2024-25 Season Volume 1

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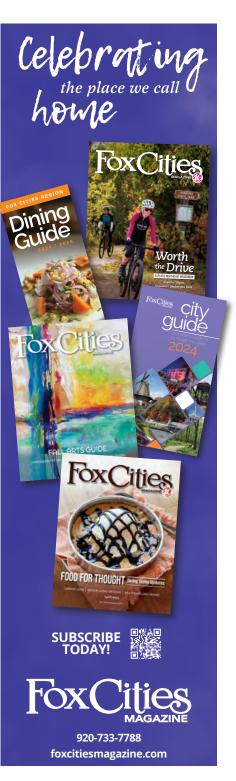
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Welcome to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center

As we embark on a new season of creativity and inspiration, the Center's Board of Directors wants to take a moment to express heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support of the live performing arts in our community.

The arts have the power to be truly transformative. Whether through captivating performances that ignite imaginations, educational programs that nurture young minds, or community events that bring us all together, our mission is to be a multicultural gathering place for our community to engage in educational opportunities and enhance understanding and enjoyment of life through the creation and presentation of the arts.

Your support as attendees, donors, volunteers and advocates is how the Center's mission comes to life in our communities.

We look forward to sharing a season filled with exceptional live experiences and engaging activities that entertain, inspire and provoke thought.

Explore and celebrate shared connections during your experiences at the Center this upcoming season!

2024-25 Board of Directors

Photo: Shane Van Boxtel, Image Studios

(*L-R*): Greg Hartjes, Dr. Pam Her, Sharon Brosnan, Lalu Beré, Tim Bergstrom, Lisa Cruz, Jake Woodford, Tom Rettler, Maria Van Laanen, Heather Beresford

Amy Krahenbuhl, Mark Willson, Cordero Barkley, Kate Burgess, Kim Ritzow, Elizabeth Smith, Dan Voss

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RESPECTING ALL AUDIENCE MEMBERS

At the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, we are dedicated to creating a welcoming and enjoyable experience for every audience member. As you settle in for a performance, we kindly ask for your understanding and respect for all our patrons, including those with sensory needs or who require accessibility support. Some individuals may have sensory needs that cause them to move around or make noises during the show. We appreciate your patience and empathy as you may hear or see some gentle movements or sounds from those around you.

Theater Etiquette Tips:

Arrive Early:

To avoid disruptions, please arrive on time and be mindful of others as you find your seat.

Minimize Distractions:

Ensure your phone is turned off or set to silent mode and keep conversations to a whisper or avoid them entirely. If you need your device for specific accessibility support (such as Gala Pro), please let your nearby usher know so they are aware.

Photography and Videography are prohibited:

The Center's standard photo and video policy prohibits the use of camera or recording devices in the theater. It's more fun when we're in the moment together! Please note that these policies may vary at the request of the artist.

Be Discreet:

If you need to leave your seat during the performance, please do so quietly and considerately to avoid distracting others.

Applaud Thoughtfully:

Show your appreciation with applause at appropriate moments, avoiding interruptions during quiet scenes or transitions.





Shining this bright is an art.

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center brings immeasurable value and vibrancy to the place we call home. We are committed to building upon our 111-year heritage of support for the performing arts as we proudly continue to protect, celebrate and elevate the love of jewelry.



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BRIDGING ART AND COMMUNITY

When we connect with others in our community, we build meaningful relationships and create a lively environment where everyone can experience life together. At the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, we're excited to embrace this idea in our 2024-25 Season. We truly believe that live performing arts have a unique power to bring people together, bridging different backgrounds and perspectives.

We want performances to spark your imagination and inspire conversations. To make that happen, we'll be offering engaging activities like community discussions, workshops, and post-show Q&A sessions. These opportunities will help deepen your connection with the performances and create a shared sense of discovery. Our goal is to make live performing arts not just entertaining, but also a meaningful experience that brings diverse voices and perspectives together. We're looking forward to sparking conversations that help us all appreciate different cultures and build stronger connections within our community.

Enjoy the season, and let's explore and celebrate the arts together!



