

# theLYRIC

Summer 2020

20<sup>20|21</sup>  
SEASON





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## Letter from the Executive Director

These days it feels like we are living in a bad science fiction movie with an invisible enemy no one has found the means to destroy yet. No person, industry or area of daily life has been left untouched by what's happening. The pandemic has caused substantial financial repercussions for everyone and wreaked havoc on so many industries.

Yet many businesses have shown resilience, fighting to stay alive through massive setbacks by innovating ways to adapt. While we're all working to adapt to the 'new normal', the real question we're asking is: *When will live performing arts return to any semblance of what normal used to be?* Our industry can't easily pivot to make ends meet. We can't offer curbside pickup. We don't have the ability to just reopen for a smaller event. We can't put on a concert. Our normal isn't everyone else's normal. It won't return when cities begin to reopen.

There is a positive side to this – rediscovering our humanity, being grateful and practicing kindness. As we express gratitude for essential workers and government officials – as well as the heroic first responders and health care professionals who are focused on preserving life itself – we accept our responsibility to contribute to the quality of life that we enjoy in the Treasure Coast. Performing arts are fundamental to our humanity. They inspire us, fostering creativity, goodness, and beauty. Performing arts bring us joy, and help us express our values. Performing arts are also an essential component of a healthy community—strengthening us socially, educationally, and economically.

Each of us lucky enough to experience live performing arts understands the power of its connection. People need shared communal experiences. People need live entertainment. There is a special kind of magic that lives in creating shared moments. There is no pandemic that will ever curb that desire. While social distancing is necessary, it is also temporary. In time, The Lyric will provide live performing arts and educational experiences again.

What I can offer you is hope. If these past few months have taught us anything, it is that together, we can move mountains. I see our arts community as strong, resilient, creative, and deeply needed. Each day we continue to witness an elevated sense of community and the boundless determination. Though The Lyric has been dark, there is a light at the end of this tunnel.

We are excited to announce our 2020-2021 Season. It has truly been a labor of love and we will be adding new performances, events and experiences as the performing arts industry comes out of darkness. We miss seeing you at The Lyric. We miss the energy exchange between you and our artists. We miss the sounds of laughter and applause. We miss the raw emotions invoked by live performing arts.

We remain dedicated to ensuring that our pathway in this crisis considers our new realities, health and well-being. We are closely monitoring the pandemic as we look forward to the fall and beyond. As a trusted community organization, the health and comfort of our donors, patrons, artists, volunteers and staff remain our top priority. All current and future decisions will be based on the health of the entire community as well as the safety of travel, which is paramount to the success of our programming as we showcase the premier talent in the world.

The arts matter now, more than ever. The arts are what helped us to stay present, grounded and uplifting our minds and spirits through this uncertain time. The Lyric is dependent on YOU - our patrons, members and donors who are the heart and soul of our mission to bring people together to experience the magic of live performance. With this pause in revenue, your support plays an even bigger role. Your support will help us to keep the arts alive in our vibrant community. So, as you consider philanthropy at this difficult time, we hope you can continue to count us among your priorities.

We are a strong community; we are a resilient community; and we have the opportunity to support one another through the challenges that lie ahead. The Lyric will be a gathering place again, and with your help, together we will be able to continue our mission to build community through the arts.

We will get through this. It might take longer than we hope for, but I know that someday we'll be creating those magical moments again...because the show must always go on!

We will see you soon,

Kia Fontaine

### The Lyric Theatre's Mission

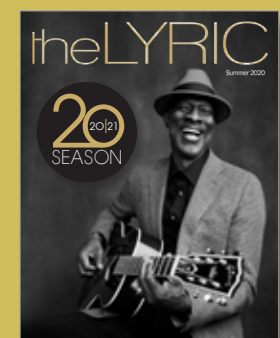
*"To provide the community with a home for the performing arts that entertains, educates, and stimulates the growth of artistic integrity and experience for everyone."*

Rosanne Cash

JAN 13, 2021 | 7pm

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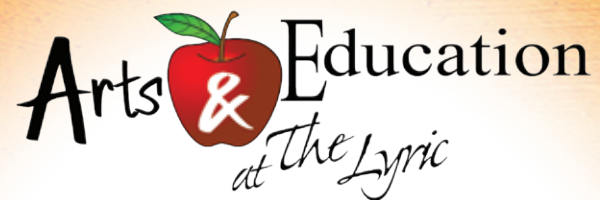
### On the cover:

Over the past two decades, **Keb' Mo'** has cultivated a reputation as a modern master of American roots music. See him **January 20, 2021** at 6:00pm or 8:30pm at the Lyric Theatre.

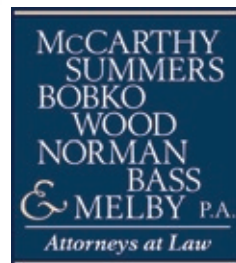


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Kia Fontaine

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Family Day – Open to the Public

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16** 5:30-8:00pm  
Joy to the Girls Cocktail Party

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18** 3:00-5:30pm  
Afternoon Champagne Tea

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20** 6:00-8:30pm  
“A Not So Silent Night” Cocktail Party

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# Singin’ Swingin’ & Six- Stringin’

Welcome to a brand new season, featuring many of your favorite returning artists and some new names you won’t want to miss. This season is truly a labor of love. We’ve listened to your input and designed a lineup that has a little bit of something for everybody.

Eric Gales  
NOV 18, 2020 | 7pm

## Albert Cummings

(October 10, 2020 7:00pm) Albert Cummings is the complete package. He’s not just the guitar player or the bluesman or the singer or the songwriter. Though he is a master of all of that, he is so much more. He is the complete package, with an approach to blues and rock that has been described as soulful and explosive.

The Massachusetts native learned the necessary three chords on the guitar from his father, but switched to playing banjo at 12 when he became a fan of bluegrass. In his late teens, he heard the early recordings of Stevie Ray Vaughan and when he saw Vaughan perform, he returned to the guitar, determined to master it.

A master builder, Cummings did not make his first public performance on the guitar until he was 27. Soon he was on the Northeast blues circuit with his band, Swamp Yankee. In 1998, he walked into a Northeast Blues Society open jam and won the right to compete in the Blues Foundation’s 1999 International Blues Challenge. In 2000, his debut recording, *The Long Way* was released to rave reviews, with *Bluesprint* magazine calling it “a barrage of guitar pyrotechnics that call to mind a grand mix of the styles of past masters like Albert King, Freddie King, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimmie Hendrix.”

His success opened doors and he was able to work with Double Trouble, the late Vaughan’s rhythm section. Bassist Tommy Shannon and drummer Chris Layton were so taken with Cumming’s fire and passion that they produced his first solo recording, *From the Heart*. They performed on it, as well, marking the first recording either had done since Vaughan’s tragic death. Cummings, who originally picked up the guitar when he heard Stevie Ray Vaughan, had come full circle.

The guitar player caught the attention of Blind Pig records, which produced for Muddy Waters, Jimmy Vivino and Elvin Bishop. His label debut, *True to Yourself*, established him as a singer and songwriter of note, as well as a great guitar player. Tours and shows with B.B. King, Johnny Winter and Buddy Guy brought him to a larger audience and his 2006 album, *Working Man* was said by *Billboard* to be “the calling card of a star who has arrived.”

*Guitar Edge* magazine summed up Cummings’ reach this way: “The blues is best served up live, with an enthusiastic audience and a killin’ band and

that’s exactly what guitarist Albert Cummings does... Cummings effortlessly shifts from chimney subdued stylings to raucous roadhouse raunch to soaring yet stinging lead lines, driving his audience to frenzy in all the right places.”

Cummings recently signed with Provogue Records, joining the ranks of guitar virtuosos such as Joe Bonamassa, Walter Trout and Eric Gales. He is looking forward to bringing new music to his loyal fans. With his mesmerizing extended guitar jams, tight pristine tone and strong vocals to match, he has incorporated the influence of his idols while maintaining a distinct, genre-bending style and sound that is all his own. His upcoming album will thrill his fans and make him an army of new ones. Don’t miss a chance to hear him up close and personal at The Lyric.

## Sheléa (November 8, 2020 7:00pm)

Whitney. Cher. Adele. Aretha. There are those select few who only need one name to identify them. Singer, songwriter and pianist Sheléa seems poised to enter that rarified atmosphere. She has performed at the White House for the Obamas. Stevie Wonder, a friend and mentor, plays the harmonica on her hit song, “Love Fell on Me,” the theme song for the Angela Bassett film, *Jumping the Broom*. Quincy Jones asked her to be the first vocalist at his jazz club at the Palazzo Versace Dubai. She has a sultry sound that blends traditional pop, jazz, R & B, and soul with a contemporary edge to classics and a classic touch to contemporary pop standards.

Sheléa began her musical career as a child,

playing a wooden piano from her sisters and singing in the church choir. That makes it truly fitting that she portrayed gospel singer Dorinda Clark Cole in the 2020 Lifetime biopic, *The Clark Sisters: The First Ladies of Gospel*. She has said that hearing Natalie Cole’s album, *Unforgettable...with Love*, was the inspiration for her career as a singer and she first began to think of music as a profession at Oakwood University, from which she received a degree in music with an emphasis on piano. She told *singersroom.com* that her college experience set her on her path. “That was my first time being immersed in music culture like that, with late nights in the studio, writing and producing,” she said. “That’s when I felt like, ‘I want to do this on my own.’”

Sheléa started as a songwriter/vocalist with producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. She wrote and produced for Chanté Moore’s album, *Love the Woman*, and recorded the soundtracks for *Hotel Rwanda*, *Akeelah and the Bee* and *Be Cool*. In 2008, she teamed up with the Grammy-winning group, Take 6, singing “Someone to Watch Over Me” for their Grammy-nominated album. Her debut album, *Love Fell on Me*, not only featured Stevie Wonder, but had Brian McKnight and Narada Michael Walden on board, as well. It charted for more than 22 weeks on *Billboard*’s R & B list.

