

Oliver Tompsett, Sally Ann Triplett, Jodie Jacobs, Alice Fearn and Sandra Marvin join the cast for the London premiere of Broadway musical “DISASTER!”



HOT NEWS FROM THE DANCE FLOOR: Meet the West End stars joining original Broadway cast members Jennifer Simard and show creator Seth Rudetsky in **DISASTER!**

DISASTER! the Broadway musical comedy spoof of star-studded 1970s jeopardy movies like *The Poseidon Adventure*, *Earthquake* and *Airport*, will premiere in London for two glittering gala concert charity performances to raise funds for The Make a Difference Trust at Charing Cross Theatre on Sunday 20 November. “It’s 1979 and New York’s hottest A-listers are lining up for the opening of a floating casino and discotheque. But what begins as a night of boogie fever quickly changes to panic as the ship succumbs to multiple disasters, such as earthquakes, tidal waves and infernos. As the night turns into day, everyone struggles to survive and, quite possibly, repair the love they’ve lost...or at least escape the killer rats! Set in the wildest decade ever, **DISASTER!** is packed with unforgettable 70s dancefloor hits including “I Will Survive”, “Knock On Wood,” “Hooked On A Feeling,” “Sky High,” “I Am Woman” and “Hot Stuff”.

Jennifer Simard is recreating her Tony-nominated role as gambling-addicted nun, Sister Mary Downy.

Seth Rudetsky is once again playing Ted Scheider, the professor and “disaster expert” who tries to warn the others of the impending doom.

The British cast are:

Oliver Tompsett (Chad, a ladies man still carrying a torch for his ex-fiance). Oliver has just played Sky Masterson in *Guys & Dolls* at the Phoenix Theatre. His other West End starring roles include Galileo in *We Will Rock You*, Fiyero in *Wicked* and Drew Boley in *Rock of Ages*.

Sally Ann Triplett (Shirley, a big-hearted loudmouth...with a secret) last starred on Broadway in Sting’s *The Last Ship*. Her West End satarring roles include Donna in *Mamma Mia*, Lauren in *Viva Forever*, MissAdelaide in *Guys & Dolls*, Berta in *Acorn Antiques*, Roxy Hart in *Chicago*, Reno Sweeney in *Anything Goes*.

Jodie Jacobs (Jackie, a sexy lounge singer desperate to find a father for her twins) played Regina in *Rock of Ages* (2011 BroadwayWorld.com Award). She is currently starring in “27”, directed by Arlene Phillips. Her recent roles include Nancy in *Oliver!* at Grange Park Opera, Miss Gardner in *Carrie* and Paulette Bonafonte in *Legally Blonde*.

Alice Fearn (Marianne, a reporter who’s sworn off men) joined the 10th anniversary cast of *Wicked* at Apollo Victoria Theatre last month as the standby Elphaba. She was Rapunzel in *Into the Woods* at Regent’s Park Theatre. Her other major musicals include *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Les Miserables* and *The Woman in White*.

Sandra Marvin (Levora, a faded disco diva hoping to win big in the casino) is currently playing Rose in the pre-West End tour of *Stepping Out*. She was Queenie in Daniel Evans’ *Showboat*. Her other major shows include *City of Angels* (Donmar), Miss Motormouth Maybelle in *Hairspray* and Mama Morton in *Chicago*.

Bradley Riches (Ben & Lisa, Jackie’s constantly fighting twins) is a pupil of the British Musical Theatre Academy. He recently co-starred in *Godspell* with Ramin Karimloo and Kerry Ellis. His other roles include Rooster in *Annie Jr* at the Arts Theatre, The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* at Minack Theatre, and *Elegies* at Charing Cross Theatre.

More major roles will be announced soon!

