

OCTOBER 9, 2009

NEW YORK TIMES AND LA TIMES PRAISE AMERICAN IDIOT AT BERKELEY REP

Hi, folks-

For the second time this week, we're waking up to greet a lovely review in the *New York Times* for a show born at Berkeley Rep. I'm pleased to share with you links to and quotes from two national reviews of *American Idiot*, which appeared on Saturday, Oct. 10:

- **[New York Times](#)**: "*American Idiot* is that rare creature, a true rock opera... directed with polish and precision by Michael Mayer, on a spectacular set by Christine Jones... Green Day's potent gift for irresistible tunes delivers the emotional contours of the story... their lushly melodic music is played with impressive raw power... *American Idiot* possesses a stimulating energy and a vision of wasted youth that holds us in its grip."
- **[Los Angeles Times](#)**: "Irresistible... visually mesmerizing... aesthetically dazzling and socio-politically stark... Attention, everyone. We have a theatrical bulletin coming in: Music videos have just made an artistic breakthrough. And the form has gone live. The site of this unexpected and, yes, rather loud development is Berkeley Rep, where *American Idiot*, the show based on Green Day's multi-platinum 2004 concept album, is having its world premiere... Kinetically entertaining in a way that intentionally reflects the shallow, media-saturated culture the album rails against, *American Idiot* (the musical) does what rock bands have set out to do from the beginning – lay down a style that defines a new zeitgeist... *American Idiot* translates Green Day's generational angst into a moody theatrical fantasia... Gallagher has the slacker charm and seductive snarl of a rock god [and] Mayer does an astonishing job of keeping everything in fluid motion."

Congratulations to everyone involved in this production, and our thanks to all of you who support the work we do throughout the year.

- **For a release on the show:**
http://www.berkeleyrep.org/press/pr/0910/Berkeley_Rep_American_Idiot_2nd_extension.pdf
- **For photos:** <http://www.berkeleyrep.org/press/photos-09ai.asp>

All the best,
TK

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