

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Winner of Eight Tony Awards, *Once* is Coming to The Hanover Theatre's Stage in 2017



**Worcester, Mass. (April 29, 2016)** Winner of eight 2012 Tony Awards including Best Musical and winner of the 2013 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album, *Once* will play The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts for a limited engagement from February 2-5, 2017.

*Once* is the celebrated new musical based on the Academy Award-winning film of the same name. It tells the story of an Irish musician and a Czech immigrant drawn together by their shared love of music. Over the course of one fateful week, their unexpected friendship and collaboration evolves into a powerful but complicated romance, heightened by the raw emotion of the songs they create together. Brought to the stage by an award-winning team of visionary artists and featuring an ensemble cast of gifted actors and musicians, *Once* is a musical celebration of life and love—thrilling in its originality, daring in its honesty and unforgettable in every way.

*Once*, also named Best Musical by the New York Drama Critics' Circle, Drama Desk, Drama League, Outer Critics Circle and Lucille Lortel Awards, ran for more than 1,100 performances on Broadway with acclaimed international productions from London and Melbourne to Japan and South Korea.

*Once* features the Academy Award-winning music and lyrics of Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, book by award-winning Irish playwright and screenwriter Edna Walsh (*Penelope*, *Hunger*, *The New Electric Ballroom*), direction by the acclaimed Scottish director of *Black Watch* John Tiffany, movement by Steven Hoggett (*Black Watch*, *American Idiot*) and music supervision and orchestrations by Martin Lowe (*Mamma Mia!*). The set and costume design are by five time Tony Award winner Bob Crowley (*The Coast of Utopia*, *Mary Poppins*), lighting

design is by Tony winner Natasha Katz (*Aida*, *The Coast of Utopia*) and sound design is by Clive Goodwin.

The 2007 Academy Award-winning film was written and directed by John Carney, with original music and lyrics by its stars Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová. For more information about the national Broadway tour, please visit [OnceMusical.com](http://OnceMusical.com).

*Once* is on sale as a part of The Hanover Theatre's Broadway Subscription series. Tickets go on sale to the public on Tuesday, September 13. Subscriptions are available online at [TheHanoverTheatre.org](http://TheHanoverTheatre.org), by phone at 877.571.SHOW (7469) or at The Hanover Theatre box office located at 2 Southbridge Street in downtown Worcester.

### **About The Hanover Theatre**

The Hanover Theatre continues to draw over 180,000 patrons annually with world-class performances and headlining acts including Broadway hits ("*Les Misérables*," "*Jersey Boys*"); comedians (Dave Chappelle, Jay Leno, Daniel Tosh); musical acts (Neil Young, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, Donny Osmond); and everything in between ("*A Christmas Carol*," Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Alton Brown). Consistently ranked by POLLSTAR as one of the Top Theatres in the World, the theatre opened in March of 2008 following a \$32 million historic renovation. Over the last eight seasons, the theatre has established its place as a world-class performing arts venue, acting as a catalyst for the economic development of downtown Worcester. In the spring of 2015, the theatre finalized the purchase of a vacant, three-floor former office building with street-level retail space at 551 Main Street. The building houses office space for theatre administration, function areas, a restaurant on the ground floor and a performing arts conservatory on the lower level. The building opens June 2, 2016.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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