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**ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR
SOUL-STIRRING NEW MUSICAL**

SWEPT AWAY

Book by JOHN LOGAN

Music and Lyrics by THE AVEET BROTHERS

Directed by MICHAEL MAYER

Choreographed by DAVID NEUMANN

By Special Arrangement with MATTHEW MASTEN, SEAN HUOCK, and MADISON WELLS LIVE

(Washington D.C.) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater announced today the full cast and creative team for *Swept Away*. Featuring a book by Tony Award® winner **John Logan** (*Red*), with music and lyrics by "America's Biggest Roots Band" (*Rolling Stone*) **The Avett Brothers**, this soul-stirring new musical will run **November 25 – December 30, 2023**, in Arena Stage's **Kreeger Theater**. Press Night will be held on **Wednesday, December 6 at 8 p.m.** For information and tickets, please visit [arenastage.org/sweptaway](https://www.arenastage.org/sweptaway).

The Arena Stage production will reunite much of the team from the show's Berkeley Repertory Theatre world premiere, which enjoyed a thrice-extended run in early 2022. It will be directed by Tony Award® winner **Michael Mayer** (*Spring Awakening*) and star Tony Award® winner **John Gallagher, Jr.** (*Spring Awakening*), Tony Award® nominee **Stark Sands** (*Kinky Boots*), **Adrian Blake Enscoe** (Apple TV+'s *Dickinson*), and **Wayne Duvall** (1984).

"The true genius of *Swept Away* lies in how The Avett Brothers peel back the layers of uncertainty, vulnerability, hope, and self-discovery to reveal our fundamental humanity in this exquisite musical," said Arena Stage Artistic Director **Hana S. Sharif**.

Set in 1888, *Swept Away* follows four survivors—a young man in search of adventure (**Enscoe**), his big brother who has sworn to protect him (**Sands**), a captain at the end of a long career at sea (**Duvall**), and a worldly first mate who has fallen from grace (**Gallagher**)—after a violent storm sinks their whaling ship off the coast of New Bedford, Massachusetts. How far will they go to stay alive? And can they live with the consequences? Described as "reverberating all the way into your core" (*San Francisco*

Chronicle), this electrifying, soul-stirring musical explores how facing tragedy can open the door to forgiveness, if only we'll let it.

"We're thankful to the many talented artists who've been a part of this show's life since our world premiere at Berkeley Rep," said **Scott Avett** of The Avett Brothers, "and we're thrilled to welcome new shipmates for the D.C. leg of our voyage."

Joining **Duvall, Enscoe, Gallagher, and Sands** onstage is a talented ensemble comprised of **Hunter Brown** (*The Sound of Music* National Tour), **Matt DeAngelis** (Broadway's *Waitress*), **Taurean Everett** (Broadway's *Moulin Rouge! The Musical*), **Cameron Johnson** (Broadway's *Into the Woods*), **Brandon Kalm** (Broadway's *Waitress*), **Michael Mainwaring** (Arena's *Smokey Joe's Café*), **Orville Mendoza** (Broadway's *Peter and the Starcatcher*), **Tyrone L. Robinson** (Broadway's *Frozen*), **John Sygar** (Kennedy Center's *Look Both Ways*), and **Jamari Johnson Williams** (Broadway's *Ain't Too Proud*).

In addition to **Mayer**, the *Swept Away* creative team includes Tony Award®-nominated Choreographer **David Neumann**, Music Arranger & Orchestrator **Chris Miller**, Music Arranger & Orchestrator / Music Supervisor **Brian Usifer**, Music Director **Will Van Dyke**, Tony Award®-winning Set Designer **Rachel Hauck**, Tony Award®-winning Costume Designer **Susan Hilferty**, four-time Tony Award®-winning Lighting Designer **Kevin Adams**, Tony Award®-winning Sound Designer **John Shivers**, New York Casting Director **Jim Carnahan**, Jillian Cimini, and Alexandre Bleau, CSA, DC Casting Director **Joseph Pinzon**, Stage Manager **Matthew Leiner**, and Assistant Stage Managers **Alice M. Pollitt**, **Marne Anderson**, and **Jalon Payton**.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES (in alphabetical order)

