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**BY POPULAR DEMAND, *RENT* RETURNS TO IU AUDITORIUM**

**WHAT:** *RENT* 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour

**WHEN:** Monday & Tuesday, January 28 & 29, 8:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** IU Auditorium

**TICKETS:** Tickets start at \$17 for IU Bloomington students (with a valid ID) and \$29 for the general public, on sale now. Individual tickets may be purchased online at IUauditorium.com, in person at the IU Auditorium Box Office, as well as through Ticketmaster.com. The IU Auditorium Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 10, 2019**

**BLOOMINGTON, Ind.** – The Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning musical *RENT* is returning to IU Auditorium for two shows Monday and Tuesday, January 28 and 29 at 8 p.m.

In 1996, an original rock musical by a little-known composer opened on Broadway... and forever changed the landscape of American theatre. Two decades later, Jonathan Larson's *RENT* continues to speak loudly and defiantly to audiences across generations and all over the world. A re-imagining of Puccini's *La Bohème*, *RENT* follows an unforgettable year in the lives of seven artists struggling to follow their dreams without selling out. With its inspiring message of joy and hope in the face of fear, this timeless celebration of friendship and creativity reminds us to measure our lives with the only thing that truly matters—love.

With iconic ensemble anthems such as “La Vie Bohème” and “Seasons of Love,” and direction based on the original work of Tony Award nominee Michael Greif, this highly-anticipated touring production brings Jonathan Larson’s beloved show and vibrant score that redefined Broadway back to life for “*RENT*-heads” across the nation.

*RENT* debuted on Broadway at the Nederlander Theatre in 1996, shortly after Larson’s sudden death, and continued its run for 12 years—earning its place as the 11th longest-running Broadway show of all time. The original Broadway production took home four Tony Awards including Best Musical, and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama during its debut year.

IU Auditorium was the first venue in Indiana to welcome *RENT* to its stage in 1999, at a time when many theatres still shied away from presenting the show due to its controversial content.

“*RENT* tells a story that is crucial for all to hear,” said IU Auditorium Executive Director Doug Booher. “It’s a unique production that not only gives the audience beautiful songs and wonderful sets, but a heartbreaking and compelling story that holds true for so many. Just as we were in 1999 upon its premiere, IU Auditorium is proud to present such a historic and spectacular show.”

For more information on *RENT* and the rest of the 2018–2019 season, visit [IUauditorium.com](http://IUauditorium.com). The website features video clips and a selection of songs from this season's performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook and Twitter pages, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year.

*RENT* at IU Auditorium is sponsored by World Arts, Inc. Printing, Lennie's, and the Indiana University Alumni Association. IU Auditorium's 2018–2019 season is presented by B97, Curry Auto Center, *The Herald Times*, French Lick Resort, and Indiana University Residential Program and Services.

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