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# Musical 'fiddles' its way into hearts, Hult

The 35-year-old classic 'Fiddler on the Roof' continues to draw avid audiences By Jennifer Rollings It has been said that the test of a clas-

sic is its ability to endure. If endurance is the deciding factor, then Jerome Robbin's "Fiddler on the Roof" passes this test with flying colors. After almost four decades of interna-tional acclaim, "Fiddler" will run at the Hult Center's Silva Concert Hall from March 2 to 4 for the musical's 35th anniversary.

"Fiddler' is one of those Broadway classics that contain stories about personal relationships that are very human," said Erick Hoffman, marketing and programming director for the Hult Center. "This is what has

allowed the show to sustain popularity for such a long period of time." Since its 1964 debut,

"Fiddler" has entertained audiences with the story of Tevye, a poor Jewish milkman struggling to raise his daughters in turn-ofthe-century Russia. "'Fiddler' explores

the feeling of not being able to control what's going on in your world," Hoff-man said. "People connect with that on a very emotional level."

"Fiddler" is brought to the Hult Center by the Theater League of Eugene and stars John Preece as Tevye. Now on his third national tour of "Fiddler," Preece has performed the role more than 1,000 times. Sammy Dallas Bayes, whose choreography of the 1990 Broadway pro-duction of "Fiddler" won a Best-Revival Tony Award, directs.

The track record of "Fiddler" includes nine 1965 Tony Awards as well as a 1971 film adaptation that received 8

Coming up

WHAT: 'Fiddler

on the Roof'

March 2-4 at

WHERE:

Hult Center TICKETS:

\$17.50 to \$35 at

box office or Fred

Meyer FASTIXX

outlets

the Hult Center

WHEN:

8 p.m.

Academy Award nominations. The show has been performed at the Hult Center twice before, in 1985 and in 1992.

The musical score of "Fiddler," consisting of such well-known favorites as "Tradition," "If I Were A Rich Man" and "Matchmaker," is another element that has contributed to the

show's popular appeal, according to Hoffman.

"So much of the music of "Fiddler" has songs you'll be humming for weeks afterward," Hoffman said.

Ticket sales have been "very strong," according to Hoffman. As of Feb. 23, three-fourths of the tickets for the three shows had been sold.

"Fiddler on the Roof" will be performed March 2, 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. Tickets range in price from \$17.50 to \$35 and are available at the Hult Center Box Office or through Fred Meyer FASTIXX

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