Hunter Brown (*Ensemble / u/s Mate*) is making his Arena Stage debut! Regional credits include *The Wedding Singer* (Gateway Playhouse), *Escape to Margaritaville* (Engeman Theater), and *The Full Monty* (Argyle Theatre). Hunter played Rolf on the National Tour of *The Sound of Music* and Nick on the National Tour of *Fame: The Musical*. Instagram: @brunterhown

Matt DeAngelis (*Ensemble / u/s Mate*) is making his Arena Stage debut. Broadway: *Hair* (Woof) and *Waitress* (Earl). West End: *Hair* (Woof). Tours: *Hair* (Woof), *American Idiot* (Rep. From Jingletown), *Once* (Svec), and *Waitress* (Earl). Off-Broadway: *Secret Life of Bees* (Atlantic Theater Company) and *Orpheus Descending* (TFANA). TV: *Person of Interest*, *Madam Secretary*, *Daredevil*, *Evil*, *For Life*, *Chicago P.D.*, and *FBI*. Love to my wife (and favorite actor) Christine Dwyer and to my amazing dog Chowdah. This and ALL the others are for Janice DeAngelis RIP. #WAMFAM Instagram: @mattdeangelis22

Wayne Duvall (*Captain*) is excited to be coming back to the city of his birth, making his Arena Stage debut reprising his role in *Swept Away*. On Broadway, Wayne was seen in *1984*. Off-Broadway credits include the critically acclaimed *The Legend of Georgia McBride* and the Encores! productions of *Big River* and *Of Thee I Sing*. Regionally, Wayne originated roles in the musicals *Bonnie & Clyde* and *Bright Star*. He also starred in *The Cake* with Faith Prince at La Jolla Playhouse and Signature's production of *Pride in the Falls of Autrey Mill* with Christine Lahti. Some of Wayne's notable film and television appearances are *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, *Lincoln*, *The Trial of the Chicago 7*, *The Hunt*, *Billions*, *The Blacklist*, and *The Righteous Gemstones*.

Adrian Blake Enscoe (*Little Brother*) starred opposite Hailee Steinfeld and Jane Krakowski in David Gordon Green's Peabody Award-winning *Dickinson* for Apple TV+. He recently shot the lead in the independent film *Breed of Greed*, directed by Ralph Hemecker. Since graduating from Carnegie Mellon's undergraduate acting program, Adrian has landed roles in Carter Smith's independent film *Jamie Marks Is Dead* opposite Cameron Monaghan and Morgan Saylor, and on Jenji Kohan's Netflix show *Orange Is*

the New Black. He has been seen in supporting roles in independent films *The Greens Are Gone* and *Seeds*, among others. On the theater side, Adrian recently performed in the world premiere of the musical *Swept Away* at Berkeley Rep. He also played the lead in the musical *Billy and the Killers* at HERE Arts Center and in Pipeline Theatre Company's musical *Folk Wandering*, both in New York City.

Taurean Everett (*Ensemble / Dance Captain / u/s Captain*) is making his Arena Stage debut! Taurean's Broadway credits include *Moulin Rouge!*, *The Cher Show*, *Miss Saigon*, and *Mamma Mia!* (Eddie). Tour and regional credits include *Priscilla QOTD* (First National Tour); *Swept Away* (Berkeley Rep); *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Actors Fund); *Guys and Dolls* (Carnegie Hall); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey II in drag, Berkshire Theatre); *Can-Can, Damn Yankees, Curtains*, and *Peter Pan* (Paper Mill Playhouse). Taurean is also a runway model on Bravo's *Project Runway* (seasons 18 and 20), a promo model for Paramount+'s *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars* (season 8), and a featured performer on Peacock's *The Amber Ruffin Show*. Stay tuned! Instagram: @taureanje

