



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***AN ALL-STAR LINE UP OF MUSICIANS FOR ICONIC GRAMMY AWARD WINNER  
LEO SAYER'S CONCERT IN SINGAPORE!***

**Singapore, December 2014** – Leo Sayer's one-night only concert in Singapore on Saturday, 17 January 2015, will feature top-notch musicians from London. The four leading musicians come with phenomenal experience, having worked with big international artists such as Bob Dylan, Joe Cocker, Sting, Michael Bolton, Tom Jones, Andrea Bocelli, Donna Summer, Shirley Bassey to name a few. Besides shining in the pop rock genre live performances, their extensive music experience also extend to the West End, including musicals such as Jersey Boys, Lion King, The Producers etc. The concert will be held at the Esplanade Concert Hall, Singapore's crown jewel with superb acoustics and the choice venue of the British Theatre Playhouse.

To kick off the new year, Leo Sayer will be releasing his new album 'Restless Years' in January 2015. 'Restless Years' was recorded in Melbourne with producer Mitch Cairns at Mitch's Little Red Jet studio. All of the songs on the album were written or co-written by Leo Sayer with four of the tracks done with Albert Hammond, who wrote Leo's classic 'When I Need You'.

Tickets for the Singapore concert are on sale now at SISTIC, priced between S\$100 to S\$250. In line with the company's philosophy of giving back to the community, the British Theatre Playhouse will be having a charity gala with tickets priced at S\$500 each for VIP seating and an after show party. 30% of the charity gala ticket sale proceeds will be donated to the Breast Cancer Foundation.

**The Band Members**

**Ronnie Johnson – Guitars**

Discovered by film and screenwriter Richard Lester in local primary school. This lead to being cast in "The Knack" with Rita Tushingham, and "A Hard Days Night" featuring a small time rockin' combo called 'The Beatles'. Ronnie then went on to appear in the legendary Lionel Bart's "Oliver". His acting career culminated with a regular BBC situation comedy featuring the great Ian Carmichael.

Ronnie transitioned from child actor to musician/composer with Warner Bros and went on to complete nine fruitful years as Guitarist/Musical Director for Van Morrison. He has worked with many top

international artists over the years, who include Bob Dylan, Joe Cocker, The Blessing and a feature on the Sting soundtrack for the documentary film "The Living Sea". Ronnie was also a winner of the critics album of the year in the American Magazine "Guitar" with his award winning group First Light.

Ronnie has had a fruitful musical alliance with Leo Sayer on numerous concerts world-wide and played on two CD's and a DVD.

Other live performances and recordings include: Incognito, Georgie Fame, Ritchie Havens, Marianne Faithful, Cassandra Wilson, John Lee Hooker, Junior Wells, Jimmy Witherspoon, Jon Hendricks, Peter Green, Michael Bolton, Mario Bondi and Tom Jones

### **Rob Taggart (Keyboards)**

Rob has performed with Rumer, Katie Melua, Ce-lo Green, Jason Derulo, Just Jack, The Killers, Elaine Paige, Sister Sledge, Tony Hadley, Bootyluv, Gareth Gates, Holly Johnson, Rick Astley, Heather Small, Mark Almond, Nik Kershaw, Berlinda Carlisle, ABC, as well as several West End theatre productions, Damon Albarn's Monkey: Journey to the West, Elvis Onstage and the "Strictly come dancing" arena tour.

He has also composed and arranged music for advertising campaigns including Hewlett-Packard, Ford Focus, Plusnet, Best Buy, Magners, Talk Talk, Hellmans, Save the Children, Subway, Oasis, Boots, Oreo, Money Supermaket, Kleenex, Tesco, Virgin, Direct Line, Dove, Iceland, Toblerone, Kia, British Gas and PC World. His orchestrating jobs have included work with the City of Prague Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, South Bank Sinfonia and the Metropole Orchestra for artists including Laura Mvula and Gary Barlow and Human Nature.

### **Elliot Henshaw (Drums)**

Elliott has been a drummer in great demand for many years now, working with artists and bands that include: Shirley Bassey, John Lord and Roger Glover (Deep Purple), Paul Anka, Michael Ball, Leo Sayer, Joe Longthorne, Jane McDonald, Tony Christie, Kirk Whalum, David Benoit, Russell Watson, Andy Abraham, Keely Smith, Tony Hadley, Limahl, The BBC Big Band, Syd Laurence Orchestra, The Drifters, Gwen Dickie, Gabriella Cilmi, Georgie Fame, Mathew Herbert, Bob Mintzer, Mike Stern, Laurie Holloway and Michael Feinstein. His West End credits include; Lion King, The Rat Pack, The Bodyguard, Jersey Boys, The Producers, Thriller and Priscilla Queen of The Desert. He runs his own band – The Elliott Henshaw Band - that has frequently headlined at Ronnie Scotts club in London and released an album – Is That Not What You Wanted. He also co-runs a band with Simon Niblock - Spice Fusion - whose debut album, Trying Too Hard, is currently on sale.