While Sheléa had considerable success in R & B, she was noticed in other arenas and genres. She was invited to the White House in 2012 to honor Burt Bacharach and Hal David

continued on page 8



Albert Cummings  
OCT 10, 2020 | 7pm



with the Gershwin Prize. She made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2017 with a tribute to songwriter Jimmy Webb and performed at the Library of Congress for ASCAP’s “We Write the Songs.” She impressed legendary songwriters Alan and Marilyn Bergman during the rehearsals; they wrote many of Barbara Streisand’s hits, and her 2019 album, *Pretty World: Through the Eyes of Alan and Marilyn Bergman*, has songs picked for her by the duo and features Stevie Wonder and Kirk Whalum. Also in 2019, Quincy Jones produced a PBS special, *Quincy Jones presents Sheléa*. Her body of work knows only two imperatives: great songwriting and singing.

The artist believes in giving back. In 2012, she joined Herbie Hancock, Patti Austin, the South Adrian Children’s Choir and others at the Kennedy Center for the UN International AIDS Conference. She is a staunch advocate for female empowerment and as a member of The Recording Academy, has shared her insights with high school students on the value of music, the craft of songwriting, vocal technique and professional development.

You may not yet know her name, but you will. A chance to hear her perform live, in the intimate setting of The Lyric, is a special treat you won’t want to miss.

**Orleans** (November 12, 2020 7:00pm) Long before hits like “Still the One,” “Dance with Me,” and “Love Takes Time,” *Rolling Stone* called Orleans “the best unrecorded band in the country.” That didn’t last long as their unique pop/rock sound brought them to the attention of record companies and a contract from ABC Dunhill records. With John Hall writing most of the songs and Larry Hoppen supplying the lead vocals, just three of the Orleans’ classics have a certified combined radio airplay of more than seven million and counting.

Orleans began in Woodstock, New York in 1972 with vocalist, guitarist and songwriter (and later Congressman) John Hall, vocalist, guitarist and keyboard player Larry Hoppen and drummer and percussionist Wells Kelly. Later that year, Larry’s younger brother, Lance, joined as the bass player and in 1976 drummer Jerry Marotta signed on, completing the quintet. The group took its name from the eclectic music they played early on, some R & B seasoned with Cajun and second-line roots from musicians from the Big Easy like Alan Toussaint and the Neville Brothers. Now 48 years later, the band has had some personnel changes, but co-founder Lance Hoppen, long-time mainstays Fly Amero and Lane Hoppen



Stephen Wright  
APR 24, 2021 | 7pm

are joined by Nashville veterans Brady Spencer on drums and Chip Martin on guitar.

When Hall left to pursue a solo career and enter politics, the group continued with the Hoppens and Kelly. When Kelly died in 1984, a memorial gig reunited the Hoppens with Hall. “It was with that turning point and the perspective it brought that we started to refer to our Orleans project as a perpetual ‘work in progress,’” Larry Hoppen said.

By 1986, the reunited band had cut the *Grownup Children* album under the direction of famed Nashville producer Tony Brown. In 1990, they released a double CD anthology and toured the U.S. and Japan and were on the *Can’t Stop Rocking Tour* with Fleetwood Mac, REO Speedwagon and Pat Benatar in 1995.

When Hall ran for Congress in 2005, they brought back Fly Amero, who had performed with them before. They continued recording and touring and agreed that when it was possible, Hall would join them. They were headed for a 40th anniversary when Larry Hoppen died suddenly.

The group went into mourning but honored their mate’s memory by keeping on. With Hall back in the group, they finished their 2012 tour, ending with a special tribute concert to raise money for Hoppen’s family. It looked like the end

of the road, and then new management gave the band new life. They were signed for a *Sail Rock Tour*, playing their own hits and backing up Christopher Cross, Al Stewart, Firefall and others. They released another DVD and the double-disc compilation CD, *No More Than You Can Handle*.

Hall retired in 2019, but the core group of the two Hoppens, Amero, and the newcomers, Spencer and Martin, continue to bring the great sound that fans of Orleans have expected for nearly 50 years.

**Stephen Wright**  
(Rescheduled to April 24, 2021 7:00pm) Comedian Stephen Wright, known for his distinct voice and deadpan delivery, describes his life this way: “I was born. When I was 23, I started telling jokes. Then I started going on television and doing films. That’s still what I am doing. The end.”

Actually, there is a lot more. Wright was ranked 15<sup>th</sup> Greatest Comedian by *Rolling Stone* in their 2017 list of the 50 Greatest Stand-Up Comics. He has an Academy Award for co-writing and producing the short film *The Appointment of Dennis Jennings*, in which he starred with Rowan Atkinson. He also has two Emmy Award nominations as the producer of *Louie*. He appeared in Oliver Stone’s *Natural Born Killers* and Quentin Tarantino’s *Reservoir Dogs*, where he mispronounced the word “behemoth” in the opening of the film. He is known for one-liners, non sequiturs, irony and paraprodsokians, the latter being when you start a sentence normally and end it strangely. In an interview, Wright said that he never knew it had a name.

Wright grew up in Massachusetts and got a degree from Emerson College in Boston. He began performing stand-up the year after graduation at the Comedy Connection in Boston. In 1982, an executive producer at *The Tonight Show* saw him on a bill with other local comics and booked him. He impressed Johnny Carson so much that he



was asked to appear again the same week. His first album, *I have a Pony*, was released in 1985 and was nominated for a Grammy. That landed him an HBO special in the “On Location” series at Wolfgang’s in San Francisco. The popularity of the special and of his laid-back delivery gained him a cult-like following and a place on the college circuit.

In a 2019 interview, for *Las Vegas* magazine, Wright talked about his comedy. “When I think of a joke, the sentences come immediately, within 10 seconds,” he said. “My mind is like a factory that only makes jokes one way. Jokes can only be made one way in my head and that’s the fewest number of words to get the concept out. There’s not one wasted word, because an extra word will throw the rhythm off. It’s almost musical, really where you’re like, ‘This should change. This should end right here.’ The world is like a giant mosaic painting. In these little squares is the whole world. And sometimes I’ll see a square and think, ‘Oh, that has the same meaning as that over there, but it could be taken in a different way.’ That’s how it happens.”

Don’t worry if you see Wright in person and bring up one of his jokes or paraprodsokians. He’s very happy you know who he is. Otherwise, he has said that he might be digging ditches. He’d probably manage to find a mosaic there, too.

The Lyric’s Family Fun Series presents  
**National Geographic Live! View from Above with NASA Astronaut Terry Virts** (November 17, 2020 7:00pm)

He made an appearance on the last *Star Trek Enterprise* episode in 2005, which is fitting, as the original series is what sent him soaring into space. NASA astronaut Terry Virts has served as a pilot of the space shuttle Endeavour, a crew member on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft and most recently as commander of the International Space Station during 200 consecutive days in space, one of the

continued on page 14



**Spring of 1913**  
Construction for The “first” Lyric began on Osceola Avenue near Belle Flora and opened for its first performance a year later.



**1917**  
The “first” Lyric was abandoned and moved to a little wooden structure on Osceola Avenue.

**June 1925**  
Judge JC Hancock began construction of the new Lyric Theatre.



**1930**  
Newly equipped with a RCA Photophone, *Danger Lights* was screened as the first “talkie.”



**1926**  
The Lyric opened with the feature picture *Skinner’s Dress Suit*. Cost of construction was \$100,000 and was the largest building in Martin County.

**1936**  
The Hancocks fell on hard times during the Great Depression and sold The Lyric to the bank.

**1936-1978**  
The Lyric was rented out to community groups and was used to present traveling vaudeville shows, news weeklies, movies and eventually, a Performing Arts Auditorium.



**1978**  
The Lyric was purchased by the New Life in Christ Church and used for weekly worship services.

# HISTORICALYRIC

A Brief History



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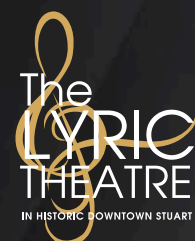
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*To become a supporter or for more information, contact Linda Prange, Development Director, at 772-220-1942, ext. 209, via email at [Development@LyricTheatre.com](mailto:Development@LyricTheatre.com) or visit [www.lyrictheatre.com/support-the-lyric](http://www.lyrictheatre.com/support-the-lyric).*

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**For more information regarding sponsorships contact:**  
Niki Norton, Lyric League Co-Chair at (772) 485-0054 or niki@n2archdesign.com

*The fourth annual Youth Arts Celebration is proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation, Mary Laub Cowan, The Holt Family Foundation, Stephen & Aida Fry, The Wong Family Foundation, Macaroni Kids, Douglas and Carol Rearick, Linda Weiksnar/Crary Buchanan, P.A., N2 Architecture & Design, MBV Engineering, Inc., Ethel Christin, WQCS/88.9 NPR for the Treasure Coast, Patty Downing, and Elizabeth Herold.*




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The Lyric's Family Fun Series presents National Geographic Live! View from Above with NASA Astronaut Terry Virts NOV 17, 2020 7pm

longest continuous space missions of any NASA astronaut. He helped install the outpost's 360 degree observation module and made good use of it, taking hours of video and hundreds of thousands of still images, including some featured in the National Geographic book, *View from Above*. He's a star of the breathtaking IMAX film, *A Beautiful Planet*, featuring his footage from space.

Now you have the opportunity to step back, some 220 miles from earth, and experience our planet from a new perspective. With Terry Virts as your guide, you will gain a deeper understanding of our planet's beauty, climate and place in the universe. You have the opportunity to hear Terry Virts talk about his time in space and the new perspectives he gained about our world and then have the opportunity to ask questions about everything you've always wanted to know about space travel.

Terry Virts always wanted to be an astronaut, but it turns out that his favorite planet is Earth. It wasn't until he was farthest from home that he came to really appreciate the beauty of our world, and he

shares that perspective through his stunning photos and videos.

National Geographic has been making explorers of all of us for more than a century through groundbreaking storytelling from the world's best and brightest scientists, explorers, photographers and filmmakers. National Geographic Live! brings their stories to the stage and enables audiences to interact with the men and women who have gone where few have gone before.

Fasten your seat belts. It's going to be a thrilling ride.

Proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation.

**Eric Gales** (November 18, 2020 7:00pm) Joe Bonamassa calls him "one of the best, if not the best guitar player in the world." Carlos Santana calls him "absolutely incredible." Yet Eric Gales, who, as a child prodigy released his first album at 16, is more modest about himself. About

the release of his 2019 album, *The Bookends*, Gales acknowledged a challenge: "As a guitar player, it's been established that I can play a little bit, just a little bit," he said.