John Gallagher, Jr. (Mate) won a 2007 Tony Award® for his role in the ground-breaking rock musical *Spring Awakening*. Other Broadway credits include *Long Day's Journey into Night*, *Jerusalem*, Green Day's *American Idiot*, and *Rabbit Hole*. Off-Broadway credits include *Farragut North*, *Port Authority*, and *Kimberly Akimbo*. He starred in Aaron Sorkin's HBO drama series *The Newsroom*, as well as the acclaimed miniseries *Olive Kitteridge*. He has appeared in such films as *Underwater*, *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*, *Hush*, *10 Cloverfield Lane*, *Short Term 12*, *Margaret*, and *Pieces of April*. John's two albums of original music, *Six Day Hurricane* and *8th and Jane*, are both available to stream online.

Cameron Johnson (*Ensemble / u/s Big Brother & Little Brother*) is thrilled to be performing at Arena Stage! His favorite credits include *Into the Woods* (2022 Broadway revival), *Swept Away* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *Fiddler on the Roof* in Yiddish (Fyedka, Stage 42), and *The Golden Bride* (Misha, National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene). He received his BM at Acadia University, and MM at Manhattan School of Music. Instagram: @camgraeme

Brandon Kalm (*Ensemble / u/s Big Brother & Little Brother*) is so happy to be making his Arena Stage debut with *Swept Away* after being involved with the amazing former production at Berkeley Rep. Some of his notable credits include both *American Psycho* and *Waitress* on Broadway. He also had the pleasure of performing with The Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park production of *The Tempest*. In addition, Brandon toured around the world with the traveling production of Green Day's *American Idiot*. He has also appeared in various television shows including *Z: The Beginning of Everything* and *The Blacklist*. He is a proud Esper Studio Alum. Love to Odd. Instagram: @bkalm

Michael Mainwaring (*Ensemble / Partial Swing*) is delighted to be back at Arena Stage after nine years. He was last seen at Arena in *Smokey Joe's Café*. His DC credits include *Passing Strange*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Dreamgirls*, the world premiere of Benjamin Benne's *In His Hands*, *Godspell*, *Sweeney Todd*, *In the Heights*, *Matilda*, *The Mortification of Fovea Munson*, *Lost in the Stars*, *Shenandoah*, *Freedom's Song*, *Thunder Knocking on the Door*, and *Three Little Birds* (world premiere). Other regional works include *Rent* and *Spellbound* (workshop). Michael wants to thank his beloved voice teacher Kristin Halliday for her guiding light and continued generosity over the years.

Orville Mendoza (*Ensemble / u/s Captain*) is making his Arena Stage debut! Orville's Broadway credits include *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Pacific Overtures*. Off-Broadway, Orville was most recently seen in Suzan-Lori Parks' *Plays for the Plague Year* at The Public/NYSF; also at The Public, *Romeo and Juliet* (Delacorte), *Timon of Athens*, and the original cast of Sondheim/Weidman's *Road Show*. Regionally, Orville performed at The Old Globe in *Crime and Punishment*, *A Comedy; Ebenezer Scrooge's... Christmas Show*; *Taming of the Shrew*; and *The Heart of Rock & Roll*. Other regionals include East West Players, The Muny, 5th Avenue, Goodspeed, Long Wharf, and Kansas City Rep. Television credits include *Dead*

Ringers, Billions, Law & Order: Criminal Intent, and featured vocals for *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* and *John Mulaney & The Sack Lunch Bunch*. www.orvillemendoza.com

