



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MASQUE SOUND TAKES FLIGHT WITH *PETER AND THE STARCATCHER***

*Custom Audio Equipment Package Embarks on First National Tour*

*with Five Time Tony® Award-Winning Musical*

**NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 18, 2014** — When *PETER AND THE STARCATCHER*, the five-time Tony Award®-winning musical play written by Tony® Award-nominee **Rick Elice** and directed by Tony® Award-winner **Roger Rees** and Tony® Award-nominee **Alex Timbers**, set out on its first U.S. national tour **Masque Sound**, a leading theatrical sound reinforcement, installation and design company, was along for the ride with a custom audio equipment package to help bring Designer Darron L West's Tony® Award-winning sound design alive.

*PETER AND THE STARCATCHER*, a grown up's prequel to Peter Pan, is the innovative and imaginative musical play based on the best-selling novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson. A company of a dozen actors play more than a hundred unforgettable characters, all on a journey to answer the century-old question: How did Peter Pan become The Boy Who Never Grew Up? This epic origin story of popular culture's most enduring and beloved character proves that your imagination is the most captivating place in the world.

Both West and Masque Sound have been involved in the play from its original production at NY Theatre Workshop to its successful run on Broadway, as well as its post-Broadway run at New World Stages, so collaborating on the tour together was a natural fit.

"I depend on Masque Sound to provide me with the gear I need for my shows, so when the *PETER AND THE STARCATCHER* tour became official, there was no doubt that it was going to be the shop I called on to take the show on the road," says West. "When a problem arises that needs to be solved, there is never a moment that I feel like I can't call on Masque Sound to provide a solution, equipment recommendations, etc. Scott Kalata at Masque Sound has been great to us since the very beginning."

West's goal for *PETER AND THE STARCATCHER* was to try to create and preserve a simple and minimally invasive design. "We wanted the play to feel like it was an old Victorian show, so we thought a lot about our microphone choices and speaker positions," he says. "The show features two musicians and 'musicians towers' in direct view of the audience, and we designed the system to sound as though the audio was coming from these points, since the musicians are crucial to how the show is received by the audience. We utilized our surround sound capabilities through a story-driven approach, and we really tried to keep the audio as centralized around the sound effects and music that those musicians were creating."

In order to create the atmosphere that West was looking for on the tour, Masque Sound provided a DiGiCo SD10 digital console. The SD10 is a super-flexible, complete integrated system powered by Stealth Digital Processing and floating point Super FPGA technology. According to West, "There is a lot of really intricate reverb work that happens in the show that is really being driven by the SD10. The SD10 works incredibly well with the theatre software we are using and is crucial to the show's success."

(more)



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Additional equipment provided by Masque Sound includes both Meyer Sound and D&B speaker rigs, as well as wireless gear from Sennheiser.

Putting together a traveling production is not without its challenges and West credits Masque Sound as well as his associate Charles Coes for helping to pull it all together. “We really needed to figure out the amount of gear we needed and how to set it up for 22 different sized venues for a show of this magnitude,” concludes West. “Masque Sound has a great crew at the shop and we really depend on them to bounce ideas off of and to figure out exactly how to put on a production of this size. Between Masque Sound and the Proof crew who built the towers, we couldn’t believe how incredible it worked. Charles did an amazing job in designing the tower and putting it all together.”

Tour dates and additional show information can be found at [www.peterandthestarcatcher.com](http://www.peterandthestarcatcher.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 lead by Geoff Shearing, the firm’s 3rd generation owner, and Vice President and General Manager Stephanie Hansen. 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,” “Memphis,” “The Book of Mormon,” “Newsies,” “Once” and “Kinky Boots” to yearly Super Bowl broadcasts and installations of varying sizes, including New York’s New Victory Theater and historic St. Bartholomew’s Church. 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](http://www.MasqueSound.com).

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### **For further information contact:**

Nicole Rosen

D. Pagan Communications, Inc.

631-659-2309

[nicoler@dpagan.com](mailto:nicoler@dpagan.com)

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

Stephanie Hansen

Vice President and General Manager

Masque Sound & Recording

201-939-8666

[StephanieHansen@masquesound.com](mailto:StephanieHansen@masquesound.com)

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