Seth Rudetsky said: “Director Jack Plotnick and I so thrilled with this cast! I had Sally Ann on my radio show last and simply loved her. So warm, such a great voice, such a big belter and a tapper, too! Is there such a thing as a quadruple threat? We are so lucky to have Oliver who blew us away when he watched him on youtube. I now want to add more high notes to the score! Jodie came so highly recommended by my friend Shoshana Bean and after watching her sing “Take Me for What I Am” with Caissie Levy, I knew she had the voice and the comedy skills for **Disaster!** The character of Levora is diva who’s 98% a selfish nightmare. Yes, Sandra will be able to bring down the house on those disco songs, but, more importantly, she’s able to play a “rhymes-with-witch,” but, because she’s so likable, still make the audience root for her. -I worked with dresser-to-the-West-End-stars Murray Lane when I did my show with Patti LuPone in London a few years ago. I described the character of Marianne to him and he immediately recommended Alice Fearn. Boy, was he right! I called her, described the role and when I told her she had a drunk scene, she was in! And, finally, British Theatre Academy Director Matthew Chandler saw **Disaster!** on Broadway and told me he thought that if it ever came to London, he had the perfect kid. Bradley Riches Skyped with me over the weekend. OMG. Not only was he hilarious and used his own prop wig when he switched back and forth between Ben and Lisa, he blew me away with his voice. When he started singing his big act Two song Michael Jackson’s “Ben” I was happy/impressed/awe-struck that I got tears in my eyes!”

“Deliriously giddy! Inspired lunacy. A triumph! It’s irresistible!”
Critics Choice, *The New York Times*



WATCH THIS! Check out clips of the Broadway production of DISASTER!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16l-bu_yWJfc

2016 Broadway cast
Photos by Jeremy Daniel Photography

Theatre MAD and Making Productions present

a gala concert performance of

DISASTER!

Prepare to die... *Laughing*

Written by Seth Rudetsky & Jack Plotnick
Directed by Jack Plotnick
Choreography Ashley Nottingham
Music Director James Taylor
Visual Designer Bruno Collins

Sunday 20 November
at 4.00pm and 7.30pm

Charing Cross Theatre

The Arches
Villiers Street
London WC2N 6NL
www.charingcrosstheatre.co.uk

Tickets available now from
www.madtrust.org.uk

A TheatreMAD Production in aid of the
Make A Difference Trust

Tickets: Slips £20, Balcony £25, Back Stalls £30 - £35
Front Stalls £45 - £50



Seth Rudetsky

Seth Rudetsky is a self-confessed walking talking Broadway search engine who lives and breathes The Great White Way! A musician, stand-up comic, actor, writer, and radio host, his career includes performing on Broadway, writing three books, penning a weekly Playbill.com column, and playing piano in more than a dozen hit musicals, including *Ragtime*, *Les Miserables*, and *The Phantom of the Opera*. Best known to US audiences as the daily Broadway host of Sirius/XM radio, he has also been nominated for a Grammy Award - for his recording of the musical *Hair* - and was three times nominated for an Emmy Award - for his writing on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* as well as winning the title "Funniest Gay Male in New York" for his stand-up comedy.

Producer: Darren Murphy
for the Make a Difference Trust

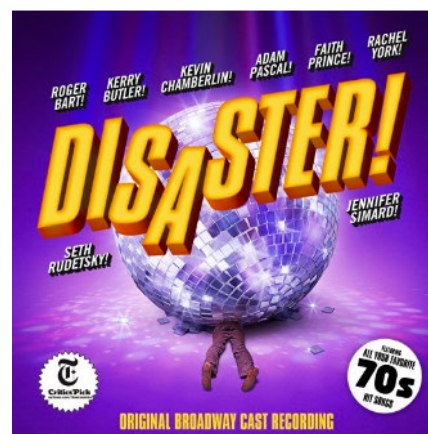
The Make A Difference Trust, is a UK based charity with a vision of a world free from HIV and AIDS. Building on the legacy of 25 years of fundraising by the Theatre industry, they continue to make the vision a reality having distributed over £1.6 million in grants to support individuals experiencing hardship across the UK as well as over £1million to support projects with their UK and international partners.

Press Contact:

Kevin Wilson
Kevin Wilson Public Relations
kevinwilsonpr@gmail.com
020 8673 0658 / 07884 368697

Marketing Contact:

Joseph Hocking
AKA
josephhocking@akauk.com
020 7836 4747



The Broadway cast recording has just been released

WATCH THIS! Behind the scenes of the making of the Broadway cast recording

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wAOV85QvYc>