



Elaine Paige to Open Annenberg Theater 2008-2009 Season On Friday, October 24, 2008

August 7, 2008 – (Palm Springs, California) - Elaine Paige, world renowned musical theater legend, will be the opening act for the Annenberg Theater's 2008-2009 season on Friday, October 24 at 6 p.m. The concert, entitled "Michael Childers presents an Evening with Elaine Paige" will feature a full orchestra on the stage of the Annenberg Theater at the Palm Springs Art Museum. The annual "Opening Night" fundraising event is presented by the Annenberg Theater Council (ATC) of the Palm Springs Art Museum and the presenting sponsor is Wells Fargo. Tickets for this special fundraising event are \$375 and can be purchased through the Annenberg Theater Box office at 760.322.3246 or at psmuseum.org. A cocktail reception honoring Ms. Paige will follow immediately after the concert in the museum's lobby.

As an actress, recording artist and producer, Elaine Paige has made a major contribution to the musical theater scene and is often called "The First Lady of British Musical Theatre." Some of her signature roles include "Eva Peron" in the original London production of *Evita*, "Grizabella" in the original London production of *Cats* (she was the first actress to perform the classic song "Memory") and "Norma Desmond" in her Broadway debut of *Sunset Boulevard*.

Previous Opening Night performers have included Brian Wilson (2007), k.d. lang (2006), Renee Olstead (2005), Lilly Tomlin (2004) and Joan Rivers (2003). This marks the first time Ms. Paige will have performed at the Annenberg Theater.

Proceeds raised from Opening Night will benefit the Annenberg Theater Council, a membership council of the Palm Springs Art Museum that is dedicated to supporting and promoting the performing arts programs and performance schedule at the Annenberg Theater. The ATC is chaired by Tim Hanlon, President of the Wells Fargo Foundation.

Located downtown in an architecturally-significant E. Stewart Williams-designed building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features exciting exhibitions of contemporary, Native American, Western and Pre-Columbian art in spacious galleries. It features two sculpture gardens, stimulating lectures and educational programs for all ages, and offers diverse performances at its Annenberg Theater. The Art Museum is open six days a week; Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free to members; \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; \$5 for adult students and active-duty military with I.D. and free for youths 17 and under. For more information, call 760.322.4800 or visit www.psmuseum.org.

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