Community Discussion



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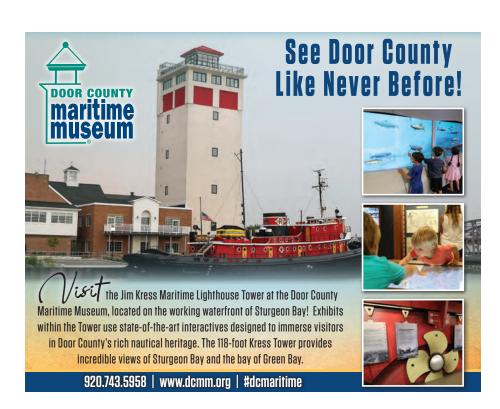
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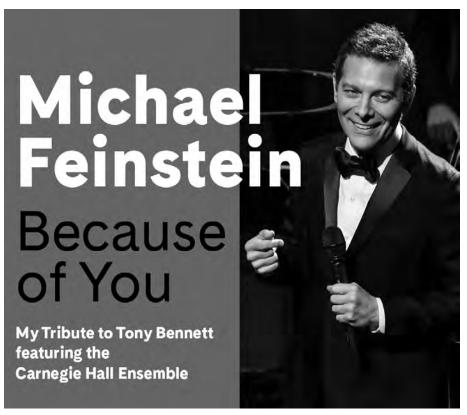


Photo Credit: © Stephen Sorokoff

Thursday, October 17, 2024





Michael Feinstein brings to life Big Band Celebrations and the Tony Bennett legacy. Supported by the Carnegie Hall Ensemble, Feinstein pays a heartfelt tribute to the legendary Tony Bennett, bringing his iconic songs to life in a symphony of sound.

The performance will feature hits such as "Because of You", "Rags to Riches", "I Left My Heart in San Francisco", "The Best is Yet To Come", "I Get a Kick Out of You", "Stranger in Paradise" and many more. Feinstein's dynamic interpretations, coupled with the grandeur of the big band, will create an unforgettable night that honors the legacy of Tony Bennett in all its glory.

Michael Feinstein's close friendship with Tony Bennett adds a profound layer to this tribute, as their camaraderie brings authenticity and depth to each note performed. Not only does Feinstein's masterful interpretation of Bennett's timeless repertoire pay homage to an era of classic songwriting, but it also preserves the rich cultural heritage that these songs represent.

The show also brings to bear the history of Carnegie Hall, which has been connected to the big band for decades. Icons from across the 20th and 21st Century have graced the stage of Carnegie Hall, from Benny Goodman to Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong to Ella Fitzgerald and from Frank Sinatra to, of course, Tony Bennett. The music-making of Feinstein and the Carnegie Hall Big Band continue this tradition, as this program brings the Hall's history to life onstage.

"Tony Bennett is one of the most enduring icons of the 20th century. He has created a body of work surpassed by none." - Michael Feinstein (This show is not affiliated with the Tony Bennett Estate)

Musicians for Tonight's Perfomance Include:

Tedd Firth (Musical Director) - Piano

John Lake - Trumpet

Kellin Hanas - Trumpet

Kurt Bacher - Saxophone

Sam Dillon - Saxophone

David Finck - Bass

Ray Marchica - Drums



Photo Credit: © Terwilker

In addition to his recognition as one of the leading musical entertainers and piano virtuosi of recent decades, Michael Feinstein's work as an educator, archivist, interpreter, and Ambassador of the Great American Songbook have established the popular and honored musician as a pre-eminent force in contemporary music. His dazzling career as a top-selling and critically acclaimed recording artist and a star performer on Broadway, and the world's great concert stages has earned him five GRAMMY® Award nominations, a special Tony Award for Excellence in Theatre for his Feinstein's New York venue, two Emmy nominations of his television specials, and acclaim for his NPR series. His live concerts have spanned the globe including such iconic venues such as The White House, Buckingham Palace, Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, and the Sydney Opera House.

In 2022, Feinstein released to rave reviews, Gershwin Country, an album of standards in duet with some of the biggest names in Country Music from Dolly Parton and Alison Krauss to Brad Paisley and Amy Grant. This same year he made his debut at the legendary Café Carlyle in New York to rave reviews and sell-out performances.

