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Pasadena Symphony & POPS
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For artist bios and images visit: <https://pasadenasympphony-pops.org/2021-pops-season-announcement/>

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN & THE PASADENA POPS ANNOUNCE THEIR RETURN TO THE ARBORETUM FOR THE 2021 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

*Tickets on sale now for the five concert series from
July 10 – September 11, 2021*

Pasadena, CA – Principal Pops Conductor **Michael Feinstein** and the **Pasadena POPS** are ecstatic to announce the return of live in-person concerts this summer at the **Los Angeles County Arboretum**. The popular **2021 Sierra Summer Concert Series will present five concerts from July 10 to September 11, 2021 for fully vaccinated audiences**. The series will feature a stellar line-up of stars including **Thelma Houston, Billy Davis Jr. & Marilyn McCoo, Liz Callaway, Jordan Donica** and more. Entry to all Pasadena POPS concerts will require proof of receiving a fully completed Covid-19 vaccine at least two weeks prior to the concert date.

The Pasadena POPS outdoor concert setting at the LA County Arboretum is uniquely designed with spacious round table seating allowing ample distance between tables, plus an expansive lawn area for socially-distanced seating on blankets and low back chairs. The venue plans to limit capacity this summer to provide even more spacing to support a safe concert-going experience for all.

Feinstein kicks off the summer series on **July 10** with **The Road to Motown**, honoring the **Supremes' Mary Wilson**, who was originally slated to perform before her recent passing. Wilson's "Mississippi Sister" **Thelma Houston** will pay tribute to the legend and celebrate the greatest hits of the Motown era with the **Fifth Dimension's Billy Davis Jr. & Marilyn McCoo**, and the premiere Motown singing sensation, **Spectrum**. The music of super group **Fleetwood Mac** lights up the stage on **July 24** with special guests **Landslide** performing *Rhiannon, Don't Stop, Go Your Own Way* and many more chart-topping hits for **Fleetwood Mac: A Tribute**.

Michael takes the stage as soloist to bring Ol' Blue Eyes' biggest hits on **August 14** for **Michael Feinstein Sings: Sinatra's Songbook**. Back by popular demand, **Classical Mystery Tour** brings the timeless hits of the Fab Four to life on **August 28** with a fresh set list of Beatles' favorites including "Can't Buy Me Love," "Here Comes the Sun," "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," "Imagine" and many more. Feinstein returns to the podium to close the season on **September 11** with **100 Years of Broadway**, covering the

best shows coming out of The Great White Way from each decade leading up to the present performed by *Hamilton's* **Jordan Donica** and Emmy-winner **Liz Callaway**.

“The feeling of anticipation and joy bubbling up in all of us is palpable as we prepare to return to the experience of sharing live music,” says Feinstein. Personally, for me, I have missed the connection of creating acoustic sound with an audience present, because as grateful as I am for virtual music-making, it is simply not the same as hearing live music played by a symphony in a beautiful natural setting. I know I can speak confidently for our orchestra when I say that we have missed you, and we will perform with everything we’ve got. We’re going to have a brilliant season!”

The POPS Covid-19 safety procedures and protocols are evolving along with public health guidelines. For the most up to date venue safety protocols and ticketing requirements, visit pasadenasympphony-pops.org/covid-19-safety-protocols-pops.

All concerts are held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden. Grounds open for picnicking and dining at 5:30pm and performances begin at 7:30pm. Don’t miss the best outdoor dinner party in town with spacious circular table seating with fine linens, or lawn seating for those who want to bring a blanket – each option carries on the tradition of picnic-dining with your family and friends with Michael Feinstein and the San Gabriel Valley’s premier orchestra! Among many venue amenities, concertgoers can enjoy pre-ordered gourmet box dinners for on-site pickup just steps from their table or a variety of food truck options.

The Arboretum is located at 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Subscribers may purchase pre-paid onsite parking at the Arboretum, and all concertgoers can purchase guaranteed and convenient parking at Santa Anita Park, with complimentary non-stop shuttle service to the Arboretum’s main entrance.

Single tickets start at \$25. Season subscriptions and single tickets are now on sale, and are available by calling the box office at (626)-793-7172, online at PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org or at the Arboretum on concert days.

