

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF MIKE BIRBIGLIA'S *THE NEW ONE*

ACCLAIMED COMEDIAN BRINGS LATEST SOLO SHOW TO SAN DIEGO

La Jolla, CA — La Jolla Playhouse announces a special week-long engagement of Mike Birbiglia's latest solo piece, *The New One*, written and performed by Mike Birbiglia, to run **January 9 – 14, 2018** in the **Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre**. The performance schedule will be Tue – Fri at 7:30pm; Sat/Sun at 4:00pm and 7:30pm. Tickets and information are available online at LaJollaPlayhouse.org or by calling (858) 550-1010.

"Mike Birbiglia has created yet another intensely funny one-man show in his wonderfully idiosyncratic style," noted La Jolla Playhouse Artistic Director Christopher Ashley. "One of the nation's preeminent solo artists, Birbiglia's brand of storytelling is humorous, endearing and eminently relatable, and we're delighted to host his latest work here at the Playhouse."

Mike Birbiglia's one-of-a-kind performances are a blend of storytelling and stand-up comedy with an arc and a unifying theme. "If you liked *Sleepwalk With Me*, *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend* and *Thank God For Jokes*, then I think you might just love *The New One*," said Birbiglia.

Neil Genzlinger of *The New York Times* called Mike Birbiglia's recent show, *Thank God For Jokes*, "the best night I've spent in a theater in a very long time." In *The New One*, the award-winning comedian approaches an entirely new subject in a new way with the same heart and humor fans have come to expect. Do not miss the new one. It may be the best one.

Mike Birbiglia is a comedian and storyteller who has performed in front of audiences worldwide, from the Sydney Opera House to Carnegie Hall. His most recent shows, *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend* and *Thank God for Jokes*, were both filmed for Netflix. Mike has released four albums for Comedy Central Records, including *My Secret Public Journal Live*, which was named one of the Best Comedy Albums of the Decade by *The Onion AV Club*. In addition to performing live, Birbiglia is an author and filmmaker who wrote, directed, and starred in the acclaimed films *Sleepwalk With Me* and *Don't Think Twice*. His book, *Sleepwalk With Me and Other Painfully True Stories*, was a *New York Times* bestseller and a finalist for the Thurber Prize for American Humor. As an actor, Birbiglia has appeared on *Orange Is the New Black*, *Inside Amy Schumer* and *Girls*, as well as in

the films *Trainwreck*, *The Fault in Our Stars* and *Popstar*. Birbiglia currently lives in Brooklyn with his wife Jen.

The Tony Award-winning **La Jolla Playhouse** is internationally-renowned for creating some of the most exciting and adventurous work in American theatre, through its new play development initiatives, its innovative Without Walls series, artist commissions and residencies. Currently led by Artistic Director and 2017 Tony Award winner Christopher Ashley and Managing Director Michael S. Rosenberg, the Playhouse was founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer, and reborn in 1983 under the artistic leadership of Des McAnuff. La Jolla Playhouse has had 30 productions transfer to Broadway, garnering 38 Tony Awards, among them *Come From Away*, *Jersey Boys*, *Memphis*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Big River*, as well as Billy Crystal's *700 Sundays* and the Pulitzer Prize-winning *I Am My Own Wife*, both fostered as part of the Playhouse's Page To Stage Program. LaJollaPlayhouse.org.

###