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**A Century of OZ on Stage 1903—2003;
New Recording Celebrates a Hundred Years of THE WIZARD OF OZ on Broadway**

San Diego, CA — August 5, 2003 — America's favorite fairytale comes to life in a new two CD set *Vintage Recordings from the 1903 Broadway Musical—The Wizard of Oz* from Hungry Tiger Press. But this isn't the Judy Garland favorite—it's a long-lost Broadway show from 1903! And it's *The Wizard of Oz* like you've never heard it before featuring ragtime songs for the Scarecrow and Tin Woodman, a song about Budweiser beer for the Wizard, and Dorothy sings a song about roller-skating.

Record producer and musical theater historian David Maxine has been working on the project for more than five years: "I'd grown up with L. Frank Baum's Wizard of Oz books, I worked in musical theatre, and I had a passion for old recordings, really old recordings from the early 1900s! Then suddenly this almost forgotten Broadway musical version of the *Wizard of Oz* entered my life, my three interests were all neatly tied together, and I was hooked! I've recreated the show using hundred-year-old sound recordings—everything from old wax recording cylinders to perforated-metal music box discs!"

The Wizard of Oz has had a long history on stage. "These days hit children's books get a movie deal, but back then you got a Broadway show," says David Maxine. "This show was a blockbuster at the time. It was the equal of *Cats* or *Phantom of the Opera* before World War I. It set records in New York and continued to tour the country until 1911 and was revived periodically until the famous MGM movie we all love superseded it." The Wizard of Oz has continued to be reinvented for the stage every other generation. The 1970's gave us *The Wiz* and later this year *Wicked*, a new musical based on *The Wizard of Oz*, will open on Broadway.

David Maxine is working on a book on the 1903 musical, too, and many of the photographs and drawings he has found have made their way into the two thick booklets that accompany the new CD compilation. "I also felt it was important to include all of the song lyrics and background information on the old records. I wanted the CDs to recreate the experience of the show as fully as possible," says Maxine. "A hundred years ago this show was state-of-the-art entertainment. What survives on these records, what made the show live, the sound of the coming jazz, the quirky mix of operetta and ragtime, will still get your feet tapping."

The sound quality of these old records is amazing; and the *Wizard of Oz* score offers a smorgasbord of pop-tunes from the early 1900s. While you may miss "Over the Rainbow" you'll be sure to love "Hurrah for Baffin's Bay," "Football," and all the other hits from this first stage version of America's favorite fairytale! Sound samples can be listened to at www.hungrytigerpress.com where you can also order the two CD set which costs \$29.99. For additional information, or to order by phone call (619) 582-5106 or write to: Hungry Tiger Press, 5995 Dandridge Lane, Suite 121, San Diego, CA 92115.

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