Tyrone L. Robinson (*Ensemble / u/s Captain*), a North Carolina native, is honored to make his Arena Stage debut in *Swept Away*. Broadway: King Agnarr in Disney's *Frozen*. Tours: *The Book of Mormon* and Mufasa Standby in *The Lion King*. Television: *New Amsterdam* (recurring), *The Blacklist*, *FBI: Most Wanted*, *Lovecraft Country* (HBO), and *Law & Order: SVU*. Favorite regionals: Shakespeare Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, Geva Theatre Center, and Goodspeed Musicals. Tyrone wrote music and lyrics for the musical *Show Way* which premiered at The Kennedy Center in 2022 and will have a national tour in 2024. Thank you, Avett Brothers, for this glorious music, and John, Michael, Brian, Chris, and David for this opportunity to live this story with this cast and team. MFA NYU Tisch.

Stark Sands (*Big Brother*)'s Broadway credits include *& Juliet*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Kinky Boots* (Tony Award® nomination, Grammy Award winner), *American Idiot*, *Journey's End* (Tony Award® nomination, Theatre World Award winner). Off-Broadway credits include *Twelfth Night* (Public Theater) and *The Tempest* (Classic Stage Company, AEA Bayfield Award). Film credits include *The Post*; *Inside Llewyn Davis*; *Flags of Our Fathers*; *Die, Mommie, Die!*; *Shall We Dance*; and *11:14*. Television credits include *Minority Report*, *Generation Kill*, *Nip/Tuck*, and *Six Feet Under*.

John Sygar (*Ensemble / Partial Swing*) is a Maryland native, who was last seen at The Kennedy Center in *Look Both Ways*. Other DC credits include *A.D. 16*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Once* (Olney Theatre Center); *Light Years* (Signature Theatre); *Spring Awakening* (Round House Theatre); *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Constellation Theatre Company); *Aquarium*, *Robin Hood*, (Imagination Stage); *Floyd Collins* (1st Stage); and more. He also writes music for the group baseball hat and his solo project Jsyg. Instagram: @jsyg

Jamari Johnson Williams (*Ensemble / Partial Swing*) is honored to make his Arena Stage debut! On Broadway he was seen in the Tony Award®-winning *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations*. Touring credits include the 8-time Tony Award® winner *Hadestown* (First National), *Ain't Too Proud* (First National), *Motown* (closing cast), and *Memphis*. Select regional credits include *Natasha, Pierre...Great Comet*, *Hair*, *The Wiz*, *South Pacific*, and *Smokey Joe's*. He is a founding member and youngest board member of his hometown orchestra, the Gifford Youth Orchestra. He hopes to heal others through art, as he once was. Peace. Instagram: @jamadarling

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

SWEPT AWAY

Book by John Logan

Music and Lyrics by The Avett Brothers

Directed by Michael Mayer

Choreographed by David Neumann

By Special Arrangement with Matthew Masten, Sean Hudock, and Madison Wells Live

In the Kreeger Theater | November 25 – December 30, 2023

ABOUT: When a violent storm sinks their whaling ship off the coast of New Bedford, Mass., the four survivors face a reckoning: how far will they go to stay alive? And can they live with the consequences? With music and lyrics from The Avett Brothers ("America's Biggest Roots Band," *Rolling Stone*), whose 2004 "Mignonette" was inspired by an 1884 shipwreck and the struggle of four men to survive, *Swept Away* is an electrifying, soul-stirring new musical exploring how facing tragedy can open the door to forgiveness... if only we'll let it.

CAST:

Ensemble / u/s Mate: Hunter Brown*
Ensemble / u/s Mate: Matt DeAngelis*
Captain: Wayne Duvall*
Little Brother: Adrian Blake Enscoe*
Ensemble / Dance Captain / u/s Captain: Taurean Everett*
Mate: John Gallagher, Jr.*
Ensemble / u/s Big Brother & Little Brother: Cameron Johnson*
Ensemble / u/s Big Brother & Little Brother: Brandon Kalm*
Ensemble / Partial Swing: Michael Mainwaring*
Ensemble / u/s Captain: Orville Mendoza*
Ensemble / u/s Captain: Tyrone L. Robinson*
Big Brother: Stark Sands*
Ensemble / Partial Swing: John Sygar*
Ensemble / Partial Swing: Jamari Johnson Williams*

