

PALACE THEATER

SHOW INTEL

Season 2024–2025 | Issue 1: *Hadestown*



BROADWAY'S TONY AND
GRAMMY®-WINNING
BEST MUSICAL

HADES TOWN

MUSIC, LYRICS & BOOK BY

ANAÏS MITCHELL

DEVELOPED WITH & ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY

RACHEL CHAVKIN



Watch the trailer for
HADESTOWN

ABOUT THE SHOW

HADESTOWN intertwines two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — as it invites you on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back. Anais Mitchell's beguiling melodies and Rachel Chavkin's poetic imagination pit industry against nature, doubt against faith, and fear against love. Performed by a vibrant ensemble of actors, dancers and singers, *Hadestown* is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

GREEK MYTHOLOGY WHO'S WHO

Hermes: The messenger of the Greek gods, and conductor of souls to the Underworld. In *Hadestown*, he is narrator, emcee, and Orpheus' mentor.

Orpheus: Son of the muse of epic poetry, Orpheus charmed all living things with his golden voice and lyre. He is engaged to Eurydice.

Eurydice: A dryad, or tree nymph, engaged to Orpheus. In the original Greek myths, she is bitten by a poisonous snake on her wedding day, and dies, descending to the Underworld.

Persephone: Goddess of the seasons, flowers, fruit, and grains. She is married to Hades and spends half the year with him (fall & winter), and half the year above ground with her mother (spring & summer).

Hades: God of the dead, ruler of the Underworld. He is married to Persephone.

The Fates: Three goddesses who determine the destinies of mortals.

The Workers Chorus: The show's ensemble mirrors the Chorus from ancient Greek tragic theater, commenting on the actions of the characters and serving as a connection with the audience.



Hadestown — Original West End Company photo provided by show

CLICK FOR TICKETS TO **HADESTOWN** OR CALL 203.346.2000

MUSIC NOTES

With its blend of musical styles from New Orleans-style jazz to American folk music in a mostly sung-through format, *Hadestown* is truly a modern American folk opera. From its early iteration as a song-cycle, the show grew and took form as a fully-fledged musical, with two intertwining love stories, workers who serve as the Greek chorus, a timeless tale of love and the power of art, and a musical score seamlessly integrated into the story.

Preservation Hall jazz, blues, Gospel-music influenced harmonies, bluegrass, and more “traditional” Broadway compositions can be found throughout the score, from the New Orleans funeral procession-styled “Way Down Hadestown” to the multi-layered ballad “Wait For Me.”

FUN FACTS

- Anaïs Mitchell, who wrote the music, lyrics, and book for *Hadestown*, is an American singer-songwriter and playwright.
- The first version of the show premiered in Barre, Vermont in 2006, after which Mitchell released it as a concept album (2010).
- Together with original director Rachel Chavkin (*Natasha, Pierre, & the Great Comet of 1812* and *The Royale*), Mitchell reworked the show into a new production, which premiered off-Broadway in 2016, in London in 2018, and on Broadway in 2019.
- *Hadestown* won eight Tony® Awards (and was nominated for 14) in 2019, including Best Musical, Best Original Score, and Best Direction.
- This was the first Best Musical winner with a female writer-director team, and a predominantly female production and technical team.
- In 2020, it won a Grammy® for Best Musical Theater Album.
- **After three weeks of tech rehearsals on our stage, the new National Tour of *Hadestown* will open here at the Palace Theater October 3, 2024!**



ANAÏS MITCHELL

Photo Credit: Jay Sansone



RACHEL CHAVKIN

Photo Credit: Chad Borika



PALACE CONNECTION!

Orpheus' mother was the muse Calliope, who was the goddess and patron of epic poetry. Her likeness adorns the top of our proscenium stage, and she presides over all our productions!



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