



For immediate release: May 8, 2003

Media contact: Leanne Squire, 416-504-4473, leanne@factorytheatre.ca

TOP GUN! THE MUSICAL FLIES AGAIN *Singing, Satire, Subtext...All at Mach 3!*

The TG!TM Co-op is thrilled to announce that ***Top Gun! The Musical***, the smash hit of the 2002 Toronto Fringe Festival will return to the Toronto stage with the original stellar cast and a brand-spanking-new song! ***Top Gun! The Musical* plays from June 4 to June 22, 2003 (Press Opening: Thursday, June 5) in the Factory Theatre Mainspace.**

For anyone who's ever cringed through *Cats*, felt the need for speed or wondered, "who thought THAT would be a good idea?", comes this new satirical musical. Set in a ramshackle rehearsal hall, writer Billy Palmer is about to crash and burn. His musical adaptation of *Top Gun!* is going off the rails and Billy really needs a hit after the debacle of *Apocalypse Wow!* Instead he's saddled with a quarrelling cast, a shady ex-Navy Seal producer and a bit of bad luck. Now if only everyone would stop singing!

Top Gun! The Musical was the most successful show in the history of the Toronto Fringe, beating the box office mark set by *The Drowsy Chaperone* three years ago, playing to sellout crowds and unanimously good reviews. In November 2002, **TG!TM** had its American premiere at Houston's TheaterLab, and again was a hit with both critics and audiences.

★★★★ ½ "This show turns a clever script and silly tunes into 90 minutes of raucous fun. Guaranteed one of this year's favourites, ***Top Gun*** is that rare theatrical treat: a musical that really works." - **eye weekly**

★★★★ "Top Gun! The Musical has the right stuff to go the distance... It's hours after the curtain, and I'm still humming the final number, "You Can Ride My Tail." When's the last time that happened at a Canadian musical?...***Top Gun! The Musical*** deserves another flight." - **Richard Ouzounian - Toronto Star**

★★★★ "Filled with lots of intentionally bad lines and funny-angry-smart comments about dumb musicals based on films ... the show also features one of the most likeable casts in Fringe memory ... The songs and singers are strong ... a hugely entertaining 90 minutes. - **NOW Magazine**

"A Must See! ...A frequent sellout this year is **TOP GUN: THE MUSICAL** -- a smart and funny play good enough to be done commercially" - **Toronto Sun**

A+ "***Top Gun! The Musical*** Worthy of Top Honors... another stupendous hit" - **Texas Triangle**

Top Gun! The Musical features the original cast; some of the top musical / theatre performers in the city, including **Drew Carnwath, Dmitry Chepovetsky, David Collins, Steven Gallagher, Alison Lawrence, Racheal McCaig** and **Mary Francis Moore**. Written by Toronto comedy writer, **Denis McGrath**, writer of *Shooter* (Fringe) and *American Without Tears* (SummerWorks) with music by **Scott White** composer of *Dance of the Dead*, Tapestry New Opera Works, musical director *Cabaret* (Sudbury Theatre), *Personals* (Grand theatre). Directed by **Colin Viebrock**. Stage Management by **Shauna Japp**.

Top Gun! The Musical's website (including press photos and bios) is at www.topgunthemusical.com
TV Opportunity June 5, 2003.

TG!TM Co-op presents **TOP GUN! THE MUSICAL**

Regular Times/Prices: Tuesday-Thursday @ 8pm: \$20 / Friday @ 8 pm: \$25 / Saturday @ 8 pm: \$30 /
Latenight Saturday Show @ 10:30 pm: \$30 / Sunday @ 2 pm: Pay What You Can at the door, \$15 in advance
Special Early Booking Discount Available: \$5 off tickets booked before June 2.

Factory Theatre Mainspace • 125 Bathurst Street (corner of Adelaide Street)

Box Office 416-504-9971