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**MASQUE SOUND'S CUSTOM AUDIO EQUIPMENT PACKAGE DELIVERS
POWERFUL PUNCH FOR SOUND DESIGNER RICHARD BROOKER
AND THE U.S. TOURING PRODUCTION OF *THE BODYGUARD***

EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ, JUNE 6, 2017 – In order to bring the music of iconic hits to audiences around the country for the U.S. touring production of the musical, *The Bodyguard*, Sound Designer Richard Brooker created a dynamic and powerful audio system that was provided by [Masque Sound](#), a leading theatrical sound reinforcement, installation and design company.

Brooker has designed the sound for many productions of *The Bodyguard*, including the original West End production in London, Cologne Germany, a UK Tour, Korea, Toronto and an upcoming Australian production, so his goals in designing the sound were clear. “We knew we needed to deliver the same punch to the show as previous productions, while making it something that could be transported easily,” says Brooker. “Having successfully worked with Masque Sound numerous times before and knowing they have a lot of experience with touring productions throughout the United States, along with the expertise of Gary Stocker, who designs all the PA towers and knows the venues inside out, the choice to work with them again was a no brainer.”

The biggest challenge Brooker faced in designing the sound for *The Bodyguard* was with the dynamic of the show itself, as it ranges from intimate theatrical moments to full-on concert sound. “The journey from very small dialogue to a full-scale rock and roll concert was an important consideration from a sound design perspective,” adds Brooker. “We also wanted to truthfully represent all the massive pop hits played throughout the show. The audience wants to hear their favorite songs and we wanted to deliver them as honestly as possible.”

In order to deliver as true a representation as possible, Brooker’s equipment selection was critical. For his console, Masque Sound provided Brooker with a DiGiCo SD7T and for the PA system, he chose a selection of speakers from Meyer Sound, including its LEOPARD line arrays. Meyer Sound LEOPARD’s are ideal for touring and also deliver the range of dialog and concert sound the show required.

An interesting component to the custom audio equipment package, provided by Masque Sound, was the use of Sennheiser SKM 9000 Series radios for the show’s eight handheld microphones. The SKM 9000’s unique uncompressed digital audio transmission offers interference-free sound with great dynamics. In addition to the Sennheiser 9000’s, Masque Sound also provided Sennheiser 5212 bodypacks for the lavalier mics. In all, Masque Sound provided over 40 channels of wireless along with frequency coordination.

“I’ve used the Sennheiser SKM 9000’s on a few shows now and they are just outstanding,” adds Brooker. “They provide a great sound quality, with basically no noise floor. They sound amazing and deliver a truer dynamic vocal range. I still haven’t heard anything from anyone else that sounds that good, and I was thrilled and very appreciative that Masque Sound made the commitment and investment for us.”

Masque Sound also provided the Roland M48 personal monitoring system for the musicians, which Brooker considers to be the most flexible and best sounding personal monitoring set up available today.

(more)

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Brooker also selected Roland for its convenience and ability to seamlessly integrate with the CAT5 REAC Digital Snake System.

"This is the fourth time I've put a show together in the United States and I'm proud to say, all four of those shows I worked with Masque Sound," says Brooker. "I have a wonderful relationship with the company and feel so supported by Scott Kalata and the rest of the team. They have always done everything possible to provide me with the gear that I'm looking for and I know the producers always feel fully supported by them as well. Masque Sound is always going to be our first call, no question. My Associate Sound Designer Tom Marshall and Production Sound Engineer Matthew Dale also did a fantastic job in putting the U.S. tour together."

Based on the Warner Bros. 1992 film that was written by acclaimed, OSCAR®-nominated screenwriter Lawrence Kasdan, *The Bodyguard* tells the story of Former Secret Service agent, Frank Farmer who is hired to protect superstar Rachel Marron from an unknown stalker. With a book by the OSCAR-winning and Drama Desk Award-nominated Alexander Dinelaris, this extraordinary new production of *The Bodyguard* is directed by the award-winning Thea Sharrock.

For more information and to purchase tickets visit www.thebodyguardmusical.com

About Masque Sound

Founded in 1936 by a trio of Broadway stagehands, Masque Sound evolved into one of NYC's most successful theatrical sound reinforcement, installation and design companies specializing in theatrical, house of worship, sporting, corporate, TV broadcast and live concert events. Celebrating more than 75 years in the industry, the company is led by President Geoff Shearing. The company also operates Florida-based Professional Wireless Systems, a leader in the development and implementation of wireless technology. Credits range from major Broadway shows and tours including Phantom of the Opera, MAMMA MIA!, Lion King, Jersey Boys, The Book of Mormon, Once, Kinky Boots, Aladdin and Fun Home to yearly Super Bowl broadcasts and installations of varying sizes, including Western Connecticut State University, the Jim Wise Theatre at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) and the historic St. Patrick's Cathedral. Masque Sound's 70,000 sq. ft. corporate headquarters and main assembly facility is located at 21 East Union Ave., East Rutherford, NJ, 20 minutes from midtown Manhattan. For more information, call (201) 939-8666 or visit www.MasqueSound.com.

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