2021 Sierra Summer POPS Series Calendar

Road to Motown

July 10, 2021

Michael Feinstein, conductor
Billy Davis Jr. & Marilyn McCoo, *soloists*
Thelma Houston, *soloist*
Spectrum, *special guests*

Fleetwood Mac: A Tribute

July 24, 2021

Landslide: A Symphonic Tribute to the Music of Fleetwood Mac, *special guests*
Larry Blank, Conductor

Michael Feinstein Sings Sinatra's Songbook

August 14, 2021

Michael Feinstein, *soloist*

Larry Blank, *conductor*

Classical Mystery Tour: A Tribute to the Beatles

August 28, 2021

Classical Mystery Tour, *special guests*

Larry Blank, Conductor

100 Years of Broadway

September 11, 2021

Michael Feinstein, *conductor*

Liz Callaway, *soloist*

Jordan Donica, *soloist*

IF YOU GO:

- **What:** The Pasadena Symphony and POPS presents the 2021 Sierra Summer Concert Series with Principal Pops Conductor Michael Feinstein.
- **When:** July 10, July 24, August 14, August 28, September 11, 2021. Concerts start at at 7:30pm. Gates open at 5:30pm.
- **Where:** The LA County Arboretum | 301 N Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007
- **Cost:** Tickets start at \$25.00
- **Dining:** Gates open at 5:30pm for picnicking. Guests are welcome to bring their own food and drink or pre-order from onsite food vendors.
- **Parking:** Subscribers have the opportunity to purchase onsite Arboretum parking. Single ticket holders may purchase guaranteed and convenient parking at Santa Anita Park, located just across Baldwin Ave., with complimentary non-stop shuttle service to the Arboretum's main entrance.

ABOUT THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Recent Acclaim for the Pasadena Symphony and POPS:

"The Pasadena Symphony signals a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy emotion." – Los Angeles Times.

“In his five years leading the PSO, Lockington has taken an ensemble that was already quite good and elevated it into one where excellence is the byword.” – Pasadena Star News.

Formed in 1928, the Pasadena Symphony and POPS is an ensemble of Hollywood’s most talented, sought after musicians. With extensive credits in the film, television, recording and orchestral industry, the artists of Pasadena Symphony and POPS are the most heard in the world.

The Pasadena Symphony and POPS performs in two of the most extraordinary venues in the United States: Ambassador Auditorium, known as the *Carnegie Hall of the West*, and the luxuriant Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden. Internationally recognized, Grammy-nominated conductor, David Lockington, serves as the Pasadena Symphony Association’s Music Director, with performance-practice specialist Nicholas McGegan serving as Principal Guest Conductor. The multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer dubbed “The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook,” Michael Feinstein, is the Principal Pops Conductor, who succeeded Marvin Hamlisch in the newly created *Marvin Hamlisch Chair*.

A hallmark of its robust education programs, the Pasadena Symphony Association has served the youth of the region for over five decades through the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras (PYSO), comprised of five performing ensembles with 300 gifted 4th-12th grade students from more than 50 schools all over the Southern California region. The PYSO has toured internationally at prestigious venues in New York, Vienna, and most recently San Jose, Costa Rica. They regularly perform throughout Southern California and have appeared on the popular television show *GLEE*.

The PSA provides people from all walks of life with powerful access points to the world of symphonic music.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Michael Feinstein

Principal Pops Conductor

Tom and Erika Girardi Chair

Michael Feinstein has built a dazzling career over the last three decades bringing the music of the Great American songbook to the world. From recordings that have earned him five Grammy Award nominations to his Emmy nominated PBS-TV specials, his acclaimed NPR series and concerts spanning the globe – in addition to his appearances at iconic venues such as The White House, Buckingham Palace, Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall and Sydney Opera House – his work as an educator and archivist define Feinstein as one of the most important musical forces of our time.

In 2007, he founded the Great American Songbook Foundation, dedicated to celebrating the art form and preserving it through educational programs, Master Classes, and the annual High School Songbook Academy. This summer intensive open to students from across the country has produced graduates who have gone on to record acclaimed albums and appear on television programs such as NBC’s “America’s Got Talent.” Michael serves 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.

The most recent album from his multi-platinum recording career is *A Michael Feinstein Christmas* from Concord Records. The CD features Grammy Award -winning jazz pianist Alan Broadbent (Paul McCartney, Diana Krall, Natalie Cole). 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," 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 interviews and performs 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 & Schuster – features a new CD of Gershwin standards performed with Cyrus Chestnut at the piano.

Feinstein serves as Artistic Director of the Palladium Center for the Performing Arts, a \$170 million, three-theatre 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. He debuted at Feinstein's/54 Below, his new club in New York, late in 2015. 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.

