

GRUMPY OLD MEN: THE MUSICAL

East Coast Premiere 2018
Ogunquit Playhouse, Maine

West Coast Premiere 2019
La Mirada Theatre Center, California

"*Grumpy Old Men the Musical* hits the mark right from the start; there's no shortcomings here. With a well written fun script, laced with comic one liners, lovable characters, and a lighthearted musical score, *Grumpy Old Men* exceeded all my expectations.

"Everything works extraordinarily well in this premiere production. The story is fun and the characters lively, engaging, and memorable.

"It has every element of a solid musical that could easily become a favorite of theaters everywhere."

BROADWAY WORLD
(Maine)

"A hit-larious hometown hoot."

"A bevy of homespun characters dole out a feast of relentless zingers, guffaws and inescapable insult comedy in a cracker-barrel book by Dan Remmes.

"The musical numbers are creatively coiffed to fit the template of the fast-moving production ... sometimes touching, sometimes raucous, all times enticing ... a layer of fun and laughter to the mix while not detracting one iota from the spirit of the artistic comedy on display.

"The production numbers are crisp and excellent."

JOURNAL TRIBUNE

"Book writer Dan Remmes, along with late lyricist Nick Meglin of *MAD Magazine*, have crafted a timeless piece of work that will appeal to both audiences who have seen the original film and those who are coming to the story with fresh eyes."

SEACOASTONLINE.COM

"The book is great, the score is outstanding ... I would be very surprised if this production does not move on to Broadway."

POST GAZETTE
(Boston, MA)

"Delightfully funny and very sweet musical ... an entertaining inspiration."

Annual IRNE Awards
(Independent Reviewers of New England)

"For a crowd pleaser, *Grumpy* is unexpectedly heartwarming, moving and at all times, highly enjoyable. It seems to guarantee to make theatergoers feel much less grumpy than when they first entered the theater and even—dare I say?—glad to be alive."

FREE PRESS
(Los Angeles)

"No matter your mood upon arrival, expect to exit the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts with the broadest of smiles on your face.

"Book writer Dan Remmes' smartest move is in taking the local citizenry and giving them names, occupations and personalities brought to vibrant life... Add to this composer Neil Berg and lyricist Nick Meglin's bouncy score ... it's a formula that's worked before and works again here like a finely-tuned instrument.

"A crowd-pleaser in the classic *Bye Bye Birdie/Damn Yankees/Pajama Game* mode but with enough contemporary sensibility to satisfy 21st century audiences (and not just those of John and Max's advanced years), *Grumpy Old Men The Musical* has exactly what it takes to become a regional theater favorite."

STAGE SCENE L.A.

"A slap-happy feast."

THE THEATER MIRROR
(New England Theater Guide)

"This grumpy hurrah remains natural and poignant.

"[The] compassion in his book for these now well-known characters eschews real sentimentality and provides a certain dignity even amid the ribald banter and utter puerility of the pension-age adolescents ... a touching story at heart with humanity at its base, a story about living life to the fullest and finding inspiration wherever possible."

THE SHOW REPORT
(Los Angeles)

"An extremely funny, warm-hearted romance—I loved it."

PORTLAND PRESS HERALD

"The songs, with their clever wordplay, are a nice addition.

"The score—a slick Broadway sound echoing pop styles from the 1940s through the 80s—also kept the room energized."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

"The fictional version of the tiny real-life town of Wabasha, Minnesota brims with the kind of eccentric, zany figures that have populated musicals since the Golden Age ... a feel good show."

VOICE OF OC

"At turns hilarious, while at others startlingly affecting, many of the best lines or crucial plot-twists delightfully take you off guard, making their impact lingering and lasting...it's unconventional but sincerely sweet, ensuring that by the curtain call, odds are you'll be challenged to elicit a smile large enough for what you've just experienced.

"This stage musicalization is so much bigger, and offers so much more than its cinematic source material ... A highly entertaining, life-affirming, feel-good fiesta of a new show."

BUCKING TRENDS
(Los Angeles)

"*Grumpy Old Men* is a pleasant, feel-good musical which will bring a smile to each face in the audience. Characters are sweet and lovable, and the music is upbeat and cheery. Even with some slightly raunchy scenes, this is definitely a charming show for the family."

SPLASH MAGAZINE
(Los Angeles)

"Dan Remmes' book keeps the humor at a high level and pushes a happy ending at every turn.

"Neil Berg and Nick Meglin have written some very pretty songs ... Especially riveting are "I Like the Way Things Are," "Life is All About Livin'"—Grandpa's song which reminded me of Grandpa's song from *Pippin*—"An Angel" and "Family or Friend."

BROADWAY WORLD
(Los Angeles)

"I was surprised how much I enjoyed the West Coast premiere of *Grumpy Old Men: The Musical*.

"Grumpy's upbeat music is in the Broadway musical tradition of hits such as, say, *The Pajama Game*."

HOLLYWOOD PROGRESSIVE

"*Grumpy Old Men: The Musical* brings all the Midwestern charm of the film to the stage ... If you get a kick out of musicals, puns and all things go-lucky, *Grumpy Old Men* won't disappoint. It offers an engaging evening out."

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

"The story reminds us to value love and friendship. When you leave the show, you're likely to want to reach out to someone who means something to you, and let them know that they do."

WHITTIER DAILY NEWS