In 2007, as an extension of his work as a legendary performer and passionate guardian of his nation's greatest musical traditions, Mr. Feinstein founded the Great American Songbook Foundation. The Foundation works to preserve and elevate America's rich musical legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators and performers; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars, historians, and performers; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual high school Songbook Academy®. For over a decade, Michael served as a Founding Member on the Library of Congress' National Recording Preservation Board; an organization dedicated to ensuring the survival, conservation, and increased public availability of America's sound recording heritage.

Feinstein earned his fifth Grammy Award nomination in 2009 for The Sinatra Project, his CD celebrating the music of "Ol' Blue Eyes." The Sinatra Project, Volume II: The Good Life was released in 2011. He released the CDs The Power Of Two–collaborating with Glee and 30 Rock star Cheyenne Jackson–and Cheek To Cheek, recorded with Broadway legend Barbara Cook. For Feinstein's CD, We Dreamed These Days, he co-wrote the title song with Dr. Maya Angelou.

His Emmy Award-nominated TV special Michael Feinstein–The Sinatra Legacy, which was taped live at the Palladium in Carmel, IN, aired across the country in 2011. The PBS series, Michael Feinstein's American Songbook, was the recipient of the ASCAP Deems-Taylor Television Broadcast Award, was broadcast for three seasons, and is available on DVD. His most recent primetime PBS-TV Special, New Year's Eve at The Rainbow Room– written and directed by Desperate Housewives creator Marc Cherry–aired in 2014. For his nationally syndicated public radio program, Song Travels, Michael interviewed and performed alongside of music luminaries such as Bette Midler, Neil Sedaka, Liza Minnelli, Rickie Lee Jones, David Hyde Pierce, and more.

Feinstein was named Principal Pops Conductor for the Pasadena Symphony in 2012 and made his conducting debut in June 2013 to celebrated critical acclaim. Under Feinstein's leadership, the Pasadena Pops has quickly become a premier orchestral presenter of the Great American Songbook with definitive performances of rare orchestrations and classic arrangements. He launched an additional Pops series at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in Palm Beach, Florida in 2014. Michael's book The Gershwins and Me-the Los Angeles Times best-seller from Simon & Schusterfeatures a new CD of Gershwin standards performed with Cyrus Chestnut at the piano.

Feinstein serves as Artistic Director of the Center for the Performing Arts, a \$170 million, threetheatre venue in Carmel, Indiana, which opened in January 2011. The theater is home to diverse live programming and a museum for his rare memorabilia and manuscripts. Since 1999, he has served as Artistic Director for Carnegie Hall's "Standard Time with Michael Feinstein" in conjunction with ASCAP. In 2010 he became the director of the Jazz and Popular Song Series at New York's Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Feinstein's at the Nikko, Michael's nightclub at San Francisco's Nikko Hotel, has presented the top talents of pop and jazz since 2013. His first venue in New York, Feinstein's at the Regency, featured major entertainers such as Rosemary Clooney, Glen Campbell, Barbara Cook, Diahann Carroll,

Jane Krakowski, Lea Michele, Cyndi Lauper, Jason Mraz, and Alan Cumming from 1999 to 2012. Feinstein opened his Los Angeles location, Feinstein's at Vitello's in June of 2019 and most recently launched Feinstein's at the Hotel Carmichael in Carmel, Indiana. He has designed a new piano for Steinway called "The First Ladies," inspired by the White House piano and signed by several former First Ladies. It was first played to commemorate the Ronald Reagan centennial on February 6th, 2011.

In 2013, Michael released Change of Heart: The Songs of Andre Previn in collaboration with fourtime Oscar and eleven-time Grammy Award-winning composer-conductor-pianist Andre Previn. The album celebrates Previn's pop songs and motion picture classics. Earlier album highlights include Hopeless Romantics, a songbook of classics by Michael's late friend Harry Warren, recording with legendary jazz pianist George Shearing. His album with songwriting icon Jimmy Webb, Only One Life–The Songs of Jimmy Webb, was named one of the "10 Best CDs of the Year" by USA Today.