For this album, he wanted more, to push himself as a musician and a vocalist. Joined by B. Slade, Doyle Bramhall II and Beth Hart, *The Bookends* topped the charts and Gales won the Blues Music Award for Blues Rock Artist of the Year. It was a, well, "Bookend" to an amazing journey.

Gales grew up in Memphis in a religious household and while his mother was at church, brothers Eugene and Manuel, later known as Little Jimmy King, blasted out Hendrix, Cream, Muddy Waters, Albert King, John Lee Hooker, King's X and Stevie Ray Vaughan. He was only 4, but he soaked up a grounding in the blues, hard rock and psychedelia. A right-handed player, he learned his distinctive left-handed upside down style from his brothers.

At 16, Gales' talent attracted Elektra Records, which released his debut album, *The Eric Gales Band*, in

1991. He released two more albums in the 1990s, *Picture of a Thousand Faces*, and *Left Hand Band* and then worked on a variety of projects including performing as Lil E with hip hop collectives Prophet Posse and Triple 6 Mafia.

In the 2000s, the prolific Gales released albums almost yearly. In 2009, he spent time in jail for possession of drugs and a weapon. It was a turning point. "While I was in there, all the officers and guards were like, 'Bro, you know this isn't where you're supposed to be. When you get out of here, go take the world by the horns and ride it all the way out.' It took a couple of years after but I'm here."

Gales continued recording and touring, including a turn as part of the Experience Hendrix Tour, holding his own against some of the greatest guitarists in the world. "The tours were a great experience, but ultimately what they done for me is to help me get myself back together so I can go out and pack out those venues myself, that other artists on the tour were packing out."

His 2017 album *Middle of the Road*, reached Number 1 on the iTunes Blues chart and Number 4 on the *Billboard* Blues chart. As he tours with *The Bookends*, he proudly tells the story of several years of sobriety and how it has affected his work. "I guess the songs would answer the question," he said, "I definitely don't have anything clouding my view and it's definitely a much more pure place it's coming from."

As for performing live, Gales gives it everything he's got. "I try to push myself as hard as I can, especially live," he said. "It's like an extreme work out for me. It's like something else takes over. When I hit the stage, some other person is on that stage for some reason. I'm there physically as a witness, but mentally, it's another person."

Gales is known as the guitarists' favorite guitarist, and for one night, you can hear an artist at his peak.

## A Swingin' Little Christmas! Starring Jane Lynch featuring Kate Flannery, Tim Davis & The Tony Guerrero Quintet

(November 30, 2020 7:00pm) You may remember Jane Lynch as the Emmy and Golden Globe-winning coach Sue Sylvester on *Glee*. These days, you can see her as the Emmy-winning host of NBC's *Hollywood Game Show Night* or on *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, with, you guessed it, her Emmy-winning performance as Sophia Lennon. She also appeared in Christopher Guests, *Best in Show*. You may not have seen the uber-cool Ms. Lynch in her own holiday show, *A Swingin' Little Christmas*. Known for her quick wit and improvisational skills, she brings these talents to bear in a Christmas show that features traditional favorites and original songs with Kate Flannery, Tim Davis and the Tony Guerrero Quintet. Their holiday album, *A Swingin' Little Christmas*, hit *Billboard*'s Top 10 Adult Contemporary chart. A Christmas single with Dick Van Dyke, "Winter's Never Cold," written by Tony Guerrero, also hit the charts.

Lynch is not new to the theater or singing. She has a bachelor's degree in theater from Illinois State University and a master of fine arts degree from Cornell. She spent 15 years in Chicago, performing with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Second City. Christopher Guest cast her in several of his "mockumentaries" and she also appeared in *The 40-Year-Old Virgin* and *Julie and Julia*. In 2013, she made her Broadway debut as Miss Hannigan in *Annie*. In 2015, she debuted *See Jane Sing*, an "anti-cabaret" show, and in 2018, Lynch and Flannery premiered their cabaret show, *Two Lost Souls*, at New York City's legendary venue, The Carlyle.

Kate Flannery is best known for playing Meredith the Drunk for nine seasons on NBC's *The Office* and

more recently, for her impressive run on *Dancing with the Stars*. Other recent television appearances include, *New Girl*, *American Housewife*, *Another Period*, and *Brooklyn Nine Nine*. She continues as Jane Lynch's sidekick in *See Jane Sing* and still co-stars in their cabaret act, *Two Lost Souls*. Her original cult comedy lounge act, *The Lampshades*, plays comedy festivals in and around Hollywood.

Tim Davis has been singing and touring in *See Jane Sing* for the past three years. His music producing and singing credits include

continued on page 18

A Swingin' Little Christmas! Starring Jane Lynch featuring Kate Flannery, Tim Davis & The Tony Guerrero Quintet NOV 30, 2020 | 7pm



**1988**  
Friends of the Lyric purchased the historic theatre.

**1989**  
Friends of the Lyric became a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

**1987**  
With talk of razing the theater, Friends of The Lyric, a group of concerned citizens, banded together to save the historic structure.

**1993**  
The Lyric Theatre was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**1996**  
New Orchestra seating was installed and administrative offices constructed.

**1991-1995**  
With grant funding from the State of Florida, National Endowment for the Arts and local community funding and support, The Lyric underwent needed stabilization and repair: new roof and air-conditioning systems, ADA Compliance alterations, Box Office construction, marquee improvements and remodeling of the lobby, restrooms and dressing room.



**1999**  
Vacant lot to the north of The Lyric was purchased for a future expansion.

**2001**  
The balcony of the theater was remodeled for the installation of new balcony seating, an elevator was installed and refurbishment of the lobby and restrooms.



**2005**  
The Lyric expansion was completed, enlarging the stage 14 feet and adding a backstage equipped with a restroom and office/storage areas.

A Capital Campaign resulted in substantial renovations to the lobby and box office, new exterior and interior entrances, new orchestra seating, new sound system and architectural elements added to the walls and columns.

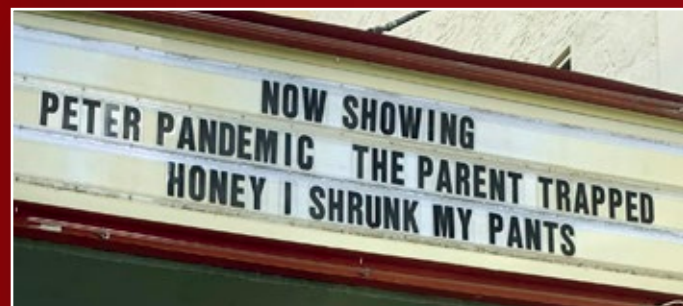
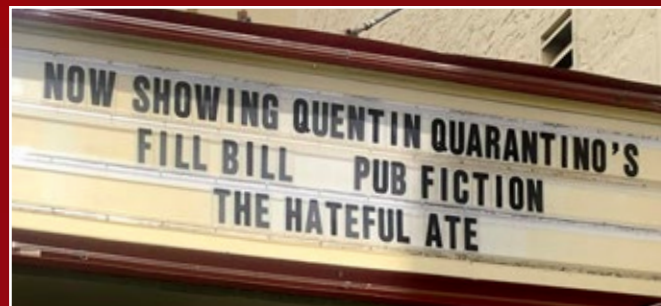
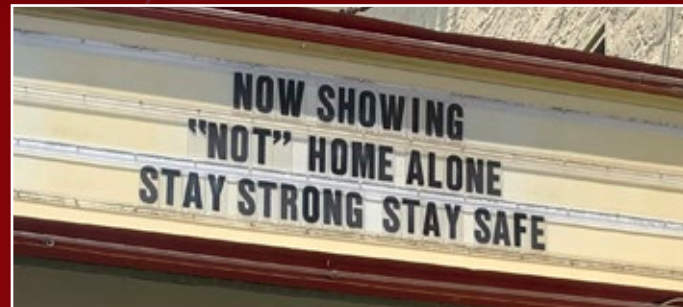
**2014**

**2015-16**  
The Lyric's proscenium was ornamented in an Art Nouveau style. The elegant design, artistry and craftsmanship of the trompe l'oeil art technique were added throughout The Lyric including the balcony parapet, doorway transoms and interior theatre walls.





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all six seasons of *Glee*, ABC's *Boy Band*, Lady Gaga's Super Bowl 2017 half time show, *A Pentatonic Christmas*, Barbra Streisand's 2017 and 2019 concert tours, Josh Groban's *Stages* and television's *The Americans* and *The Goldbergs*.

The Tony Guerrero Quintet has been a staple of the Southern California jazz scene for many years. Featuring Tony Guerrero on trumpet and piano, Matt Johnson on drums, Mark Visser on sax and flute, Dave Siebels on keyboard and Devoid Miller on bass, they are touring the country with Jane Lynch in all of her shows. The Tony Guerrero Quintet's own recordings have been a staple on jazz radio for more than 30 years.

Come See Jane (and her friends) Sing. It's a nice way to begin the holiday season.

## My Son the Waiter: A Jewish Tragedy

(January 6, 2021 7:00pm) No Jewish woman in the throes of labor ever screamed, "He's going to be a waiter!" That truism is the premise for Brad Zimmerman's one-man show in which he uses humor and pathos in equal measure to detail his 29 years of "temporarily" waiting on tables in New York City while he waited to make it big as a comedic actor.

If you ate in New York City, Zimmerman may have waited on you. For him, success was not a new house or expensive car. His mother got to tell her friends that he was able to buy a mattress or some other non-luxury item. As with so many hopefuls, he took years of acting lessons and never gave up on his dream. In 2005, he began working on his show, which is part stand-up and part theater. He sends up his childhood, his family, his misbegotten love life and his career, which actually took a wonderful turn in 2006, when he opened for George Carlin. They became friends until Carlin's death in 2008 and the first time Zimmerman opened for Carlin at the Paramount Theatre outside of Chicago, Carlin came up to him and said it was "really great." Okay. Carlin used a different word than "really," but he did say "great."

Zimmerman went on to work with entertainers like Brad Garrett, Susie Essman, Julio Iglesias and Dennis Miller and was Joan Rivers' opening act of choice for more than seven years. She has said that she had three great opening acts her lifetime: Billy Crystal, Gary Shandling and Brad Zimmerman.



