinner!

Prepare to laugh, scream and sing to songs including 'Who Will Save New Jersey?" "Get the Geek", "Thank God She's Blind" "Hot Toxic Love" and "Choose Me, Oprah!" as 'Toxie' rocks the house and saves the day!

Cast to be announced.

Creative team: Director: Benji Sperring Musical Director: Alex Beetschen Lighting Designer: Nic Farman Choreographer: Lucie Pankhurst

Produced by Katy Lipson for Aria Entertainment and Derek Nicol and Paul Walden for Flying Entertainment.

Performed by arrangement with Music Theatre International (Europe) Limited.



### Joe DiPietro - Book and Lyrics

Joe's Broadway and West End hit "Memphis" won the Tony Award for Best Musical and two additional Tony Awards (Best Book of a Musical, Best Original Score Music and Lyrics Written for the Theatre (with David Bryan). Joe was born and raised off Exit 166 in New Jersey and thus has been a Toxic Avenger fan for the last 20 years. Joe wrote the book & lyrics to "I LoveYou, You're Perfect, Now Change", the longest-running musical revue in New York history which has had hundreds of productions across the country and around the world. He also wrote the book and lyrics to the Broadway musical "All Shook Up", and the award-winning musical, "The Thing About Men", which has played internationally. He lives in Manhattan and Connecticut, but his heart will always be in New Jersey.

## David Bryan - Music & Lyrics

David is a Keyboard Player and Founding Member of the hit band Bon Jovi. He is also a Singer/Songwriter Composer, Lyricist and Programmer. David Bryan lives near Exit 109 on the Garden State Parkway. He was conceived, born and raised in New Jersey. As a young man, he saw "The Toxic Avenger" movie at a midnight showing in Newark, and from that day on, he dreamed of writing a musical about the first mutant superhero from his home state. This show is a fulfilment of that dream. David has accomplished some other stuff, too. Bon Jovi are one of the most successful bands in music history. They've sold over 130 million records worldwide, performed more than 2,600 concerts in over 50 countries for more than 34 million fans, and were inducted into the UK Music Hall of Fame in 2006. They've survived and thrived the rock and roll years, the grunge years, the rap years and everything in between. For more info on David, visit www.DavidBryan.com.

# Lloyd Kaufman, creator of The Toxic Avenger

Lloyd is co-founder, with Yale friend Michael Herz, of the 42-year-old legendary Troma Entertainment, arguably the longest-running independent movie studio in North America. He directed many of Troma's feature films, including "The Toxic Avenger", "Class of Nuke 'Em High", "Sgt. Kabukiman NYPD", "Tromeo & Juliet" and "Poultrygeist: Night of the Chicken Dead". Cast photos from the original London production by Claire Bilyard

## LISTINGS INFO

### THE TOXIC AVENGER THE MUSICAL

Arts Theatre Great Newport Street London WC2HL 7JB Box office: 020 7836 8463 www.artstheatrewestend.co.uk

Thursday 28 September – Sunday 3 December

Press Night Monday 2 October at 7.00pm

Tuesday – Saturday 7.30pm, Sat Mat 3.30pm Sunday 3pm & 6.30pm Please note: no show Tuesday 3 October

Ticket Prices : £19.50 Slips £29.50 £39.50 £44.50 £59.50 premiums Previews all seats £29.50 (£19.50 slips)

Social Twitter - @ToxicAvengerUK Facebook - @ToxicAvengerUK Instagram - @ToxicAvengerUK

www.toxicavengermusical.co.uk

Running Time: 2hrs 15min inc interval

Age Recommendation: 12+

MUSICAL The Telegraph Daily Expres WhatsOnStage Time Out MUSIC & LYRICS BY David Bryan BASED ON **The Toxic Avenger Joe DiPietro** Lloyd Kaufman's 'The Toxic Avenger' STRICTLY LIMITED SEASON FROM 28 SEPTEMBER artstheatrewestend.co.uk **ARTS** BOX OFFICE 020 7836 8463 THEATRE GREAT NEWPORT STREET, LONDON WC2H 7JB

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