Feinstein received his fourth Grammy nomination for Michael Feinstein with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, his first recording with a symphony orchestra. The year before, Rhino/Elektra Music released The Michael Feinstein Anthology, a two-disc compilation spanning 1987 to 1996 and featuring old favorites and previously unreleased tracks.



Photo Credit: © Kevin Alvey

Michael was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, where he started playing piano by ear as a 5-year-old. After graduating from high school, he moved to Los Angeles when he was 20. The widow of legendary concert pianist-actor Oscar Levant introduced him to Ira Gershwin in July 1977. Feinstein became Gershwin's assistant for six years, which earned him access to numerous unpublished Gershwin songs, many of which he has since performed and recorded. Gershwin's influence provided a solid base upon which Feinstein evolved into a captivating performer, composer, and arranger of his own original music. He also has become an unparalleled interpreter of music legends such as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer, Duke Ellington, and Harry Warren. Feinstein has received three honorary doctorates. Through his live performances, recordings, film and television appearances, and his songwriting (in collaboration with

Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Lindy Robbins, Bob Merrill, and Marshall Barer), Feinstein is an all-star force in American music. For more information, please visit MichaelFeinstein.com.

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Personal Management for Michael Feinstein Sterling Winters Company (SWC)
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For up-to-date information, full schedule of dates and to purchase tickets, please visit
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The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center presents



Saturday, October 19, 2024





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The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center presents

Joshua Kane performs Edgar Allan Poe's Tales of Terror



Thursday, October 24, 2024

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It has been suggested that if you dropped Orson Welles, Artemus Gordon and the Count of Monte Cristo into a blender, the inevitable result would be Joshua Kane. Raised in an illegal boarding house and obsessed from an early age with books, bullwhips, spoken word, knife-throwing, and the theatre, Kane was destined for a career on the stage or in the state penitentiary.

A classically trained actor, Kane has studied with such theatrical luminaries as Stella Adler, Bobby Lewis, Marcel Marceau, and Patsy Rodenburg. His versatility as a character actor has led to a wide range

of theatre credits, including the Pirate King in *Pirates of Penzance*, John Dickinson in 1776, Nat in *I'm Not Rappaport*, and Friar Francis in *Much Ado About Nothing*. A member of Actors Equity Association, Kane has played limited runs at off-Broadway's historic Lambs Theatre and Neighborhood Playhouse.

Since 1991, Kane has run his own theatrical production company that exclusively produces theatrical, corporate, and private events that shamelessly feature Joshua Kane, because, like Shakespeare's Bottom, he wants to play all the parts. His fascination with the old-time radio dramas of Orson Welles and Vincent Price inspired Kane to reinvent "Theatre of the Mind" for a new generation.

An international touring artist, Kane's original works include *Gothic at Midnight*, his awardwinning tribute to the Masters of the Macabre; *Borders of the Mind*, an evening of psychic phenomena; his one-man adaptation of *The Time Machine*, H. G. Wells' immortal classic; *A Force of Nature: or How I survived My Jewish American Family* for the 92nd Street Y's Oral Tradition Series; and *Shakespeare's Murderers, Madmen & Kings*. He also offers dynamic creativity and voice workshops. Kane has performed to great acclaim at theaters across North America, as well as the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, World Horror Con, and Dragon Con.

Kane's vocal skills have been used to great effect as the narrator of Saint Saens's "Carnival of the Animals" and Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf." He has a lively career as a voice over artist with commercial spots including the Central Intelligence Agency, Major League Baseball, KRE-O Transformers, Little Caesars "Deep Deep Dish" Pizza campaign, and Pillsbury's "It's Baking Season" holiday campaign. He played the lead role of Robert Louis Stevenson in Little People, a radio production conceived and directed by Jad Abumrad for New York Public Radio's Radio Lab, which has enjoyed frequent rebroadcasts since its debut. He also writes and performs original comic verse (including a performance on Colorado public radio) and has recorded numerous audiobooks for Penguin Random House and Hachette Audio.