The Lyric's Family Fun Series presents  
Dublin Irish Dance "Wings"  
JAN 12, 2020 | 4pm & 7pm

As a reviewer in *Broadway World* wrote, "Brad Zimmerman is a people person. He knows how we tick and how we operate. He knows just what to serve to get the laughs and the smiles and the tears. All those years of waiting tables has shaped him into a connoisseur of satire. He has that enchanting ability to deliver a punchline with one look, giving the audience a double laugh when he actually tells us the end of the joke."

Those who have seen Brad Zimmerman have a message for his mother. He may not be a doctor, but he has kept us in stitches. Ba-da.

## The Lyric's Family Fun Series presents Dublin Irish Dance "Wings"

(January 12, 2021 4:00pm & 7:00pm) Dancers almost seem to fly. Their movements are so graceful and appear so effortless that it is hard to believe that they are not taking flight. Dublin Irish Dance, which presented *Stepping Out* in 2018, returns with a new production, *Wings*, that is unlike any other show in its genre. The program features exquisite Irish and World champion dancers together with Ireland's finest musical and vocal virtuosos.

*Wings* has original music and choreography and is infused with world dance and musical influences that are meant to thrill audiences with the transformative emotional energy and imaginative design. The vivid and illuminating production depicts rich Irish heritage themes in spectacular dance and musical performances by a gifted cast. Among the numbers are "Carrickfergus," "You Raise Me up," "Eagle's Flight," "Zero Gravity," and "Lover's Embrace."

The new work comes from the creative team of

Alan Scariff, Eric Cunningham and Ciaran Connolly. Scariff, the choreographer, began dancing at 4 at the O'Flaherty School of Irish Dancing in Galway. He competed professionally and won first place at the Connacts, All Irelands and World Irish Dance Championships. He toured with "Riverdance" for 8 years as the lead performer and in 2011 became a qualified Irish Dance teacher.

Eric Cunningham, the music director, is also a Galway man. He has performed in concert across six continents from the Beijing Opera House to Lincoln Center and The Kennedy Center and has performed for three U.S. presidents at The White House and the U.S. Capitol. As a producer, his acts have performed around the world. He holds a degree and first class honours Master in Music from University College, Cork, and was awarded the Seán Ó Riada Memorial Award from that university for his knowledge of Irish music.

Ciaran Connolly, the movement director, is originally from Dublin and has worked in London for the past 14 years as a commercial dancer and choreographer, working on shows such as *Britain's Got Talent* and *Strictly Come Dancing*. He's worked with Robbie Williams, One Direction and Michael Bublé and has worked with a host of top choreographers on major tours and events including Cliff Richard's 2011 "Soulicious" Tour and as dance captain and coordinator for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Ceremonies. He also served as Assistant to the Choreographer on One Direction's World Stadium Tour.

You'll want to see the dexterity and skill of the world championship dancers they have assembled in an awesome spectacle as they defy gravity and leave you gasping.

Proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation.

**Rosanne Cash** (January 13, 2021 7:00pm) She's country music royalty, the eldest daughter of Johnny Cash, but don't try to put Rosanne Cash in a box. She lives in Manhattan and forges a path that is uniquely her own. Born in Memphis but raised in California, she has lived in New York City for 30 years. She is known as one of the country's preeminent singer/songwriters and has released 15 albums that have earned four Grammy awards and 12 more nominations. She is the author of four books and a *New York Times* essay about brain surgery to correct a congenital problem that almost cost her a career. She called it, *Well, Actually, it is Brain Surgery*. She has partnered or served as an artist in residence at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, San Francisco Jazz, the Minnesota Orchestra and the Library of Congress. In 2014, she was the recipient of the Smithsonian Ingenuity Award for the Performing Arts and despite her reluctance to call Tennessee home, was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters' Hall of Fame.

Cash has been married to guitarist/producer John Leventhal for more than 20 years and her 2014 album, *The River and the Thread*, a collaboration with her husband, is the result of a road trip the two took after Cash was asked to help Arkansas State University purchase and restore her father's boyhood home. The project spoke to her and she and Leventhal used the trip to travel Highway 61 and see the South. Cash describes the album as "a mini-travelogue of the South and the soul." The trip included visits to her father's boyhood home in Dyess, Arkansas; her own childhood home in Memphis, Tennessee; William Faulkner's house; Dockery Plantation, in Cleveland, Mississippi, where Howlin' Wolf and Charley Patton worked and sang; Natchez, Mississippi, the blues trail; and the Tallahatchie Bridge. *The River and the Thread* was the number one album of 2014 on Americana radio and won three Grammy Awards. In a 2014 *New York Times* interview, Cash made clear that this album was a collaboration in every way. "I wrote 95 percent of the lyrics and John wrote 98 percent of the

music," she said. "The only time we ventured into each other's realm was to complain. I was not very good in the real world until I met John. He's very pragmatic, very rational. I still get into dangerous places and he's helpful about pulling me out. My mind is like a cave sometimes. I can get too obsessive in a dark way. I have a hard time telling

the difference between what's real and not real, entertaining too much darkness. You know what helps, if he and I go to buy a refrigerator or to the post office together; I really value those things now, just creating normalcy."

Cash released her most recent album, *She Remembers Everything*, in 2018. In a review in *Rolling Stone*, Will Hermes said that it "reminds us why she is one of the most ambitious working songwriters." He noted that she remains hard to categorize, as befits a longtime resident of the melting pot that is New York. "The album's dark lodestar is 'This is My Least Favorite Life,' a sweetly grim waltz with an eastern European lilt, Brechtian existentialism and a little Tom Waits-ian surrealism,



Rosanne Cash  
JAN 13, 2021 | 7pm

conjuring an emotional dislocation that may feel right about now. But in her narrative hands, it's comforting not to be traveling alone."

Rosanne Cash's birth could have been her destiny, but she has taken from it the parts that make sense and added the life she's lived. The result is an artist who can be autobiographical in one song, political in another and contemplative in the next. She is a songwriter for whom the writer is as important as the song.

## Chris Hillman - Time Between: An Evening of Stories and Songs featuring Herb Pederson & John Jorgenson

(January 14, 2021 7:00pm) Oh! The stories he'll tell! Chris Hillman has been described as the only one in the room who doesn't think he's a legend. The co-founder of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Band, The Byrds, The Flying Burrito Brothers, Manassas

continued on page 30





# Arts & Education at The Lyric

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## FREE TICKETS for Non-Profit Youth Organizations!

The Lyric Theatre, along with the aid of Women Supporting the Arts, is committed to strengthening our commitment to educate and inspire our leaders of tomorrow by providing access to all Lyric Theatre performances through our new Arts & Education Program *KidTix*. *KidTix* provides FREE tickets to non-profit organizations that serve low-income and/or at-risk

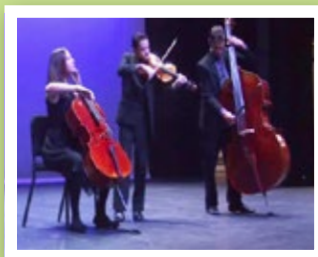


youth. Providing access to arts and culture is essential to strengthening the power of change, making our community a better place to live, work and play. It is well documented that arts and cultural programs offer enrichment, inspiration, education and entertainment to individuals and communities. Children involved in the arts are usually more successful in school, more confident, knowledgeable and well-rounded.

*KidTix* are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information about *KidTix* and The Lyric's Arts & Education programs, please contact Sue Nauss, Arts & Education Coordinator at 772-220-1942 x205 or Sue@LyricTheatre.com

## Bringing the Community Together with the Youth Arts Celebration

The Youth Arts Celebration presented by The Lyric League, promises to be an inspiring evening when children from different backgrounds take to The Lyric stage to represent their passions and rich cultural heritage through various forms of performing arts. Beyond the appeal of the bright lights and thunderous applause, these talented performers benefit from the sharing and exchange of ideas with their new friends, exposure to different styles of artistic expression and a sense of camaraderie and support for one another bound by their love of the arts. Perhaps most impressive is not the immense talents of these kids, but their character. The impact of the Youth Arts Celebration extends far beyond the stage. We are helping to shape the lives of our future leaders.



Come support our young emerging artists on October 24, 2020 in the dynamic talent showcase. Spread the word and bring a friend so that they too can make a difference in these young lives. If you would like to know how you might get involved with The Lyric League or to sponsor The Youth Arts Celebration, please contact Niki Norton Lyric League Co-Chair at 772-485-0054 or niki@n2archdesign.com.

The fourth annual Youth Arts Celebration is proudly sponsored by The Bauman Family Foundation, Mary Laub Cowan, The Holt Family Foundation, Stephen & Aida Fry, The Wong Family Foundation, Macaroni Kids, Douglas and Carol Rearick, Linda Weiksnar/Crary Buchanan, P.A., N2 Architecture & Design, MBV Engineering, Inc., Ethel Christin, WQCS/88.9 NPR for the Treasure Coast, Patty Downing, and Elizabeth Herold.

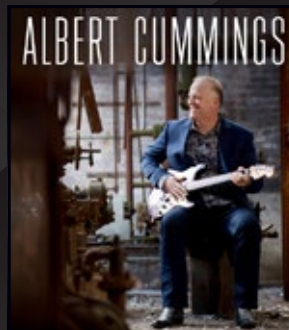
## Students send thanks for the Sounds and Trash!

The Trey McLaughlin and the Sounds of Zamar music workshop and educational outreach with the Reach-Up East Stuart Youth Initiative was an inspiring afternoon for the 1st – 12th Grade students and counselors on February 10, 2020! The youth learned the basics of music theory and musicology from oral and written music-making traditions, the genealogy and history of music genres and sang along with the Sounds of Zamar through learning call and response.

This year's Discovery Series was a successful pairing of live performing arts and educational curriculum support for our area educators. 1,882 students, teachers and chaperons attend the seven -show series.







