



509 Westport Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851
Phone: 203.454.3883
Fax: 203.226.6629
musictheatreofct.com

September 7th, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Alex Mongillo
Music Theatre of CT
admin@musictheatreofct.com
(203)454-3883

Rosemary Clooney welcomes audiences back to Music Theatre of Connecticut this month with an exhilarating and inspiring musical!

NORWALK, CT – Music Theatre of Connecticut MainStage, Fairfield County's professional, award-winning theatre company begins its 35th Anniversary Season with an exhilarating and inspiring musical biography, *Tenderly, The Rosemary Clooney Musical*, written by Janet Yates Vogt & Mark Friedman. The show opens with Mrs. Clooney's humble Midwest childhood and rise to Hollywood stardom, and continues beyond battles with depression to a triumphant comeback. *Tenderly, The Rosemary Clooney Musical* will run three weekends in person at MTC from September 17th – October 3rd with performances on Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm and Saturdays & Sundays at 2pm.

In this not-so-typical "juke-box musical" about America's favorite girl singer, Rosemary Clooney, audiences will hear her signature songs woven in and out as we learn both the story of her successes on film, radio, and TV, as well as her struggles in her personal life – with a career fading during the advent of rock-and-roll and her battles with addiction and depression. Through it all, she topped the charts for nearly five decades with signature songs. *Tenderly* offers a remarkably personal and poignant picture of the woman whose unparalleled talent and unbridled personality made her a legend. The show, which received rave reviews and a double-extension of its run in its second incarnation at Cincinnati Playhouse, features many of Mrs. Clooney's signature hits, including "Hey There (you with the stars in your eyes)," "Tenderly," and "Come On-A My House."

The stellar cast consists of two power-house Broadway veterans. Playing the role of Rosemary Clooney is **Susan Haefner** from Broadway's *State Fair*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *42nd Street* (Revival), and on national and international tours in *Damn Yankees* (with Jerry Lewis), *State Fair*, and *Billy Elliot*. Susan originated the role of Rosemary in *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical* at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park (World Premiere). Playing the role of The Doctor is actor, **John Treacy Egan** from Broadway's *My Fair Lady*, *Casa Valentina*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Sister Act*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, and *The Producers*. He has also been seen in TV's *Gotham*, *Younger*, *The Good Wife*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *30 Rock* and more!

MTC has implemented strict health & safety protocols to assure the safety of the audience, staff, and actors. All guests will need to be fully vaccinated in order to enter MTC and must

show proof of vaccination at their time of entry into the theatre. Masks will also be required by all staff and audience members as well. If anything is purchased at the concession stand, it must be consumed outside of the theatre. For up-to-date information on MTC's health & safety protocols you can go here: <https://www.musictheatreofct.com/reopeningprotocols>.

Tenderly, The Rosemary Clooney Musical is directed by Kevin Connors with musical direction by David Wolfson and choreography by Chris McNiff. Jim Schilling stage manages alongside the creative team which includes scenic design by Lindsay Fuori, lighting design by RJ Romeo, costume design by Diane Vanderkroef, prop design by Sean Sanford, and sound design by Will Atkin.

Ticket prices range from \$40-\$65 plus fees and can be purchased online (www.musictheatreofct.com/tenderly) or over the phone (203-454-3883). MTC MainStage is located at 509 Westport Ave. in Norwalk, CT.

MTC MainStage gives a huge thank you to its sponsors, Black Rock Social House, Burry Fredrik Foundation, Shoff Darby Insurance Agency, and the State of Connecticut DECD/COA.

CALL FOR INTERVIEWS

If you are interested in interviewing the cast and/or creative team, please contact MTC MainStage at (203)454-3883.

###

ABOUT MUSIC THEATRE OF CONNECTICUT and MTC MAINSTAGE

Music Theatre of Connecticut was founded in 1987 by Directors Kevin Connors and Jim Schilling. MTC's professional mainstage company has presented over 30 seasons of critically-acclaimed productions, including both new works and "buried treasures" of the American musical theatre. MTC is recipient of the Connecticut Critics' Circle's highest honor, the Tom Killen Memorial Award for Outstanding Contribution to Connecticut Professional Theatre. MTC was also presented with a Connecticut State Legislative Citation to commemorate the Tom Killen Memorial Award. Productions presented at MTC have been nominated for Best Musical of the Connecticut theatre season and several others have gone on to have successful productions in New York and at other regional houses. MTC boasts a state-of-the-art black box theatre, rehearsal studios, scenic and costume design shops, dressing rooms, and beautiful lobby and public spaces. MTC is a 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization. For more information, visit www.musictheatreofct.com.

###