**THE CIVIL WAR,** written by FRANK WILDHORN, GREGORY BOYD (Artistic Director of Houston's Alley Theatre) and JACK MURPHY (Silver Dollar), is a sweeping new musical of love and life, inspired by the passion and turmoil of the men and women who defined a nation. The talented cast, led by the incomparable Grammy Award winner Larry Gatlin, "lets loose with two dozen enjoyable songs, all infused with the composer's signature power to hook one's ear," said Michael Sommers of <u>The Star Ledger</u>. "**THE CIVIL WAR** is Frank Wildhorn's most ambitious and most challenging musical yet!"

**THE CIVIL WAR** was first staged at the Alley Theatre in 1997. It played on Broadway in the spring of 1999 to enthusiastic popular response, and received two Tony Award nominations (Best Original Musical and Best Original Score). In addition, two popular recordings, "The Civil War – The Complete Work" and "The Civil War – The Nashville Sessions," were released by Atlantic Records in 1998.

**THE CIVIL WAR** was newly conceived by the authors for the national touring production, and is directed by STEPHEN RAYNE, whose most recent association was with Trevor Nunn on the acclaimed Royal National Theatre production of *Not About Nightingales*. MR. RAYNE has also been associated with the Royal Shakespeare Company, where his work included *Othello*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Hamlet*, *They Shoot Horses Don't They* and *The Great White Hope*, and he won the *Time Out London New Plays Festival Award* for "Best Director."

FRANK WILDHORN is the popular American Broadway composer of the wildly successful Jekyll & Hyde and The Scarlet Pimpernel, and the Creative Director of Atlantic Theatre/Atlantic Records. He became the first American composer in twenty-two years to have three shows running simultaneously on Broadway – Jekyll & Hyde at the Plymouth Theatre, The Scarlet Pimpernel at the Minskoff and The Civil War at the St. James Theatre. MR. WILDHORN'S new projects include: The Romantics, Wonderland, Havanna, Bonnie & Clyde, Svengali and Queen Christina among many others.

**THE CIVIL WAR'S** creative collaboration also includes: musical staging by PETER PUCCI (The Joffrey Ballet's *Billboards*, Pilobolus Dance Company); scenic design by DOUGLAS W. SCHMIDT (original Broadway productions of *Grease*, *They're Playing Our Song*, and the upcoming film version of *The Fantasticks*); lighting design by HOWELL BINKLEY (*Kiss of the Spider Woman*); costume design by CHRISTINE HANAK (NETworks' current touring production of *Show Boat*); projections by WENDALL K. HARRINGTON (*The Who's Tommy*, *Ragtime*); and orchestrations by KIM SCHARNBERG (*Jekyll & Hyde*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*).

**THE CIVIL WAR** is produced by NETworks Presentations, LLC, a theatrical production company based in Maryland who's current season includes national tours of *Annie*, directed by Martin Charnin; Leslie Bricusse and Frank Wildhorn's *Jekyll & Hyde*; the Hammerstein/Kern epic musical masterpiece *Show Boat*; and a newly-mounted production of *Victor/Victoria*.

For more information, visit our website at <a href="https://www.civilwarbroadway.com">www.civilwarbroadway.com</a>