OCT 10



OCT 24



NOV 7



NOV 8



NOV 10



NOV 12



NOV 17



NOV 18



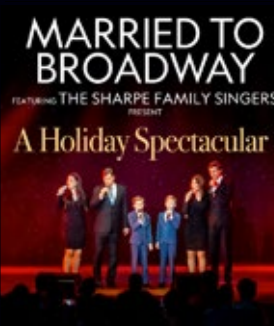
NOV 19



NOV 24



NOV 30



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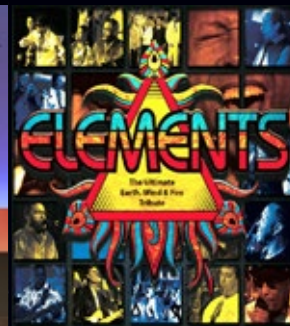
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JAN 6



JAN 8



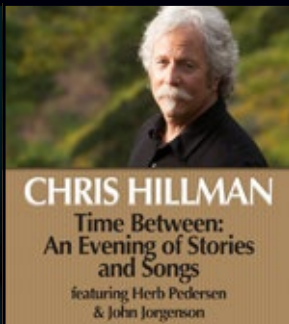
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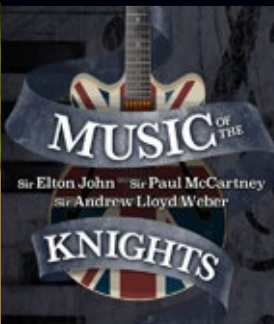
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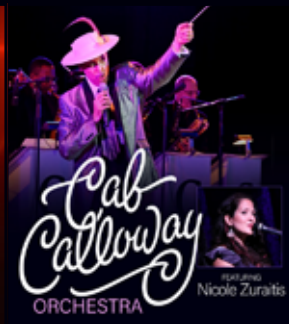
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JAN 26



JAN 28



FEB 3



FEB 5



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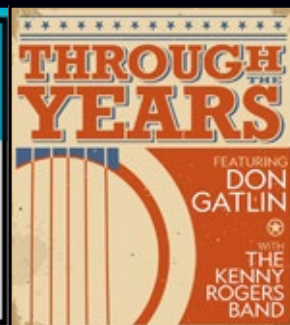
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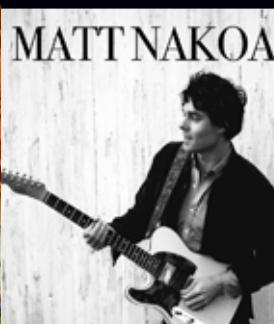
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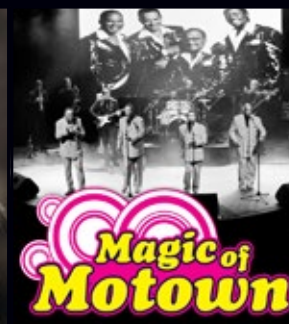
MAR 16



MAR 20



MAR 21



MAR 31



APR 9



APR 16



APR 24



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and The Desert Rose Band, Hillman is considered an architect of country rock. It took a kid from Southern California who had a love for old-time music and bluegrass to set American music on a different track.

Hillman grew up in California in the 1950s. His sister, who he has described as “the bohemian in the family,” came home from college with recordings by Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Leadbelly and others. At 15, Hillman fell in love with folk music. When he heard old-time music and bluegrass, his world changed and so, later, did ours.

Hillman was at U.C.L.A when he got an invitation to join Roger McGuinn, David Crosby, Gene Clark and Michael Clarke in a new band, The Byrds. Hillman was recruited to play bass guitar, an instrument he’d never played before. The group’s first single, “Mr. Tambourine Man” was an international hit and one of the first folk rock tunes. With songs like “Turn! Turn! Turn!,” “Eight Miles High” and “So You Want to Be a Rock ‘n’ Roll Star,” The Byrds were among the most popular groups of the 1960s and Hillman developed as a songwriter, bringing out his bluegrass and country roots. They are on *Rolling Stone’s* list of “100 Greatest Artists;” their entry was written by Tom Petty, who has acknowledged a debt to the seminal band.

When infighting left only Hillman and McGuinn and Hillman’s cousin, Kevin Kelley in the band, they hired Gram Parsons to replace Crosby. With the album, *Sweetheart of the Rodeo*, Hillman and Parsons changed the group’s direction to country rock. Later, Hillman teamed with Parsons again to form The Flying Burrito Brothers, continuing the move toward a country rock sound with

albums like *The Gilded Palace of Sin* and *Burrito Deluxe*. Before the band broke up, Hillman joined Stephen Still’s band, Manassas, where he stayed for several years.

By the 1980s, Hillman had returned to his bluegrass and country roots, recording two albums with singer/guitarist, banjo player Herb Pedersen, a former member of The Dillards. Hillman and Pedersen formed The Desert Rose Band and their self-titled album produced two Top Ten country hits: “Love United” and “One Step Forward” and the number one single, “He’s Back and I’m Blue.” The band recorded from 1987-1993 and had 17 country music hits and won several Academy

of Country Music Awards before they disbanded in 1994. The band, which also included JayDee Maness, John Jorgenson, Bill Bryson and Steve Duncan, had a reunion concert in 2008.

Hillman’s 2017 album, *Bidin’ My Time*, was produced by Tom Petty, with Herb Pedersen as executive producer. A masterwork of folk, rock and roll, bluegrass, and the country-rock Hillman helped to bring to life came together seamlessly, whether the song was written 60 years ago or in the last few years. The album features appearances by Petty, Crosby, McGuinn, Jorgenson, Pedersen, Jay Dee Maness, Mark Fain and others. While the album pays homage to the past, with songs like “Here She Comes,” a song co-written by Hillman and McGuinn and only recorded on a live album in Australia, and the Everly Brothers’ “Walk Right Back,” it also reminds his audience of what a great songwriter Hillman still is.

The album was a true labor of love from a man who is happy with his life and happy to be doing what he loves with his friends. Others have praised the album, but Hillman is, as ever, more modest. “I did my very best,” he said. “That’s all any of us can do. There’s nothing I want. I’ve had a great life and it’s not over - we’re not done.”

## The Cab Calloway Orchestra featuring Nicole Zuraitis

(January 19, 2021 7:00pm) Cab Calloway was the King of HI-DE-HO. The jazz singer, dancer and bandleader was a regular performer at the Cotton Club in Harlem and was one of the most popular vocalists of the swing era. In a career that spanned 65 years, he found a niche for mixing jazz and vaudeville and his song,



“Minnie the Moocher,” spawned his catch phrase, “HI-DE-HO.” He reached the *Billboard* charts in five consecutive decades and he was in classic films like *Stormy Weather* and *Porgy and Bess*. In 1980, he even appeared in *The Blues Brothers*. He was the first African-American musician to sell a million records from a single song and to have a nationally syndicated radio show. “Minnie the Moocher” was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame and he was inducted into the Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame and the International Jazz Hall of Fame. He received a posthumous Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008.

Today, the baton of the Cab Calloway Orchestra is carried by the Prince of HI-DE-HO, Calloway’s grandson, Calloway Brooks. Based at the historic jazz club, “Birdland,” in New York and at venues across the country, the Cab Calloway Orchestra melds the sound of a jazz orchestra and a snazzy stage style that proves that “swing is king and jive is alive.” The original vintage records of Cab Calloway are the starting off point, but the Cab Calloway Orchestra of today brings the modern jazz orchestra into full flight. In a review of the show, the band was called, “crisp, loud, brassy and classy.”

Brooks got his first guitar when he was 7, won his first musical awards at 9 and went on to graduate from the prestigious New England Conservatory of

Music, the first major conservatory to offer a degree in Jazz Music. He studied with many luminaries, but considers the cornerstone of his musical education the years of experience with his grandfather.

Appearing with the Cab Calloway Orchestra is Grammy nominated vocalist and songwriter Nicole Zuraitis. A fixture at Greenwich Village’s 55 Bar and Birdland Jazz Club, she charms audiences with her dazzling vocals, keyboard artistry and songwriting. She and her husband, Dan Pugach, were nominated for a Grammy for their arrangement of the Dolly Parton classic, “Jolene,” and her album, *Hive Mind* won Best Jazz Album for the 2018 International Music and Entertainment Awards. Her latest album, *All Wandering Hearts*, was released in May 2020. *Jazz Inside Magazine* said that she had a voice that’s “hard to ignore, with a remarkable range where you can’t help but stop and take notice.”

You’ve got the best of swing and the best of song. HI-DE-HO!

**Keb’ Mo’** (January 20, 2021 6:00 & 8:30pm) At a time when a multiple Grammy Award winner might be doing victory laps with concerts of their greatest hits, blues artist Kevin Roosevelt Moore, better known as Keb’ Mo’, has been busy

winning more awards. In 2019, 25 years after the release of his debut album under the name Keb’ Mo’, he released *Oklahoma*, which won him a 2020 Grammy for Best Americana album. Featuring cameos from Taj Mahal, with whom he released the 2018 Grammy winner, “TajMo”; Rosanne Cash and Robert Randolph. Jaci Velasquez and Keb’ Mo’s wife, Robbie Brooks Moore, the album addresses topics like immigration, depression, pollution, love and female empowerment.

The inspiration for the title track, “Oklahoma” was a visit Keb’ Mo’ made to the state in 2013 for a benefit show after a destructive tornado. “I thought about what it must be like to live in Oklahoma and all the great people that have come from Oklahoma,” he said.

He had a melody in his head but no song until he met Oklahoma native and songwriter Dara Tucker. They set out to portray the history of America as it played out in her home state, with Native American connections and tragedy, natural and man-made disasters, incredible music, the Tulsa sound, ruggedness’ and perseverance. They also mention the destruction of the “Black Wall Street” in Tulsa in 1921, a devastating part of race relations in the country.