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 Regan centennial on February 6, 2011.

In 2013 Michael released *Change Of Heart: The Songs of Andre Previn* in collaboration with four time 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 "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.

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 www.MichaelFeinstein.com.

Larry Blank **Resident Pops Conductor**

Resident Pops Conductor, Larry Blank is one of the most prolific and sought-after composers, conductors, and orchestrators in the entertainment business today. His work has been presented all over the world, including some of Broadway's most successful musicals, Carnegie Hall, and top television and film projects.

He was the Music Director/Conductor and/or vocal arranger for many shows on Broadway and in Los Angeles including *They're Playing Our Song*, *Evita*, *Sugar Babies*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Phantom Of The Opera*, *Onward Victoria*, *Copperfield*, *Colette*, *A Chorus Line* and *A Little Night Music*. He has been nominated three times for both the Tony Award and the Drama Desk Award for his orchestrations in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* and with Marc Shaiman for *Catch Me If You Can*. Larry received a Drama Desk Nomination for orchestrations for *A Christmas Story*

Larry contributed to the orchestrations for both the stage and film production of *The Producers*, the film *Chicago* and is a regular conductor and arranger for BBC RADIO 2 Friday Night Is Music Night in the UK. Larry is also the Music Supervisor and Orchestrator (along with Mark Cumberland) for the *Olivier Awards* in London.

Blank has worked with top talent from varied fields of the entertainment world, notably as personal conductor to Michael Crawford. He has also worked with Michael Feinstein, Marvin Hamlisch, Bernadette Peters, Kelsey Grammar, Christine Baranski, Roberta Flack, Pete Fountain, Peabo Bryson, Sally Kellerman, Nancy Dussault, Marc Shaiman, Jerry Herman, Ann- Margaret, Davis Gaines, Bette Midler, George Benson, Placido Domingo, Randy Newman, Trisha Yearwood, Tom Scott, Quincy Jones, Michael Bolton, John Raitt and Diana Rigg.

Blank's background includes orchestrating and arranging songs for *South Park* and was Music Supervisor and Orchestrator for Jerry Herman's movie, *Mrs. Santa Claus* starring Angela Lansbury and Charles Durning. Some of the films he lent his talent to include *The Kid*, *Kiss The Girls*, *The American President*, *Forget Paris*, *City Slickers II*, *The Net*, *That's Entertainment III*, *North, I'd Do Anything*, and *Stuart Saves His Family*. Blank's music can be heard on the animated feature films, *Cats Don't Dance* and *All Dogs Go To Heaven* as well as the *101 Dalmations Christmas Special*.

Mr. Blank's television work includes orchestrating and composing music for several of the *Grammy Awards* and *Academy Award* shows as well as numerous television movies and shows.

Mr. Blank has guest conducted most of the orchestras throughout the world, including *The San Francisco Symphony*, *The New York Philharmonic*, *Western Australia Symphony Orchestra*, *The Los Angeles Philharmonic*, *Palm Beach Pops*, *Auckland Symphony*, *The National Symphony Orchestra*, *The Boston Pops*, *The Chicago Symphony Orchestra*, *Calgary Symphony*, *New Orleans Symphony* and *Toronto*.

MARILYN MCCOO & BILLY DAVIS, JR.

Soloists

Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr., are the voices, Original Stars and lead singers of the legendary group, The 5th Dimension, before leaving the Group in 1975. McCoo and Davis launched Champagne and Pop Soul Classics, including "Up, Up and Away," "Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In," "Worst That Could Happen," "Stoned Soul Picnic," "Sweet Blindness," "Wedding Bell Blues," and "One Less Bell to Answer." After leaving The 5th Dimension, Marilyn and Billy recorded "You Don't Have to be a Star (to Be in My Show)," a chart topping number 1 record, won them their own Grammy Award and a television series on CBS. They are named by Billboard, "The First Couple of Pop and Soul."

Billy, devoted his efforts to a successful gospel music career and Marilyn performed in television's "Solid Gold." The couple enjoys tremendous success through the years as recording artists, performers and authors. They have received a total of 7 Grammy Awards, earned 15 gold and 3 platinum records.

Thelma Houston

Soloist

After many decades of performing, Thelma Houston continues to celebrate her long and outstanding career and shows no signs of slowing down! Over the course of many years, promoters have been asking Thelma, when is she going to return to her Motown roots?

