

January 8, 2009

## BERKELEY REP IS SOLD OUT – AND OH, SO STRANGE!

Happy New Year! I wanted to share two great pieces of information with you:

1. ***The Arabian Nights* is sold out!** Sadly, this popular show can't play for 1,001 nights. We already extended it for two weeks, until the last possible minute, but on January 19 the production must start its journey to Kansas City, Chicago, and beyond. As of yesterday, all tickets for the final 14 performances have been sold. As always, there may be a few last-minute cancellations, so theatregoers eager to see it can still try calling the box office – but tickets will be harder to come by than water in the desert. Berkeley Rep is extremely grateful to the critics and audiences who made this show such a success.
2. ***Strange* is on top:** For the third year in a row, Charles Isherwood selected a show that originated at Berkeley Rep for his **Top 10 list in the *New York Times*!** *Passing Strange* made the cut again this year, as *Bridge & Tunnel* and *Eurydice* have in the past. *Strange* was also named **Best Musical of the Year by *USA Today*** and the #1 show of the year by the *Gothamist*. The provocative rock musical made the Top 10 in *Newsday* and NY1, and the *NY Press* put Stew and Heidi on its list of "who was nice" (as opposed to naughty) in 2008. Plus, one of the songs from the show, "Working the Wound," was ranked 14th when the *New York Post* chose the 208 Best Songs of 2008. Next stop for Stew and friends is the debut of Spike Lee's film of *Passing Strange*, which premieres at the Sundance Film Festival next Friday, January 16.

Thank you to all the local journalists who included Berkeley Rep in their annual lists of theatrical highlights. We most certainly couldn't do it without you.

And don't miss [what we have on tap for 2009!](#)

All the best,  
TK

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