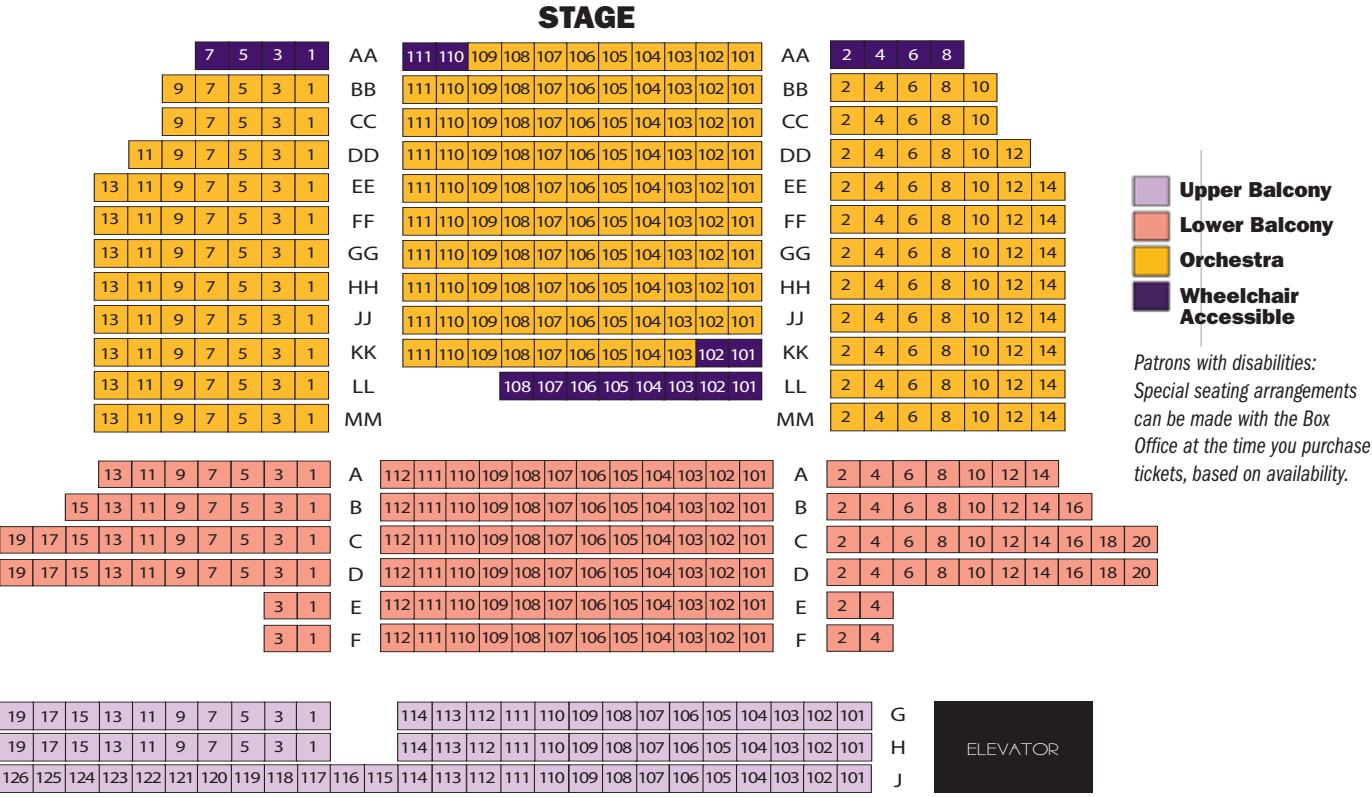
The artist is proud of what he and others have created. “I’d been working on a lot of records for

continued on page 34

Keb’ Mo’  
JAN 20, 2021  
6pm & 8:30pm



# Seating and General Information



**Hours**  
Regular Box Office hours are Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Summer Hours are Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are also open two (2) hours prior to curtain on the day of a performance.

**Purchasing Flexibility**  
For your convenience, you can purchase tickets in several different ways:  
• Online at [www.lyrictheatre.com](http://www.lyrictheatre.com)  
• By phone at 772-286-7827  
• In person at the Box Office  
• By mail to: Lyric Theatre, Attn: Box Office  
59 SW Flagler Ave., Stuart, FL 34994

Please be advised that a \$3.00 restoration fee is added to all ticket prices. This supports the preservation and restoration of our historic facility. The Lyric Theatre is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Will Call**  
Prepaid tickets are available beginning one hour prior to each performance at the Box Office in the lobby.

Paid tickets can also be picked up in advance at any time the Box Office is open, or they can be mailed to you upon your request if there is ample time to do so prior to the performance date.

**Gift Certificates**  
Gift certificates can be purchased in any denomination and are good for any performance held at The Lyric Theatre. They are valid for one year from the date of the purchase. Gift certificates are not transferable, and can only be redeemed by the person(s) for whom they are purchased. They are non-refundable and cannot be redeemed for cash.

**Photography/Recording**  
The use of any audio or visual recording device is strictly prohibited. Patrons will be asked to leave the Theater.

**Cell Phones/Devices**  
Please turn off or put personal communication devices on silent mode prior to entering the Theater.

**Patrons with Disabilities**  
Special seating arrangements must be made with the Box Office at the time you purchase tickets, based on availability. Lobby restrooms are accessible.

**Assistive Listening Devices**  
Assistive listening devices are available in the box office.

**Latecomers**  
Performances begin at the advertised time. Please allow proper time for parking and collection of tickets. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management.

**Parking Vouchers**  
Vouchers are provided to the Lyric Theatre Patrons attending early performances.

**Emergency Exits**  
The exits indicated by a green lighted sign nearest to the seat you occupy is the shortest route to the street. In the event of a fire or other emergency please exit immediately. Please follow the directions of the House Staff.

**First Aid**  
Please see the House Manager.

**Emergency**  
If you become aware of a medical or other emergency, please inform the House Staff immediately.

**Smoking/Vaping**  
Is prohibited anywhere inside the Theater.

**Beverage Service**  
A full service cash bar is available in the lobby.

**Restrooms**  
Located to the left and right of the Theater lobby entrance.

**Lost and Found**  
Contact the Box Office at 772-286-7827.

**Group Sales & Corporate Discounts**  
Discounts are available for groups and corporations of all sizes. Please contact the Box Office at 772-286-7827 or [LyricBoxOffice@LyricTheatre.com](mailto:LyricBoxOffice@LyricTheatre.com) for more details.

**Customer Service**  
If you have a suggestion or problem, please contact the Executive Director, Kia Fontaine, at 772-220-1942, ext. 207.

**Theater Etiquette**  
As a courtesy to the performers and other audience members, please do not leave your seat until the end of the act. If for some reason you must leave, please wait for a pause in the program.

**Volunteer Opportunities**  
If you would like information about volunteer opportunities, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Heather Long, at 772-220-1942 ext. 204 or [membership@lyrictheatre.com](mailto:membership@lyrictheatre.com).

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other people, so I worried it might be a weak record because I didn't have my eye on the ball and was spreading myself too thin," he said. "But when all was said and done, we found the songs and we got the feeling right and now I feel really, really proud of it."

Keb' Mo's career began with his playing steel drums and bass in a calypso band, he went on to play backup for a variety of bands and started recording in the 1970s with Jefferson Airplane violinist Papa John Creach. His first gold record was for a song called "Git Fiddler" that he co-wrote with Creach for the Jefferson Starship. He adopted the name Keb' Mo' in 1994 as his career took off. His albums have won five GRAMMY Awards with 12 nominations, in total. The talented artist has also been awarded 14 Blues Foundation Awards and six BMI Awards for his work in TV and film. He has performed at The White House for President Obama.

Over the last two decades, Keb' Mo' has fashioned a reputation as a modern master of American roots music. Artists from B.B. King to Buddy Guy, the Dixie Chicks to Melissa Manchester have recorded his songs and he has collaborated with a who's who of the music industry, including Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal, Vince Gill, Jackson Browne, Natalie Cole, India Arie, Lyle Lovett and Marcus Miller. His guitar prowess has garnered him three invites to Eric Clapton's acclaimed Crossroads Festival and has inspired Gibson Brands to issue the Keb' Mo' Signature Bluesmaster and Bluesmaster Royale acoustic guitars and Martin Guitars to issue the HD-28KM Keb' Mo' Limited Edition Signature Model.

An artist who recognizes the role of music in social change, he is a long-time supporter of the Playing for Change Foundation, a non-profit that creates positive change through music in nine countries. He is also a celebrity mentor with the Kennedy Center's Turnaround Arts Program, which focuses on elementary and middle schools throughout the United States. Keb' Mo' is a mentor at the Johnson School of Excellence in Chicago.

"I'm more interested in pleasing myself and making records that make me feel proud and feel like I've done my best," Keb' Mo' said about *Oklahoma*. "If other people like it, that is gravy." He has consistently made music that reflects his passions and interests and earned a reputation for his ability to draw upon his extensive roots music knowledge to make deeply expressive, personal music.

He'll be up close and very personal at The Lyric. Don't miss it.

**Lost City of the Monkey God Screening with Steve Elkins, Cinematographer and Explorer** (January 28, 2021 7:00pm) A lost city on the mountains of Honduras! An intrepid explorer determined to find it! A million-dollar machine, capable of mapping terrain using sensors! Special Forces! Poisonous snakes, deadly parasites and torrential rains! Brushes with death!



Lost City of the Monkey God  
Screening with Steve Elkins, Cinematographer and Explorer  
JAN 28, 2021 | 7pm

It sounds like the next installment of Indiana Jones, but this is not fiction. This is the true story of how adventurer Steve Elkins became captivated by the legend of La Ciudad, the White City, a great ruin rumored to exist in the interior mountains of the Mosquitia region of Honduras. He spent 20 years trying to find it and his exploits were detailed in the best-selling book by Douglas Preston, *The Lost City of the Monkey God*, and in a film of the same name by Bill Benenson.

In a thrilling evening, the audience will see the film and hear Elkins recount his experience as expedition leader as he and a group of scientists, filmmakers, journalists and Special Forces soldiers overcome torrential rains, poisonous snakes, and deadly parasites on an expedition to one of the last unexplored places on Earth.

Elkins worked in television for 30 years as a cinematographer, editor and producer. In 2012, his fascination with tales of the Honduran Mosquitia led him to form the company UTL (Under the LiDAR.) with adventure-loving partners. Using LiDAR, a form of laser terrain mapping, Elkins and Benenson organized an airborne expedition to scan

unexplored areas of the Mosquitia jungle where Elkins thought the ruins might be. Their efforts paid off, but it took three more years of planning before a multidisciplinary team was able to verify the discoveries. With the support of the president of Honduras and the Honduran military, the team's small A-Star helicopter with British Special Forces soldiers flew into a clearing and began setting up camp. Honduran soldiers set up a second camp close by.

A team of archaeologists, anthropologists, scientists and journalists followed; machete-wielding soldiers clearing the way from the landing zone to the site.

Three days into the expedition, they discovered a cache of 52 carved stone artifacts peeking out from beneath the ground. It would be guarded round-the-clock by the Honduran military until months later, when an archeological team commissioned by the government and National Geographic excavated 509 artifacts. Today, the goal is preserving the sites and the surrounding jungle. It is indeed astonishing that in the 21st century, a large-unknown city could still be found in the rainforest. The Honduran government has created the Mosquitia Patrimonial Heritage Preserve to protect the cultural site in the face of deforestation.

