Resorts World Manila unveils newest production “The Sound of Music”

Hong Kong, 21 September, 2011 – Genting Hong Kong today announced that Resorts World Manila, its world-class integrated resort in the Philippines, will be staging a new musical production, The Sound of Music, from 15 October to 11 December, 2011 at the Newport Performing Arts Theater in Manila. Resorts World Manila (RWM) reinvigorates a timeless tale that has enthralled generation after generation of audiences worldwide. The production will be headlined by established and upcoming Filipino talents; and powered by state-of-the-art visual effects.

The Story

A musical by Richard Rodgers with lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II and book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, The Sound of Music is the story of a young postulant, Maria Rainer, who is appointed governess of the seven children of widower Captain Georg von Trapp. She teaches them the rudiments of music and allows them to discover a talent for singing they never once thought they possessed. In the process, the Captain's cold and stern heart turns soft towards his children, while the stiff, professional relationship he once had with Maria gives way unexpectedly to love. Soon, they find themselves threatened by uncertainties of wartime as they struggle to build a new life together.

First staged in Broadway in 1959, The Sound of Music ran for 1,443 performances and won the Tony Award for Best Musical and Best Actress before premiering in London in 1961. Since then, it has been re-staged in London, Broadway, and countless theaters worldwide. In 1965, it was made into a film that starred Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer.

The Cast

Headlined by Filipino powerhouse Broadway talents, Maria is played by theater veteran Joanna Ampil with Cris Villonco as her alternate. Meanwhile, the strict but loving Captain Georg von Trapp is reprised by Audie Gemora with Ed Feist as alternate. The quiet and understanding Mother Abbess is portrayed by Pinky Marquez with Sheila Francisco as alternate. The role of the charming and ambitious Max Detweiler is shared by Miguel Faustman and Robbie Guevara. The captain's fiancée, Baroness Elsa Schraeder, is played by Pinky Amador and Lynn Sherman.
Liesl, the eldest of the von Trapp siblings is portrayed by Tanya Manalang with Rachel Coates alternating. Rolf, Liesl's love interest, is depicted by Marvin Ong and Bryan Homecillo.

**The Production**

A stellar creative team recreates the story with Roxanne Lapus at the helm of staging and direction. Orchestral music is provided by The Manila Philharmonic Orchestra, led by Maestro Rodel Colmenar. Vocal Directress Lyn Fabella of Wind Song, a Christian singing group famous for its heavenly vocal blending, supports Maestro Colmenar in recreating the well-loved songs from the musical.

Noted couturier and designer to the stars, Francis Libiran, provides the costumes, from the military uniforms to the fabulous ballgowns. The picturesque landscapes of Austria, solemn hallways of Maria’s convent, and imposing interiors of the von Trapp residence is brought to life by production designer and scenographer Mio Infante. Adding to the visual feast is video producer Paul Soriano who will showcase video animation scenes simultaneously with the theater performance. Furthermore, the story is made larger than life with Newport Performing Arts Theater’s massive LED screen.

“RWM presents *The Sound of Music*” will run from 15 October to 11 December, 2011 at Newport Performing Arts Theater in Manila. For more information, please visit Resorts World Manila website [www.rwmanila.com](http://www.rwmanila.com).

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The cast of “Resorts World Manila Presents The Sound of Music”, headlined by London’s West End actress Joanna Ampil (3rd from left). Ampil plays Maria Rainer, the postulant who will change the lives of the Von Trapp family.

About Genting Hong Kong Limited
Genting Hong Kong Limited, formerly known as Star Cruises Limited, is the leading global leisure, entertainment and hospitality corporation. A primary business activity of the company is cruise and cruise related operations under the brands of Star Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Line. Star Cruises together with Norwegian Cruise Line, is the third largest cruise operator in the world that owns a combined fleet of 18 ships visiting over 200 destinations in the world, offering approximately 35,000 lower berths.

Genting Hong Kong’s first foray in a land-based attraction, Resorts World Manila (“RWM”) opened its doors to the public in August 2009. RWM is one of the premier leisure brands under the Genting Group, a flagship integrated leisure and entertainment complex featuring 3 hotels including a six star all-suite Maxims Hotel, an iconic shopping mall, 4 high-end cinemas and a multi-purpose performing arts theatre.

About Resorts World Manila
Resorts World Manila (RWM) is the first integrated tourism destination in the Philippines. Conveniently located across Ninoy Aquino International Airport 3 in Manila, RWM is an instant gateway to Philippine hospitality in world-class standards. This lifestyle hub is home to three international lodging brands: Maxims Tower, the first all-luxury suite hotel in the country; Marriott Hotel Manila, a five-star brand known all over the world; and Remington Hotel, slated to open in the third quarter of 2011, will offer amenities at an affordable price.

Also home to RWM is The Newport Mall that features luxury retail brands from all over the world. Experience a unique viewing experience at The Newport Cinemas with its stadium seating and state-of-the-art cinema projectors. Watch plays and performances at a grand scale at The Newport Performing Arts Theater, the metro’s newest venue for the hottest events.

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