After much thought, Thelma has decided that the timing was right to launch a brand new band show called: "THELMA HOUSTON's MOTOWN Experience" The show features non-stop classic Motown songs (that we all know and love,) along with a tribute to Ms. Houston's friend, the "Queen of Soul" Aretha Franklin!

Thelma was asked to join a stellar list of artists honoring the illustrious career of the late Donna Summer, who Thelma knew. Thelma recorded covers of Donna's classic songs: "*Last Dance*," "*Could it Be Magic?*" and "*I Love You*."

Thelma's 23rd album, "A Woman's Touch", was released recently through Shout Factory Records (distributed by Sony/BMG) and offers her rich interpretations of many classic R&B and pop recordings

originally made famous by such male vocalists as Luther Vandross, Rev. Al Green, Sting and Marvin Gaye.

A Mississippi native, Thelma started out in the 60's performing in gospel music with the Art Reynolds Singers. She then signed to Capitol Records (home of the Beatles, Nat King Cole and Nancy Wilson) in 1967 and had her first hit song called "Baby Mine."

Soon Thelma was courted by several record labels and signed with ABC/Dunhill where she recorded and released her first solo album called "Sunshower" which was written, arranged, and produced by the legendary Jimmy Webb. After this critically acclaimed album was released, Thelma decided to accept an offer from one of the biggest record companies around, Motown Records.

With Motown Records, Thelma claimed the top of the Pop, R&B and Dance charts with her high-powered rendition of "Don't Leave Me This Way." That Gold Record classic gave Thelma the distinction of being the first solo female artist at Motown to win the Grammy Award for "Best R&B Female Vocal Performance."

Known as a humanitarian for her charitable causes and her tireless efforts in the battle against AIDS, the City of West Hollywood proclaimed January 29th as "Thelma Houston Day" in 2003. She has donated her talents to numerous charities including Devine Design for Project Angel Food, AIDS Project Los Angeles, and the Minority AIDS Project, to which she donated her \$20,000 winnings from the TV show *Hit Me Baby*. She is also very active in the Beverly Hills/Hollywood branch of the NAACP.

Thelma has rocked Rockefeller Center on NBC's *The Today Show* and the summer music special "Hit Me Baby, One More Time." She dazzled in ABC's *Motown 45* and glittered on ABC's *The Disco Ball*. Along with Aretha Franklin and Mary Wilson, she raised the roof on *Love, Rhythm and Blues* for PBS. Thelma appeared with Phoebe Snow, Chaka Khan, Mavis Staples and CeCe Peniston as the "Sisters of Glory" in New York City in a rousing performance that received a special request to perform at The Vatican for The Pope.

The legendary Nile Rogers called upon Thelma to be his special guest for a sold-out concert at the Hollywood Bowl and she toured with Cher on her Living Proof Concert Tour. Additionally, she headlined at Harrah's in Las Vegas. Thelma has also been inducted into the Dance Music Hall of Fame in New York City and honored as an "Apollo Legend" on the syndicated hit TV show, *Showtime at the Apollo*.

In April 2009, Thelma was honored to perform on the #1 rated television show in the USA, Fox's *American Idol*, where she tore it up for an estimated audience of over 25 million people. Shortly after, Thelma was called upon to open up the finale of the hit summer show, NBC's *America's Got Talent*, for an estimated TV audience of over 18 million people.

Thelma performs at many national dinner receptions for the HRC (Human Rights Campaign) and was honored to perform in Denver when Barack Obama accepted the Democratic nomination. In January 2009, Thelma then was asked to headline the official inauguration dinner for President Barack Obama in Washington, D.C., at the Mayflower Hotel along with her friends, Cyndi Lauper and Melissa Etheridge. HRC President Joe Solmonese says, "It doesn't get much better than Thelma, as she adds nothing but class to our events."

In early 2020 Thelma collaborated with Morrissey on "Bobby, Don't You Think They Know." "It was interesting and fun working in the studio," he said. "I enjoy performing very much. The performance part of my job is what I enjoy the most. When I perform, I like to do all kinds of music and I try to incorporate that in my show. For me, to do one kind of thing all the time is boring. Morrissey heard the song and a few years later, he asked me to do this song on his album. It was very easy to work with Morrissey in the studio," she said.

Also released in early 2020 is the dance single "Turn Your World Around" (on Radikal Records) with Bimbo Jones. "I've worked with Lee Dagger from Bimbo Jones before. He has done some remixes for me. That's how the song came about. We wrote the song a few years ago and it was a lot of fun." The song was worked on the Billboard Dance Charts and went all the way to #7.