Joining Elkins is chocolate maker Denise Castronovo of the Castronovo Chocolate Factory. She brings her "The Lost City, Honduras," chocolate bar, a winner of numerous awards and a tribute to the Lost City. The indigenous people living nearby in the Gracias a Dios region protect the forest and make a sustainable living as harvesters of wild cacao. The cacao is processed in their village and put on hollowed-out tree logs, called pipantes, for a two-day voyage to the nearest road. Castronovo is the first American craft chocolate maker to make a single-origin chocolate from these remote beans.

You'll hold your breath and cheer out loud as this intrepid modern-day Indiana Jones follows his dream and helps preserve a part of history for future generations.

*Proceeds to benefit The Lost City Fund supporting the Kaha Kamasa Foundation in Honduras.*

**The Modern Gentlemen** (February 8, 2021 7:00pm) For the past decade, The Modern Gentlemen have been the voices behind the legendary Frankie Valli. Landon Beard, Todd Fournier and brothers Brian and Brandon Brigham have performed with the famed singer on some of the world's biggest stages, from the Royal Albert Hall to "A Capitol Fourth." The quartet, long unsung heroes of the music industry, has now stepped into the spotlight, taking on the sounds of Motown, pop, rock and doo-wop.

Frankie Valli brought the group together and the gentlemen have taken years of experience to create their own, new sound influenced by musicians like Michael Bublé, the Four Freshmen and the Hi-Lo's. The Modern Gentlemen have performed in "Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons: Tribute on Ice" with Brian Boitano and in "A Capitol Fourth," where they joined singers Michael McDonald and Patti LaBelle. They have also appeared on stage with the Beach Boys, Tony Bennett, Smokey Robinson and Manhattan Transfer. They have performed



The Modern Gentlemen  
FEB 8, 2021 | 7pm

for presidents and for Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, at the esteemed Arts Club in London. They were featured on a PBS special, "Doo Wop Generations" and have appeared as headliners in Las Vegas and at their own residence in Atlantic City.

The Modern Gentlemen features vocalist and California native Brian Brigham, whose roles include a recurring spot on *General Hospital* as well as appearances on *The Voice* and *America's Got Talent*. Theater credits include *Grease*, *Saturday Night Fever*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. As a Los Angeles studio singer, you can hear his voice on television and film projects. He has been performing with Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons since 2003.

Brother Brandon Brigham began singing at 8 and has been seen on *The Voice*, *The Sing Off*, and *Jimmy Kimmel Live*. He has opened for Joan Rivers and Jay Leno and has appeared on stage with Tony Bennett, the Beach Boys, Melissa Manchester, Pat Benatar and the Manhattan Transfer. He has performed with Frankie Valli since 2006.

Todd Fournier began his career as an entertainer on Norwegian Cruise Lines. He worked for Universal Studios and Disney and has appeared in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Aida*, *Grease*, *Chess*, *Miss Saigon* and *Oklahoma*. He is a veteran of several soap operas and has performed with Frankie Valli since 2002.

Landon Beard got his start in entertainment early when he appeared as soloist in a Kodak commercial at the age of 3. After receiving a BFA from Cal State

Fullerton, he performed in the New York production of *Altar Boyz*, and has appeared alongside Josh Groban, Roger Daltrey and Eric Benet. He has been with Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons since 2003.

If you love four-part harmony without limits, presented by a dapper quartet who know how to work it, come see The Modern Gentlemen. It's style with a little bit of 'tude and you'll love it.

**Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn** (February 9, 2021 7:00pm) He is a 16-time Grammy winning banjo player named after three classical musicians. She plays the claw hammer banjo and almost became a lawyer in China. They met at a square dance where he was playing and she was dancing. They're husband and wife and the parents of two young sons. They're Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn and a visit from them is a visit from musical royalty.

New Yorker Béla Fleck was named after Béla Bartok, Anton Webern and Leos Janacek, but he took up the banjo after hearing Earl Scruggs and the theme from *Deliverance*. His grandfather gave him his first banjo when he was 15 and he taught himself to play, using an instructional book by Pete Seeger. He attended the prestigious High School of Music & Arts in New York City. After high school, he went to Boston and became a street performer. He was

continued on page 38



# LYRICLEGACY

A Society for Preservation of the Arts

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Paul A. Shirley Family	Frank M. Byers, Jr.
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### TAKE YOUR PLACE IN HISTORY

Our new Planned Giving program, the *Lyric Legacy Society* was created to accommodate and honor patrons who have chosen to direct a portion of their assets to The Lyric. The Society is for everyone — regardless of current giving level — who wants to preserve the arts while ensuring the continued excellence and longevity of our beautiful 94-year-old Theatre for future generations to enjoy.

You can join today and it will cost you nothing now. By integrating your charitable and financial goals, you have the opportunity to make an impactful future gift from your estate, separate from your contributions that support our current needs.

Joining your fellow theatre lovers as a Founding Member is a simple way to express your love and continuing support for The Lyric. For more information, please visit [www.lyrictheatre.com/lyric-legacy-society](http://www.lyrictheatre.com/lyric-legacy-society). But, we'd really appreciate the opportunity to meet face-to-face and discuss how we can best serve your planned giving wishes to ensure our beautiful 94-year-old Theatre continues for future generations to enjoy.

### QUESTIONS?LET'S TALK!

You may reach me ... Linda Prange, Development Director at 772.220.1942 extension 209  
or email [development@lyrictheatre.com](mailto:development@lyrictheatre.com). Play Your Role Today to Ensure The Lyric's Role Tomorrow



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asked to join New Grass Revival, where he played for nine years and recorded a solo album, *Drive*, which was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Bluegrass Album.

In 1988, Fleck and Victor Wooten formed Béla Fleck and the Flecktones and Fleck, who has been nominated for Grammy awards in more categories than any other musician, continued to collaborate with a wide array of artists from many genres. He worked with Edgar Meyer on *Perpetual Motion*, an album of classical music played on the banjo, which also featured Lyric favorite Joshua Bell as well as Evelyn Glennie and Gary Hoffman. It won Grammy Awards for Best Arrangement and Best Classical Crossover Album. He and Meyer composed a double concert for banjo and bass, which they debuted

with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Fleck has also recorded with traditional African musicians, co-written a documentary, *Bring it Home*, about the Flecktones, co-produced *Song of the Traveling Daughter*, his wife's debut album, and recorded as member of the Sparrow Quartet, featuring Washburn, Ben Sollee and Casey Driessen.

Abigail Washburn is a singing, songwriting Illinois-bred, Nashville-based claw hammer banjo player. When she was offered a recording contract at a bluegrass convention, she decided to become a traveling folk musician instead of the lawyer she had planned to be. Washburn, who speaks Chinese, has traveled widely in Asia and tours and performs their regularly. She was named a TED fellow and gave a talk in 2012 about building US-China relations through music. Two songs on her album with the Sparrow Quartet were recorded in Mandarin. The *New York Times* praised her 2011 release, *City of Refuge*, written with collaborator Kai Welch, saying the songs “mingle Appalachia and folk pop with tinges of Asia and Bruce Springsteen.” Her most recent release, in 2017, *Echo in the Valley*, was recorded with Béla Fleck and is a follow-up to their self-titled album that earned the 2016 Grammy for Best Folk Album.



For Fleck, *Echo in the Valley* is reflective of where the two are right now. “Some of the most interesting things in the world come together in strange and unique ways and show our diversity,” he said. “The banjo is just one of those things. It’s a great example of how the world can combine things and create surprising hybrids. We’re expressing different emotions through past techniques and going to deeper places.”

### Pat Metheny

(February 18, 2021 7:00pm) It's rare for a musician to win one GRAMMY Award in a career. To have won 20 spread over Best Rock Instrumental, Best Contemporary Jazz Recording, Best Instrumental Solo, and Best Instrumental Composition is amazing. If you've won seven consecutive GRAMMY Awards for seven consecutive albums, you're guitarist Pat Metheny, only the fourth guitarist to be included in the Downbeat Hall of Fame.

Metheny comes from Lee's Summit, Missouri and started playing the trumpet at 8. He switched to the guitar as a teen and by 15 was working with the best Jazz musicians in Kansas City. He burst onto the international jazz scene in 1974 and spent three years with vibraphone great Gary Burton. Even as a young man, he had already shown his trademark playing style, a way of playing and improvising that was modern and yet grounded in the jazz tradition of melody, swing and the blues. With the release of his first album, *Bright Size Life*, Metheny reinvented the traditional jazz guitar sound for a new generation. Throughout his career, he has continued to redefine the genre by utilizing new technology and working to evolve the improvisational and sonic potential of his instrument.

Metheny is known for his versatility. Over the years, he has performed with artists as diverse as Steve Reich, Ornette Coleman, Herbie Hancock, Jim Hall, Milton Nascimento and David Bowie. His body of work includes compositions for solo guitar, small ensembles, electric and acoustic instruments, large orchestras, ballet and the robotic instruments of his Orchestrion project, always sidestepping the limits of any one genre.

Pat Metheny: Side-Eye  
FEB 18, 2021 | 7pm

In 2020, Metheny released a new album, *From This Place*, which features 10 compositions by him. It is, he said, a work for which he has waited a long time. “*From This Place* is one of the records I have been waiting to make my whole life,” he said. “It is kind of a musical culmination, reflecting a wide range of expressions that have interested me over the years, scaled across a large canvas, presented in a way that offers the kind of opportunities for communication that can only be earned with a group of musicians who have spent hundreds of nights together on the bandstand. Add to that the challenge of all new music and the spontaneous response it generated, channel it through the prism of large-scale orchestration and unexpectedly, *From This Place* becomes something that advances many of my central aspirations as a musician.”

Now Metheny is launching a new playing environment called “Side-Eye.”

“From my earliest days in Kansas City, I was the beneficiary of so many older musicians giving me a platform to develop my thing through the prism of their experience and the particular demands of what their music implied. I have been feeling like I wanted to have a specific platform to focus on some of the younger musicians I have enjoyed recently who I have felt some kind of a kinship with. I wanted to create an ongoing setting to feature a rotating cast of new and upcoming musicians who have particularly caught my interest along the way.”

Metheny said that he draws as much inspiration from younger musicians as they do from him. “I find myself inspired by how they deal with the musical challenges that come with the territory of some of these older tunes and at the same time I find myself intrigued with the possibilities of what might be possible in writing new music just for them. This band setting is what it will be all about.”

