



PRESS RELEASE

4 March 2010 – For Immediate use

RICK ASTLEY TO ROCK THE ROSE

Sunday 11 April, 7.30pm, 2010

Legendary 80s pop idol Rick Astley, winner of "Best Act Ever" at the MTV Europe Music Awards in 2008, will be playing The Rose Theatre on Sunday 11 April, 7.30pm, to raise money for the International Youth Arts Festival. Rick will be appearing with his new band The Luddites and performing a range of numbers from bands as varied as The Kings of Leon, Arctic Monkeys, T Rex, The Killers, Green Day as well as a cover of his classic award-winning hit *Never Gonna Give You Up*.

Rick holds the record for being the only male solo artist to have his first 8 singles reach the top ten in the UK and has sold approximately 40 million records worldwide.

"Rick & The Luddites have generously offered to do this fund-raising gig for IYAF. Rick has lots of projects on the go – so we are really lucky to get his support. The band is passionate about playing the best iconic rock/punk covers so there will be plenty of space to pogo and dance the night away to some of the best tracks ever recorded. He has an amazing voice which really suits belting out rock classics as well as his more famous ballads!" says Aniela Zaba, IYAF's Festival Director.

Not one to take life too seriously, Rick is characteristically self-deprecating about the band's appearance at the Rose Theatre: *"due to overwhelming public demand The Luddites have been forced to break off their sell out tour of northern Belgium, and return to the UK to 'Rock' The Rose theatre. Playing Rock/Punk covers of the last few decades in their own unique style, the boys have brought pleasure to literally dozens of people."*

With millions of records sold worldwide and the promise of an evening of musical mayhem, tickets are expected to sell fast, despite Rick's modest assessment of The Luddites musical appeal! Rick Astley & The Luddites will be supported by local band, The Reptiles, who cover classic 70s and 80s rock.

The Luddites: Drums/Vocals Rick Astley; Bass/Simon Mattacks; Guitar/Graham Stack

Tickets cost £10 (standing or seated) from the Rose Theatre box office, 24-26 High Street, Kingston KT1 1HL. Tel: **0871 230 1552**. Online from www.rosetheatrekingston.org

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