



Internationally Popular Musical *Rebecca* Will Come to Broadway

By Kenneth Jones
September 6, 2008

Producers Ben Sprecher and Louise Forlenza of the newly formed production entity Global Broadway Inc. signed a deal Sept. 6 with the Vereinigte Bühnen Wien Theatre to bring the hit musical *Rebecca* to Broadway in 2010.

The signing took place in front of the sold-out, re-opening night audience for *Rebecca* following the performance with Sprecher, Forlenza, VBW artistic director Kathrin Zechner and manager Thomas Drozda.

The musical is based on the classic Daphne Du Maurier novel (later turned into an Oscar-winning film by Alfred Hitchcock) and features book and lyrics by Michael Kunze, music by Sylvester Levay, and direction by Francesca Zambello, director of Broadway's *The Little Mermaid* and the new musical *Little House on the Prairie* at the Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis. She'll also direct *First Wives Club* in summer 2009 at The Old Globe in San Diego.

Rebecca had its world premiere in 2006 at Vereinigte Bühnen Wien in Vienna, where it has played to sold-out houses, totaling more than 406,000 people. The musical is also currently playing in Tokyo and will open in Berlin and Helsinki in the next several months.

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