Come listen to Metheny and friends. You'll be inspired, too.

### Popa Chubby

(March 5, 2021 7:00pm) Theodore Joseph “Ted” Horowitz was born in the Bronx in 1960. At 13, he began playing the drums, but, influenced by Jimi Hendrix and Cream, he soon switched to the guitar. The young man played the blues and came to the public's attention after winning a national blues talent search sponsored by a Long Beach, California radio station. He won new artist of the year and



somewhere along the way, Ted Horowitz became Popa Chubby.

For more than 30 years, Popa Chubby has been hard rocking the blues in his fierce, soulful way. An imposing figure with a shaven head, tattooed arm, and a goatee, he describes his performance style as “The Stooges meets Buddy Guy, Motorhead meets Muddy Waters and Jimi Hendrix meets Robert Johnson.” He is an endearing character and one of the genre's most popular figures and his career has always been about moving and carving a place for himself in the imposing terrain of the music business. He has overcome the odds and obstacles to continue growing and maturing as a creative force.

While Popa Chubby's first gigs were in the New York City punk scene, the blues were the foundation of his playing style. “Since I'd grown up on Hendrix, Cream and Led Zeppelin, when I started playing blues in New York clubs, I understood that the blues could be dangerous, too. It wasn't just from playing punk bands. Howlin' Wolf and Muddy Waters were dangerous men. They'd cut or shoot you if they thought it was necessary and Little Walter packed a gun and wouldn't hesitate to use it. That danger is a real part of the blues and I keep it alive in my music.”

In March 2020, Popa Chubby released his 30th anniversary album, *Mighty Hard Road*. Featuring 13 original tracks and covers of Freddie King and Prince, the artist sees it as the result of 30 years of learning his craft. “Thirty years is a lifetime or a blink of the eye, depends on how you look at it,” he said. “For me, every day, every show, every flight, every story, every hug has been sheer joy. I truly

believe this has all manifested for a reason. I shine as an example of the human spirit. What does not kill us surely makes us stronger and the art and music we make bares the power of an uphill climb. No matter who you are, no matter what you do, no matter what you believe, we are all the same and... it's a *Mighty Hard Road*.”

Come take the trip with him.

### An Evening with Matt Nokoa

(March 12, 2021 7:00pm) He's been described as “Jerry Lee Lewis meets Beethoven.” He's been called “a hot-handed phenom who can go from Chopin to beer-drenched honky-tonk in one set.” Born on a small goat farm in upstate New York, he trained as a concert pianist before accepting a scholarship to the Berklee College of Music as a vocalist. He's a multi-instrumental composer with powerhouse vocals. He's Matt Nokoa and he's a young man with a brilliant future.

Nokoa didn't start playing the piano until he was a teen and he toured the Adirondacks and Catskills with his music. Then he set his sights on the Berklee College of Music in Boston, where he started an art rock band, The Fens. His piano skills and incredible vocals led to performances with Grammy-winning singer Kathy Mattea and Grammy-winning jazz composer and Rolling Stones tour saxophone player Tim Ries.

continued on page 42



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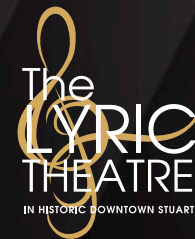
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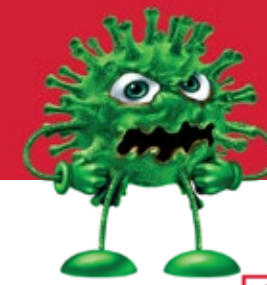
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After college, Nokoa moved to New York City, playing the all-night piano bars. In 2012 and 2014, he released solo albums, garnering multiple songwriting awards including a win at the Kerrville Folk Festival's New Folk Competition. His newest album, *Casting Shadows*, is a mesmerizing blend of pop, soul and classical influences that tells a story of a young man whose childhood dreams and adult reality sometimes crash into each other. A modern troubadour, Nokoa tells stories in song with a musicianship that belies how young he is.

This year, Nokoa has been touring with singer/songwriter Tom Rush, who sees great things for the young artist. "He's my accompanist, but he's so much more than that," Rush said. "He's a monster talent. He steals the show and I don't know why I let him do it. It's fun for the audience. He's definitely on his way up. I'm hoping he'll let me open for him when he's doing stadiums."

**Gabe Kaplan – Welcome Back** (March 16, 2021 7:00pm) Comedian Gabe Kaplan wanted to

be a professional baseball player and starred on his team at New Utrecht High School in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, a place that would figure prominently in his career. When he didn't make the roster of a minor league team, he took a job as a bellboy at a New Jersey hotel where many stand-up comics appeared. Kaplan started working with them, learning the trade, and began performing in clubs around New York City.

After several years touring the country with funny tales of his childhood, he landed appearances on *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson*. Producer Alan Sacks, who was working as a producer of *Chico and the Man*, went to see Kaplan at the Comedy Store in Los Angeles at the urging of Freddie Prinze. They came up with a show that hearkened back to Kaplan's less-than-stellar academic career at New Utrecht, even using the actual school as the backdrop for the opening credits of the show the two created, *Welcome Back, Kotter*. Kaplan played Gabe Kotter, who returns to his high school as a teacher of the remedial class, called the Sweathogs. Each of the misfits was someone Kaplan had used in his stand-up as he brought to life real classmates.

*Welcome Back, Kotter* ran from 1975-1979 and introduced John Travolta, who played Vinnie Barbarino, and the catch phrase, "Up your nose with a rubber hose" to the world. Even the theme song, written by John Sebastian, made the charts.

After *Kotter*, Kaplan continued doing stand-up and appeared in *Lewis and Clark* and the movie *Fast Break*. He did a one-man show portraying Groucho Marx, whom he often impersonated on *Kotter*. He also discovered poker and became a professional poker player and announcer. He appeared in the World Series of Poker for the first time in 1978 and won the main event at Amarillo Slim's "Super Bowl of Poker" and in the next five years, made it to the finish of the main event twice. He provided coverage on ESPN for the 2002 World Series of Poker and was a broadcaster for the only outdoor World Series of Poker in 1997 on ESPN. On television, he hosted poker shows, including *High Stakes Poker* on the Game Show Network, the Intercontinental Poker Championship on CBS and the National Heads-Up Poker Championship on NBC.

Kaplan never strayed far from his roots and his love for stand-up continued even as he succeeded as a poker player. He brings his comedy to The Lyric and all we can say is, "Welcome Back, Kaplan!" ■



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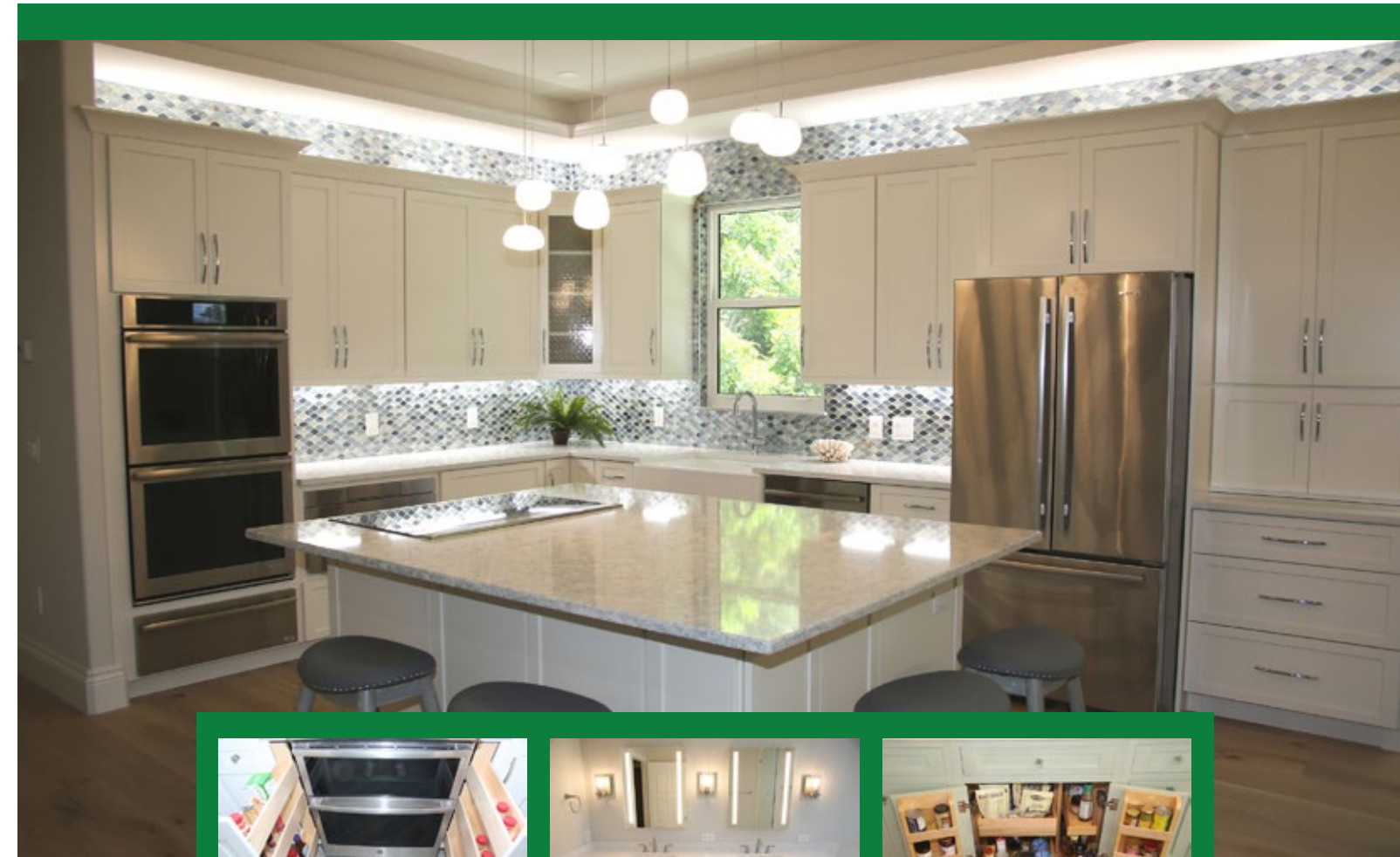
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