

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: GT Media Representative
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GET READY TO GET 'ALL SHOOK UP'
AT THE GARDEN THEATRE
Casting Announced for the High-Octane Musical Event

Winter Garden, FL (January 16, 2024) Garden Theatre will continue its 2023-2024 season with the incredibly fun and upbeat musical, *All Shook Up*.

All Shook Up - Inspired by and Featuring the Songs of Elvis Presley®, is loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, with the book written by Joe DiPietro. Directed and choreographed by Rob Winn Anderson, performances begin Friday, February 16 at 7:30 pm with a limited run through Sunday, March 10, 2024.

It's 1955, and into a square little town in a square little state rides a guitar-playing young man who shakes up everything and everyone he meets. While the mayor of the town has imposed a law that prohibits loud music, public necking, and tight pants, the townspeople begin to step out of their humdrum lives to dare to experience something more. This hip-swiveling, lip-curling musical fantasy will have audiences jumpin' out of their blue suede shoes with such classics as "Heartbreak Hotel," "Hound Dog," "Jailhouse Rock," and "Don't Be Cruel."

Director Rob Winn Anderson says, "I am proud that *All Shook Up* is my first production back at the Garden. It is a show about the power of community and love and what better Valentine is there to a community and theater I love and am lucky to call home?"

The stellar cast is led by **John Rochette*** as the motor-cycling, guitar-playing roustabout, Chad. Rochette was recently seen on the Garden stage as Jarrett in December's *Moonshine & Mistletoe - An Appalachian Christmas Tale*. His impressive credits include *Jersey Boys* on Broadway, on tour, and the upcoming film.

Natalie, a young mechanic dreaming about love and adventure, is played by **Rachel Ihasz** who is making her debut with the Garden Theatre. **Stephanie Dorcely** returns to the Garden stage after her role as Lorrell in this past summer's *Dreamgirls*, playing Lorraine, the daughter of the honky-tonk's owner. **Joel Hunt** was last seen on the

Garden stage as Frankie Epps in 2022's *Parade*. He joins the cast as Dean, the mayor's son who is fresh from military boarding school.

A number of other cast members are making their Garden Theatre debut. **Bailee McQueen** joins the cast as the exasperated Mayor Matilda. **Stephanie Zandra*** portrays Sylvia, the no-nonsense owner of the local honky-tonk. **Christopher Russell** joins the cast as Natalie's widowed father. **Cali Newman** will play the glamorous museum owner, Miss Sandra. **Zach Mitchell** joins the cast as Natalie's best friend, Dennis, a young, awkward, and aspiring dentist.

**The Actor appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

Rounding out the cast of townspeople are Angela Colonna, Brax Melvin, Viviana Barbaro, Antonio Esposito, Kate Mobley, Donnie Gethers, Aspen Thompson, and Samuel Spare.

Along with Rob Winn Anderson as director and choreographer, the production team includes music direction by Jason Bailey, set design by Joe Klug, lighting design by Erin Miner, sound design by Samuel Finken, costume design by Gabs Gutierrez, wig design by Mark Rampmeyer, and properties design by Oceas Rodriguez. The stage manager is Christine Kindred and the assistant stage manager is Michelle Shea.

All Shook Up is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

All Shook Up will be performed February 16 - March 10, 2024, with Orlando Health as Supporting Sponsor. The performance schedule is Thursday at 7:30 pm, Friday at 7:30 pm, Saturday at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm, and Sunday at 2:00 pm, plus select Wednesdays at 2:00 pm. The Sunday, February 25, 2024 2:00 pm performance will have Audio Description.

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$45 with discounts available for military, first responders, teachers, seniors, and students. Tickets may be purchased by calling 407-877-4736, at the Garden Theatre Box Office at 160 West Plant Street in Winter Garden, or online at gardentheatre.org.

Groups of 10 or more can receive a discount on tickets and should call 407-877-4736 x208 or email jean@gardentheatre.org.

This project is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support for Garden Theatre is provided by generous individual donors and United Arts of Central Florida, your local agency for the arts.

Cast, director, and design team are available for phone or email interviews; please contact our Media Representative at media@gardentheatre.org to schedule.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

WHAT: *All Shook Up*

It's 1955, and into a square little town in a square little state rides a guitar-playing young man who shakes up everything and everyone he meets. While the mayor of the town has imposed a law that prohibits loud music, public necking, and tight pants, the townspeople begin to step out of their humdrum lives to dare to experience something more. This hip-swiveling, lip-curling musical fantasy will have audiences jumpin' out of their blue suede shoes with such classics as "Heartbreak Hotel," "Hound Dog," "Jailhouse Rock," and "Don't Be Cruel."

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- Select Wednesdays at 2:00 pm
- Performance with Audio Description: Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 2:00 pm

WHERE: Garden Theatre, 160 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida 34787

TICKETS: For tickets (starting at \$45, with discounts for military, first responders, teachers, seniors, and students, and groups of 10 or more) or more information, contact the Garden Theatre box office at 407.877.GRDN (4736) ext. 0 or www.gardentheatre.org.

ABOUT THE GARDEN THEATRE

Located in the heart of historic downtown Winter Garden on Plant Street, Garden Theatre is a nonprofit organization committed to providing programming from the spectrum of the arts to engage, entertain, educate, and inspire all who experience it. Originally built in 1935 as a single-screen cinema, Garden Theatre was restored and reopened in 2008, keeping the Mediterranean Revival style, modeled after a Spanish

courtyard with “Romeo and Juliet” balconies and a dark blue ceiling resplendent with stars. Garden Theatre hosts live plays, concerts, movies, and more to the residents of and visitors to the city of Winter Garden.

For tickets or additional information, contact the Garden Theatre Box Office at 407-877-GRDN (4736) ext. 0 or visit gardentheatre.org. Garden Theatre is located at 160 W. Plant Street in historic downtown Winter Garden, Florida.

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