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Lamplighters Music Theatre presents

RETURN OF THE DEADEYE, or, THE FARCE AWAKENS
Our 50th Annual Champagne Gala and Auction

Mountain View - November 8, 2015
San Francisco - November 15, 2015

SAN FRANCISCO, California (September 17, 2015) – San Francisco’s award-winning Lamplighters will spoof the ever-popular, epic space franchise, *Star Wars*, in *Return of the Deadeye: The Farce Awakens* at their 50th Annual Champagne Gala and Auction. The performance is an original, full-length, musical parody and is combined with a raffle, silent auction (in San Francisco only), live auction, and a post-performance champagne reception with the cast. The Lamplighters are known for their tradition of having the costumed cast meet the audience in the lobby after each performance. At their much-anticipated Galas the company brings the tradition up a notch by adding champagne and non-alcoholic beverages to the mix.

A long time ago, in a drought-stricken galaxy far, far away, Luke Moonwalker is tinkering with a new droid when he accidentally triggers a message from Princess Ida Organa, revealing evil military plans and seeking help from a Deadeye Knight, Obi-Bun Thornobi. Luke is smitten, vows to rescue Ida, and finds Obi-Bun who tells him of the mystical Force and the Deadeye Order. With the help of smuggler Juan Solo and his copilot Poohbacca, they race to join the Rebellion. Can Luke rescue the Princess before the Death Straw sucks the galaxy dry?

It’s got fencing, fighting, laser guns, torture, revenge, aliens, sorcerers, chases, escapes... and Gilbert & Sullivan! A full-length original satire set (mostly) to the music of Sir Arthur Sullivan with a nod to W.S. Gilbert. A Lamplighters Gala is a unique event—as much fun-raiser as fundraiser—with hilarious, award-winning parodies of current events, crazes, fashions and fads. You’ll also have the opportunity to support the Lamplighters at the silent auction, raffle and fund-a-need live auction, and to join the costumed performers after the show for the champagne reception.

Book: Mike Dederian
Stage Director: Phil Lowery
Music Directors: Monroe Kanouse, Baker Peebles

MOUNTAIN VIEW

WHERE: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro Street
WHEN: Sunday November 8 at 4pm
TICKETS: For tickets (\$64-83), please call **650-903-6000** or visit **mvcpa.com**

SAN FRANCISCO

WHERE: Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue
WHEN: Sunday November 15 at 4pm (Silent auction at 3pm)
TICKETS: For tickets (\$36-97), please call **415-978-2787** or visit **ybca.org**

PHOTOS: High-resolution digital art can be found at
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lamplightersmt/>
Web ready digital art is available at
http://lamplighters.org/about/pr_images.html

Lamplighters Music Theatre was founded in 1952 to produce the comic operas of librettist W.S. Gilbert and composer Arthur Sullivan, and is now recognized as one of the world's pre-eminent Gilbert & Sullivan companies. The Lamplighters' repertoire includes all the surviving works of these creative geniuses, as well as a select group of comic operas and classic musicals by other composers that exemplify their artistic vision. Critically acclaimed artistic successes for the Lamplighters include honors for Best Production and Best Director at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England and local awards in nearly every performance, direction, and design category. The hallmarks of a Lamplighters production are lavish costumes and sets, live orchestra, excellent comic acting, and gorgeous unamplified singing that showcases the beauty and purity of the human voice.

Gilbert & Sullivan created a new kind of music theatre. Their music is largely classical in style, but lyrics and music are perfectly matched; librettos are complicated, but highly literate, thought-provoking and hugely entertaining. Between 1875 and 1896 they took the world of music by storm with their 13 comic operas, including *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The Mikado*. Today, their topsy-turvy, melodic creations continue to inspire, intrigue and delight performers and audiences of all ages.

In addition to an active performance schedule, the Lamplighters provide performance and training opportunities in this unique style of classic music theatre to local theatre artists, and seek to promote appreciation for the works of Gilbert & Sullivan through youth programs, school performances and other types of community outreach.