For more information, please visit our website at JoshuaKane.com Find us on social media: facebook.com/NYCActorJoshuaKane and https://www.instagram.com/jkanenyc/

Tonight's performance will include selections from the following:

Shadow – A Parable Tell-Tale Heart The Raven Cask of Amontillado Hop-Frog Masque of the Red Death Annabel Lee Alone Et Alia 24b The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center presents

IN SEARCH OF LOST CITIES: ALBERT LIN



Photo Credit: National Geographic

Friday, November 8, 2024



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Albert Lin's "In Search of Lost Cities" features groundbreaking modern-day high-tech exploration that blurs the boundaries between human and machine, while uncovering the lost relics and ancient wisdom of our past. Despite losing his leg below the knee in 2016, Albert has traveled to the farthest reaches of our planet, bringing back astonishing stories from destinations including Mongolia, where he went to locate the tomb of Genghis Khan, and the Yucatan, where he discovered lost cities in the Mayan jungle. Albert will demonstrate how his cutting edge satellite technology can scour vast terrains noninvasively, respecting the traditional beliefs of Indigenous communities. And he will share never-before-heard tales of human resilience and invention at the frontiers of civilization.





Albert has scaled the walls of Yosemite's El Capitan, traversed the deserts of Arabia, and dove into Africa's underground lakes, all in the pursuit of wonder. He was the driving force behind National Geographic's pioneering crowdsourcing effort to assist his expedition in Mongolia, using satellite imagery and public participation, a concept that has since engaged millions of individuals in search and rescue missions and humanitarian and environmental monitoring. His work with university research centers, clinical trials, and technology startups, has earned him numerous awards. Albert's expeditions have been chronicled in adventure-driven factual TV series, including "Lost Treasures of the Maya," "Buried Secrets of the Bible," and "Lost Cities with Albert Lin." Albert's "seeing the invisible" approach extends to the natural world, where his curiosity gives way to awe, as showcased on National Geographic's "Welcome to Earth" and "Explorer."

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center presents

CIRQUE KALABANTÉ – AFRIQUE EN CIRQUE



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Kalabante Productions

Friday, January 31, 2025

Arts Alive!



Afrique en Cirque is a show by Yamoussa Bangoura, inspired by daily life in Guinea. This performance shares the beauty, youth and artistry of African culture. A colorful show beyond its scenery, costumes and staging, it makes any theatre vibrate with energy and represents the strength, agility and life's joys of young Africans. The audience will see acrobats execute gravity-defying moves and human pyramids, accompanied by the contemporary sounds of live Afro-Jazz, percussion, and kora. Welcome to the universe of Kalabanté Productions, and prepare for an unforgettable journey.



Kalabanté Productions was created by Yamoussa Bangoura, a multidisciplinary artist of Guinean origin. Yamoussa's dream was the founding of a school of circus arts, and to direct his own multidisciplinary company specializing in the African arts.

Yamoussa first became interested in the Circus Arts as a young man growing up in Conakry Guinea in the 1990's. He studied the circus performers he saw on European TV and practiced on the beach and dirt around his home. He also studied the Nyamakala tradition of circus, practiced by the Fula people of West Africa. He eventually joined Guinea's original circus company, Circus Baobob, with whom he toured Africa and Europe.

In the early 2000's, Yamoussa was recruited to come to Canada with Cirque Eloize, a Montreal based Canadian cirque company. While in Canada he also performed with Cirque du Soleil and Cavalia (cirque with horses). In 2007 Yamoussa realized his dream and opened his own company, Kalabanté Productions in Montreal Canada. He recruited many of his extended family members to join the company, including his twin sisters, brothers, and cousins.

The company began doing shows in Quebec, and over the years expanded to all of Canada, the USA and now performs all over the world. In 2018, Kalabante opened their own studio and school in Montreal, where they offer classes in African dance, cirque, and drumming.

Kalabante Productions is proud to be able to share their work, achievements and skills to inspire others and to assist with the humanitarian mission to help the Guinean community from which Yamoussa and many of his company members come.

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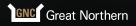
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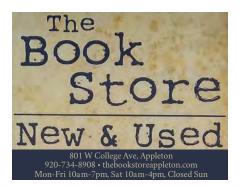
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