CREATIVE TEAM:

Book: John Logan
Music and Lyrics: The Avett Brothers
Director: Michael Mayer
Choreographer: David Neumann
Music Arrangement & Orchestrations: Chris Miller
Music Arrangement & Orchestrations/Music Supervisor: Brian Usifer
Music Director: Will Van Dyke
Set Designer: Rachel Hauck
Costume Designer: Susan Hilferty
Lighting Designer: Kevin Adams
Sound Designer: John Shivers
New York Casting Director: Jim Carnahan, Jillian Cimini, and Alexandre Bleau, CSA
DC Casting: Joseph Pinzon
Stage Manager: Matthew Leiner*
Assistant Stage Manager: Alice M. Pollitt*
Assistant Stage Manager: Marne Anderson*
Assistant Stage Manager: Jalon Payton*

*Members of Actors' Equity Association

Swept Away is made possible through generous funding from **Decker Anstrom and Sherry Hiemstra** with additional support from **Daniel Korengold, Martha Dippell and Ourisman Automotive of Virginia**.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

TICKETS: Tickets are from \$66 plus applicable fees. Ticket prices and availability are subject to change. Arena Stage's many savings programs include "pay your age" tickets for those aged 30 and under, student discounts, and "Southwest Nights" for those living and working in the District's Southwest neighborhood. To learn more, visit arenastage.org/savings-programs.

Tickets are available at arenastage.org. Tickets may also be purchased by phone at 202-488-3300, or in person at the Sales Office at 1101 Sixth Street, SW, D.C., Tuesday-Sunday, 12-8 p.m.

Sales Office/Subscriptions: 202-488-3300
Group Sales Hotline for 10+ Tickets: 202-488-4380

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Weekday matinees at 12 p.m. on December 8, 20, 27, and 29

Early Curtains: Sunday, December 10 at 1 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 6 p.m.

Southwest Night: Tuesday, November 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Audio-Described Performance: Saturday, December 9 at 2 p.m.

ASL-Interpreted Performance: Saturday, December 23 at 8 p.m.

Mask-Required Performances: Tuesday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, December 24 at 2 p.m.;

Wednesday, December 27 at 12 p.m.; and Saturday, December 30 at 8 p.m.

Closed Captioning: GalaPro begins Thursday, December 7

Post-Show Conversations

Connect with the show beyond the performance at a post-show conversation with staff and artists on December 12 following the 7:30 p.m. performance; December 14 following the 8 p.m. performance; and on December 8, 20, and 27 following the 12 p.m. matinees.

Full Calendar: arenastage.org/tickets/calendar

SAFETY: Arena Stage recommends but does not require that patrons wear facial masks in our theater except in our occasional mask-required performance. These conditions are subject to change, and Arena continues to consult with medical professionals, monitor government best practice recommendations, and engage in industry trainings to ensure the health and safety of our patrons, artists, and staff. For up-to-date information, visit arenastage.org/safety.

TRAVEL: Limited parking is available in Arena Stage's on-site garage for \$18 to \$30, including drive-up valet parking for \$30. Call 202-488-3300 to purchase in advance. For more information on transportation and other parking options around the Mead Center, visit arenastage.org/transportation.

For complete 2023/24 Season details, visit arenastage.org/season.

The first racially integrated theater in our nation's capital and a pioneer of the regional theater movement, Arena Stage was founded on August 16, 1950, in Washington, D.C., by Zelda Fichandler, Tom Fichandler, and Edward Mangum. Today—nearly 75 years later—Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. We produce plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep, and dangerous in the American spirit, and present diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Consistently contributing to the American theatrical lexicon by commissioning and developing new plays, Arena Stage impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement and serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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