The summer of 2020 finds Thelma teaming up with the legendary Jimmy Webb (who wrote and produced Thelma's critically acclaimed debut album called "Sunshower.") to remake an updated version (with new lyrics from Jimmy) of the song (and video) called "Someone is Standing Outside." The reaction on social media to this new version of this classic song has been unbelievable.

Over the summer Thelma filmed her first virtual concert called "Thelma Houston Virtually Yours" that debuts on the Wale Rocks streaming platform in Oct. This concert was filmed outdoors and takes you on a musical journey featuring songs from Disco, Dance, Gospel and Motown.

With appearances from Tokyo to Las Vegas to London and beyond, Thelma continues to bring audiences to their feet with her dynamic, energetic Motown show. This Diva logs over 200 performances annually and the singer/songwriter is enjoying every moment of her success. "I still feel a tremendous excitement about performing," states the upbeat songstress. "I have so many more things I want to do, and I have NO plans to retire anytime soon."

Thelma's main home is in Los Angeles, CA.

Website: www.ThelmaHouston.com

FaceBook: www.FaceBook.com/ThelmaHoustonOfficial

Instagram: @ThelmaHoustonOfficial

Twitter: @Thelma_Houston

Spectrum

Special guests

Spectrum draws upon the talent of four radiant voices and diverse personalities to form a first class vocal quartet. Spending six stellar years portraying the Four Tops in the multi-million dollar production show Legends In Concert, the group developed the versatility to credibly cover the music of groups from the The Platters to The Jackson Five, from The Righteous Brothers to the Beatles or from Boyz to Men to The Four Seasons. This versatility has propelled them to headline their own shows where they perform stirring renditions of the best cover tunes.

Spectrum's credits include European and Australian tours, innumerable headline performances aboard Royal Caribbean Cruises and over 100 performances with 50 different symphonies throughout North America. Spectrum was twice voted Best of Las Vegas, earned the Vegas Living Legends Award and joined the ranks of Vegas luminaries Wayne Newton, Sammy Davis Jr., Liberace and Siegfried and Roy when awarded a star on Las Vegas' Walk of Fame.

Spectrum has starred in six major production shows, appeared on numerous television shows and performed the National Anthem at major sporting events.

The group boasts four incredible singers, each with the voice of a solo artist, who combine their voices and dexterity to create angelic harmonies and deft choreography that have become trademarks of Spectrum. Spectrum consists of Jeron Lovings of Oklahoma City, Pierre Jovan from Chicago, David Prescott of Rochester, NY and group Founder Cushney Roberts, from East Orange, New Jersey. This group of well-mannered, college-educated, world-traveled veterans of the entertainment business, will entertain you!

Classical Mystery Tour

Special guests

Since its initial performance at the Orange County Performing Arts Center (now renamed Segerstrom Center for the Arts) in 1996, Classical Mystery Tour has become the #1 Symphony Pops attraction over the last decade. The group has been performing consistently for over 20 years with more than 100 orchestras in the US, Canada, Europe, Asia, and Australia. The group played to packed houses at the Sydney Opera House, and has performed with America's most prestigious orchestras: The Cleveland Orchestra, The Boston Pops, The Philadelphia Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, among many others.

The four musicians in Classical Mystery Tour look and sound just like The Beatles, but Classical Mystery Tour is more than just a rock concert. The show presents more than two dozen Beatles tunes performed exactly as they were originally recorded.

Hear "Penny Lane" with a live trumpet section, experience the beauty of "Yesterday" with an acoustic guitar and string quartet, enjoy the classical/rock blend on "I Am the Walrus," and relish the cascading orchestral crescendo on "A Day in the Life." Classical Mystery Tour is the best of The Beatles – from early Beatles music on through the solo years – like you've never heard them before. Many have called it "the best show the Beatles never did!"

The *Los Angeles Times* called Classical Mystery Tour "more than just an incredible simulation...the swelling strings and soaring French horn lines gave the live performance a high goose-bump quotient...the crowd stood and bellowed for more."

