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'DARKNIGHTS AND DAYDREAMS'

ADAPTED FROM MICHAEL USLAN'S 'THE BOY WHO LOVED BATMAN'

AIMS FOR BROADWAY IN 2022 / 2023

MICHAEL USLAN, THE ORIGINATOR AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF THE BATMAN MOVIE FRANCHISE
ADAPTS HIS MEMOIR AS A NEW BROADWAY PLAY TO BE PRODUCED BY
BOB NEDERLANDER, JR. & NEDERLANDER WORLDWIDE PRODUCTIONS, LLC
LEGION M, ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

To arrange for interviews with Michael Uslan or Bob Nederlander, Jr. contact Keith Sherman & Associates, keith@ksa-pr.com.
To speak with Paul Scanlan or Jeff Annison of Legion M, contact Sunshine Sachs, legionm@sunshinesachs.com.

With Broadway's long-anticipated re-emergence just around the corner, **Bob Nederlander Jr.** and **Nederlander Worldwide Productions, LLC** announced today their plan to bring *Darknights and Daydreams* (working title), a new play adapted by **Michael Uslan** from his inspiring memoir, *The Boy Who Loved Batman*, to Broadway during the 2022 / 2023 season. Michael Uslan, the Originator and Executive Producer of the *Batman* movie franchise, brings his play to life on stage. By-invitation-only development readings are planned for June 29 and 30 in New York.

Fan-owned entertainment studio **Legion M** will make its first foray into Broadway, as Associate Producer, with *Darknights and Daydreams*. Legion M will draw on their unique fan-owned business model and community to invite fans and supporters to participate in behind-the-scenes, exclusive, once-in-a-lifetime opportunities via the [Darknights and Daydreams Indiegogo page](#). Perks will include copies of the trade paperback *The Boy Who Loved Batman*, from which the play is adapted, unique signed memorabilia, access to virtual and live table readings during the development process, and many more.

Darknights and Daydreams tells the story of a boy who fought for his dreams to come true. Michael, a self-described comic book fanboy from a blue collar New Jersey family, did not dream of being a super-hero, but of *saving* his super-hero. A lifelong Batman fan who amassed a collection of 30,000 comic books by the time he was in high school, Michael viewed the 1960s TV series as a kitschy mockery of the "dark... serious... human" version of Batman; a version that had been personally described to 14 year-old Michael by Batman's co-creator, Bill Finger, at the 1965 ComiCon. From that moment on, Michael was determined to restore that darkness to The Batman. He held tightly onto this dream when, against all odds, he pitched and convinced Hollywood to make the first *Batman* film, which then took ten long years to be produced. The wild success of that film proved what Michael knew all along – the world needs super-heroes, both on screen and in real life. That first *Batman* movie ignited an Oscar-winning, record-shattering global pop culture phenomenon that thrives today, decades later. Michael's passion unlocked his own super-powers and he shares his "secret origin" in this Broadway show.

“Broadway has always been a magical place where audiences flock to be inspired by stories of dreamers and underdogs who triumph over the odds,” says Michael Uslan. “I saw my first Broadway show when I was 10 years old. I fell in love with the theatre that night and can’t believe that I get to bring my story to Broadway. The play is not about Batman, not about Batman movies, and it’s not about me. No, it’s about finding joy and passion in life. This show is for people who feel lost - whether because of COVID, work, human relationships or the lack thereof. *Darknights and Daydreams* tells a story of burning with a passion, dreaming big, painful perseverance, getting up off the damn couch, knocking on doors till your knuckles bleed, overcoming obstacles, and then changing the world culture’s perception of comic books and super-heroes.”

“Hearing Michael Uslan tell his story in person is a rare privilege and we cannot wait to share it with Broadway audiences,” says Bob Nederlander, Jr. President and CEO, Nederlander Worldwide Productions, LLC. “His play can inspire us to channel our inner super-hero and empower us to pursue our dreams.”

Added Legion M Co-Founder and CEO Paul Scanlan, “We have been incredibly excited about this project since we first read Michael Uslan’s amazing memoir and we cannot wait to bring this story to audiences in-person around the country. This marks the first time that Legion M has been involved in a Broadway production and we can’t think of a better, more perfect script with which to kick off this exciting new chapter of the company.”

MICHAEL USLAN (*Playwright / Performer*) Originator and Executive Producer of the *Batman* movie franchise from 1989’s *Batman* to 2022’s *The Batman*; including *Joker*; *The Dark Knight*; *The Dark Knight Rises*; *Batman Begins*; *Batman Returns*; *The Lego Movie*; *The Lego Batman Movie*; *Justice League*; *Batman v Superman*; *Batman Forever*; *Teen Titans Go To The Movies*; *Batman: Hush*; *Batman & Robin*; *The Dark Knight Returns*; *Batman: Year 1*; *Under The Red Hood*; *Batman Beyond Return Of The Joker*; *The Killing Joke*; *Sub-Zero*; *Batman: The Long Halloween*; *Mask Of The Phantasm*; Producer, *Constantine*; Originating Producer, *Shazam* and many more.

BOB NEDERLANDER, JR. is the president and CEO of **NEDERLANDER WORLDWIDE PRODUCTIONS, LLC**, part of the Nederlander family of companies which has been in the live entertainment business for over 109 years. Founded in 2000, NWE is focused on the expansion of the Broadway and Nederlander entertainment brands into new and emerging markets globally. Today, NWE develops, manages and operates theatres worldwide, produces Broadway and related shows in domestic and international markets, and undertakes cultural and educational initiatives.

LEGION M (*Associate Producer*) is the world’s first fan-owned entertainment company that is revolutionizing the way entertainment is made in Hollywood by uniting a growing fan community of 130,000+ members including 30,000 fan-owners. Through its Fan-Owned business model, Legion M invests in a diverse slate of original projects in various stages of development, including the epic fantasy *The Emperor’s Blades*, comic book and feature film *Girl With No Name*, and documentary *Memory: The Origins of Alien*; multiple original television series including *Evermor*, *Airship Cowboys*, and *Malice*; as well as interactive and VR-based projects, including *ICONS: Face to Face* starring the late Stan Lee and Kevin Smith. Legion M also invests in partner productions, including Kevin Smith’s feature film *Jay and Silent Bob Reboot*, as well as the critically acclaimed *Colossal*, starring Anne Hathaway and Jason Sudeikis, and directed by Nacho Vigalondo, the cult hit *Mandy* starring Nicolas Cage and directed by Panos Cosmatos, the gritty, hard-edged epic *Archenemy* starring Joe Manganiello, and Sundance sensation *Save Yourselves!* which was released by Bleecker Street in fall 2020. Legion M has produced high-profile events honoring some of the industry’s biggest names, including the Stan Lee hand and footprint ceremony at Hollywood’s TCL Chinese Theatre in 2017. To learn more about Legion M and become a member of the Legion for free, visit www.legionm.com.

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