In 2012 Elliott had the idea to produce a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Buddy Rich Memorial concert at the Palladium in London. He was the Creative Director of the event hosted by Buddy's daughter Cathy Rich and he performed alongside many leading names in the international drumming community.

Elliott uses Echo Custom drums, Zildjian cymbals, Aquarian heads, Protection Racket cases, The BC2 by Porter and Davies, Vater Sticks, Lion Cajons and Baskey products. More details can be found at [www.elliotthenshaw.com](http://www.elliotthenshaw.com).

### **Dave Troke (Bass)**

Dave's playing ability is undeniable. After going to London in 2003, Dave was soon working with top pop acts and producers, most recently including *Professor Green*, *Elvis Presley On Stage Tour 2014* and *The Overtones*, not before achieving 'Best Bass Player' Award to combine with getting his degree. He has since gone on to play, tour and record with some highly respected artists both in the UK and Worldwide.

Starting out on the piano at the tender age of 9, Dave spent hours practicing Beethoven's symphonies much to the delight of his grandma. However, all of this was set to change when he discovered the monsters of rock: Metallica! Dave van Beethoven soon left the building allowing Dave 'the bass' Troke to take centre stage. As time went by Dave found a love for many other styles ranging from pop and jazz to latin/folk fusion.

Dave's experience so far has placed him with the elite few of truly reliable and trustworthy 'players' on the scene having worked live, in the studio and on TV with, Tori Kelly, Leo

Sayer, Dido, *The Overtones*, *Charlotte Church*, *Josh Groban*, *Tulisa*, *Donna Summer*, *Joshua Radin*, *Andrea Bocelli*, *Tiffany Page*, *Nitin Sawhney*, *The James Taylor Quartet*, *The Noisettes*, *Elvis Presley On Stage Tour 2014*, *Professor Green*, *Sarah Harding (Girls Aloud)*, *John Newman*, *Tony Christie*, *MKS (Sugababes)*, *Vanessa Mae*, *Nadine Coyle*, *Jamelia*, *Alice Russell* and *Peter Andre*. Having already signed two record and publishing deals Dave is one of the finest bass players on the scene today.

Produced by:



Supported by:



### **About British Theatre Playhouse**

The British Theatre Playhouse (BTP) is a professional theatre production company incorporated in Singapore in 2004 and is internationally focused with a strong British connection. A long-standing member of the British Chamber of Commerce and the European Chamber of Commerce, the ten-year old business established its UK branch office in 2012, in order to work more closely with established British playwrights, writers, actors, directors, musical directors, set and costume designers. The company has produced and presented a series of highly successful British productions in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the UK.

The BTP takes pride on high standards equivalent to London's West End and offers UK casts comprising prominent stage, television and film actors. Every one of BTP shows has featured stars from London's West End. The first show, Alan Ayckbourn's "**How The Other Half Loves**", in a dinner-theatre setting at Singapore's Shangri-La Hotel from April 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, 2004, was a sell-out production. Other productions included Oscar Wilde's "**The Importance of Being Earnest**" at the Jubilee Hall Theatre at Raffles Hotel Singapore in October 2004.

The phenomenal success of the show led to the transfer of the production to the Greenwich Theatre, London, in April 2005. Following Singapore, the production went on tour to Kuala Lumpur (Hilton Kuala Lumpur), Penang (Eastern & Oriental Hotel) and to Bangkok (The Oriental, Bangkok) with great success.

Other notable milestones include the public nomination of "**Private Lives**" for "**Best Leisure Event**" 2006 Tourism Award by the Singapore Tourism Board. October 2013 saw the theatre's most successful production since its inception with sell-out audiences in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur as well as well-received response in Bangkok, with the play Agatha Christies' "**The Mousetrap**". This production was part of the worldwide celebrations of the Diamond Anniversary of the first performance in London and the continuous sixty year run since then.

The BTP also believes in giving back to the community, by creating its own "Art for Charity" programme, where it dedicates one performance and evening to help raise fund for a chosen charity. Charities that the BTP has supported include The Community Chest of Singapore, Make-A-Wish Foundation, MILK (Mainly I Love Kids), Business Times Budding Artist Fund, Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund, Viva Foundation for Children with Cancer and KK Hospital Health Endowment Fund.

[www.britishtheatreplayhouse.com](http://www.britishtheatreplayhouse.com)

For more information, press materials or media interviews arrangement, please contact:

**Directions Group Inc for British Theatre Playhouse**

Torie Frances Lee

M: +65 9688 9594

T: +65 6327 9209

E: torie@directionsgroupinc.com

**British Theatre Playhouse**

Cecilia Leong-Faulkner

Managing Director

M: +65 9815 6230

T: +65 6449 4855