

**Music Theater International Will Bring  
“Roald Dahl’s Willy Wonka”  
to Kennedy Center**

**Andy Waterman Chosen to Produce Soundtrack**

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**Hollywood, California, September 17, 2004** – Tim McDonald, Creative Development Director of Music Theater International (MTI) has chosen Andy Waterman to produce the soundtrack for the world premiere stage musical based on the book “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” by Roald Dahl. The beloved children’s novel was the basis for the original 1971 classic movie “Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory” and the upcoming 2005 remake directed by Tim Burton.

Music and lyrics for the movie were by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newly. MTI’s Tim McDonald and Academy Award winner, Leslie Bricusse are adapting an additional six songs for the stage production. Andy Waterman will produce the pre-recorded tracks that support the live stage performers. Waterman has a vast repertoire of pre-recorded theatrical productions including Disney’s Lion King Parade, Sea World, Caesar’s Palace and cast albums for over 30 signature shows including “Ben-Hur, The Musical” and “Forbidden Broadway.” “Andy’s extensive experience made him the ideal producer for the assignment,” said Tim McDonald. “Also, the musicians Andy works with are the top Los Angeles session players whose work can be heard on Hollywood films, TV shows and at live musical events.” On Waterman’s team are Grammy-winning arranger, John Higgins and three-time Grammy nominated arranger/orchestrator, Les Hooper.

Music Theatre International has become a leader in the theatrical licensing industry, specializing in Broadway, Off-Broadway and West End musicals. MTI has been a driving force in cultivating new work and extending the production life of the great American musicals. MTI is particularly dedicated to the idea of theater as education with a goal of raising the next generation of theater artists and audiences, making Andy Waterman the right fit given his edutainment expertise.

The new musical stage version of “Roald Dahl’s Willy Wonka” will be performed at the Kennedy Center from November 26 – December 26, 2004 as part of the Imagination Celebration Series.

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