WHAT: *Swing! The Musical.*


WHERE: All performances take place at the Ruth N. Halls Theatre, Lee Norvelle Theatre and Drama Center, 275 N. Jordan Ave. No photography or recording of any kind is permitted during performances.

WHEN: June 12-15, 18-22, 25-29 at 7:30 pm; June 16, 23, and 30 at 2:00 pm

TICKETS: Regular admission is $25 for adults, $15 for students, $20 for senior citizens; Student Rush Tickets: $10 cash with any valid student ID on the day of each performance.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—

Indiana Festival Theatre, Indiana University's Department of Theatre, Drama, and Dance professional, summer series, starts off its 3rd season with *Swing! the Musical.* Nominated for six Tony Awards in 2000, *Swing!* combines music and dance of the Jazz era with favorites such as “It Don’t Mean and Thing” to “Cry Me A River.” It comes to the Ruth N. Halls Theatre under the direction of Professor George Pinney, head of the department’s Musical Theatre program.

Pinney calls this particular production “electric, contagious, and full of spirited fun!” In this musical revue where dance and song encompass the show, he notes that it “tests the stamina of the actors” by taking a twist on swing dancing. It creates an atmosphere both relatable and renewed for every audience. IFT’s production of Swing! includes “great music [and] fantastic dancing showcased on a big band set with colorful costumes from the swing era of the 40s.”

*Swing! the Musical* brings back classics from the swing dance era including “Jersey Bouce,” “Opus One,” “Jumpin’ At The Woodside,” “Hit Me With A Hot Note And Watch Me Bounce,” “Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy,” “G.I. Jive,” “I Got A Gal In Kalamazoo,” “I’ll Be Seeing You,” “In The Mood,” “Don’t Sit Under The Apple Tree,” “Blues In The Night,” “All Of Me,” “I Won’t Dance,” “Stompin At The Savoy,” “Sing, Sing, Sing,” and Hoagy Carmichael’s “Skylark.” Additionally, IU alumni Michael Heitzman and Ilene Reid who wrote the 2011 and 2012 Premiere Musical, Solana (formerly known as Happily Ever Chloe), contributed the song “Throw That Girl Around” that accompanies the IFT production of Swing!

With its mixture of jazz and dance, *Swing! The Musical* was more than prevalent at the 2000 Tony Awards being nominated for Best Musical, Choreography, Orchestrations, and Direction of a Musical among others. Named "the most purely exhilarating show in town" by the *New York Post*, and "sophisticated wit, tuneful and sexy" by *USA Today*, *Swing! the Musical* is a must-see for those who want to relive the swing dance era all over again!

The cast of *Swing!* includes actors, singers, and dancers from the BFA musical theatre program, as well as current and graduated students from the Jacobs School of Music’s ballet program, the School of Public Health’s modern dance program, and the School of Education.

Joining director George Pinney’s creative team are assistant professor Terry LaBolt (Musical Director), MFA scenic designer Dan Tracy, costume designer Robbie Stanton, MFA lighting designer Lee Burckes, sound designer Suli Stuehpnagel, MFA technical director John Houtler-McCoy, stage manager Kevin Love, assistant stage manager Leslie Boyden, and properties master Bridgette Dreher.