Liz Callaway

Soloist

Liz Callaway is a Tony nominee and Emmy Award-winning actress, singer and recording artist. She made her Broadway debut in Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along*, received a Tony Award nomination for her performance in *Baby*, and for five years, won acclaim as Grizabella in *Cats*. She has also starred in the original casts of *Miss Saigon*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *The Look of Love*. Off-Broadway she received a Drama Desk nomination for her performance in *The Spitfire Grill* (Playwrights Horizons), and also appeared in *Brownstone* (Roundabout), *No Way to Treat a Lady*, *Marry Me a Little*, and *Godspell*. Other New York appearances include the legendary *Follies in Concert* at Lincoln Center, *A Stephen Sondheim Evening*, *Fiorello!* (Encores!), and *Hair in Concert*.

Regionally, she starred as Venus in the Chicago Ovations! production of *One Touch of Venus*, in *Elegies at Reprise!* in Los Angeles, and *Fascinating Rhythm* at Hartford Stage. She also played Norma Desmond in *Sunset Boulevard* at Pittsburgh CLO.

Ms. Callaway has also established a major career as a concert and recording artist. The award-winning *Sibling Revelry* (created with sister Ann Hampton Callaway) was presented to great acclaim at the Donmar Warehouse in London. *Boom!*, a celebration of the music of the 60's and 70's, also created with her sister was recorded live at Birdland and has toured the country. She had the pleasure of singing "Chances Are" with singing legend Johnny Mathis, co-starred with Jimmy Webb & Paul Williams in their critically acclaimed engagement at Feinstein's in New York and joined Burt Bacharach, Dionne Warwick, and Stevie Wonder at Hal David's 90th Birthday Celebration Concert at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. Her extensive US symphony work includes appearances at The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Ravinia, and The Hollywood Bowl. Worldwide, she has performed in China, Australia (with Stephen Schwartz), New Zealand, Vietnam, Iceland, Estonia, France (Theatre du Chatelet, Paris), South Korea, and Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu where she premiered a new concert featuring the music of Stephen Sondheim.

Liz sang the Academy Award nominated song "Journey to the Past" in the animated feature *Anastasia* and is also the singing voice of Princess Jasmine in Disney's *Aladdin and the King of Thieves* and *The Return of Jafar*. Other film work includes the singing voice of the title character in *The Swan Princess*, *The Lion King 2: Simba's Pride*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Lyle, Lyle the Crocodile* and *The Brave Little Toaster Goes to Mars*.

She received an Emmy Award for hosting *Ready to Go*, a daily, live children's program on CBS in Boston. Other TV credits include *In Performance at the White House*, *Inside the Actor's Studio: Stephen Sondheim*, *Christmas with the Boston Pops*, *The David Letterman Show*, and *Senior Trip* (CBS Movie of the Week).

Liz has released six solo recordings: *Passage of Time*, *The Beat Goes On*, *The Story Goes On: Liz Callaway On and Off-Broadway*, *Anywhere I Wander: Liz Callaway Sings Frank Loesser*, *Merry and Bright* and her newest album *The Essential Liz Callaway*. Her numerous other recordings include *Sibling Revelry*, *Boom! Live at Birdland*, *The Maury Yeston Songbook*, *Dreaming Wide Awake: The Music of Scott Alan*, *A Stephen Sondheim Evening*, *Hair in Concert*, the original cast album of *A Christmas Story* and the complete recording of *Allegro* produced by the Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization.

Jordan Donica

Soloist

Jordan Donica is currently starring as Jordan, a mysterious law student/amateur boxer in the upcoming third season of the CW's *Charmed*. He recently guest starred in the award-winning police procedural drama *Blue Bloods*. Jordan recently originated the role of Freddy Eynsford-Hill in the Tony-nominated Lincoln Center Theater production of *My Fair Lady*. He also starred as Marquis de Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson in the Los Angeles and San Francisco companies of *Hamilton*.

A native of Indianapolis, Indiana, Jordan made his debut starring as the leading man, Raoul, Vicomte de Chagny, in the historic Broadway production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. In addition to his theater and TV work, Jordan was featured at the Washington National Opera gala at The Kennedy Center, the

Pasadena Symphony, and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. He also starred as Lancelot in Lincoln Center Theater's gala production of *Camelot* opposite Lin Manuel Miranda. Jordan was featured at the American Songbook Hall of Fame celebration at the invitation of Michael Feinstein.

He is currently at work writing his musical, *Bully*, which will debut next year. Jordan is a 2016 graduate of Otterbein University, where he graduated with a BFA in Musical Theatre Cum Laude. Family is everything to Jordan, because without the "little village" of women who raised him, he would not be where he is today. "Every day is a gift."

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