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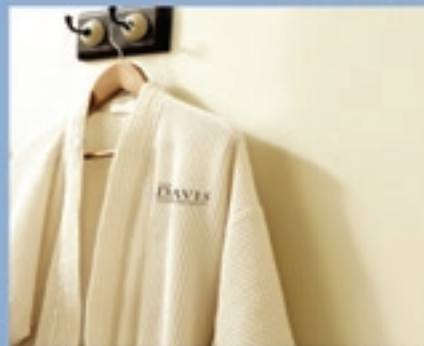
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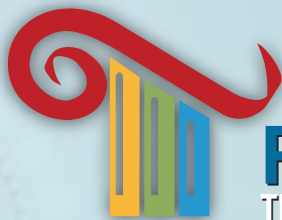
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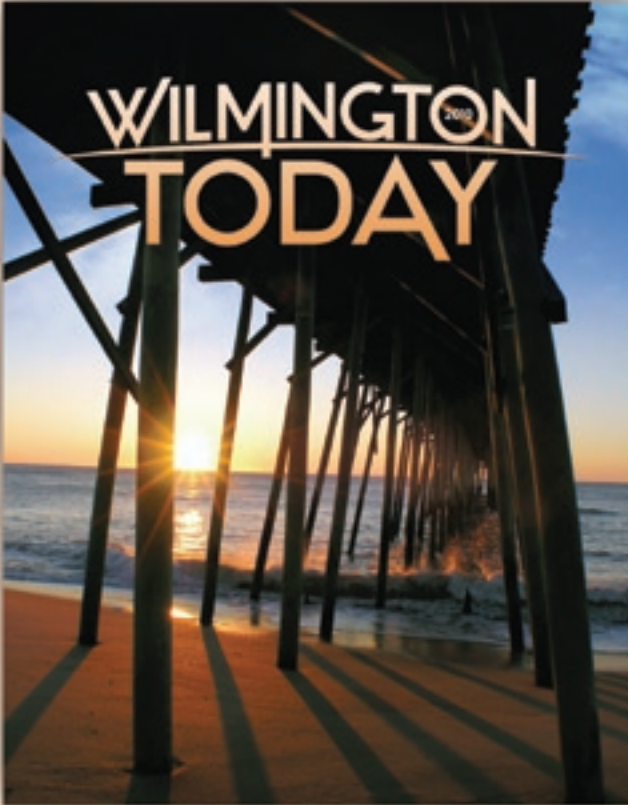


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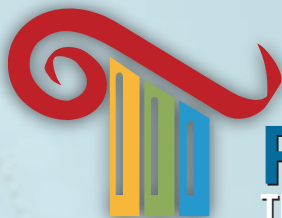
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TICKETS may be purchased by cash, check, VISA or MasterCard. Telephone credit card and mail orders are charged a \$1.50 handling fee per ticket. Online tickets are available for all events at thalianhall.org.



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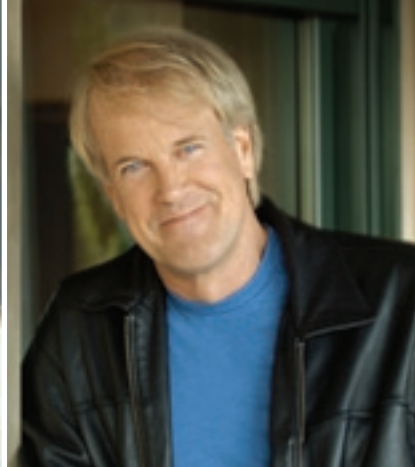
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A graduate of NCSU in Raleigh, John Tesh worked as a news anchor for Durham's WTVD during his early broadcasting career, later becoming a household name as co-host of TV's **Entertainment Tonight**. He was the first American broadcaster to cover the Tour de France, and later anchored the 1992 and 1996 Olympics.

Long interested in music but never having performed professionally, Tesh made his first tour as a keyboardist with Yanni in 1988. In 1994, he performed for his first **Live at Red Rocks** concert at the majestic amphitheatre in Denver.

In an impressive career that spans more than 25 years, John Tesh has become known worldwide as a leading figure in the entertainment and television industries. Now, with one of the most successful syndicated radio shows in America, he has conquered yet another medium.

"I like to call it 'purpose-driven radio'," says Tesh of the award-winning **John Tesh Radio Show: Music and Intelligence for Your Life**, now heard on 400 stations by more than 8 million listeners. "We appeal to people who want

to make a change in their life, whether it's to be a better parent or a better pet owner. Planting seeds and encouraging people with the program and music is a method with which I am truly comfortable," says Tesh. "**Music and Intelligence For Your Life** is a safe haven for family listening. Children, men and women of all ages can gain something from the show."

With three gold albums and a career that includes six Emmys®, two Grammy® nominations, an Associated Press Award for investigative journalism, a **Keyboard Magazine** award, several number-one radio hits, five hit PBS specials and two tours as an Olympic announcer/composer, it's obvious that Tesh has a drive for versatility. His book, **Intelligence for Your Life: Powerful Lessons for Personal Growth** has spent time on the **New York Times**, **USA Today**, **Publisher's Weekly**, Amazon.com and **Wall Street Journal** best-seller lists. John's **Greatest Hits Live Volume One** CD/DVD combo was released earlier this year.

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Comedian Jon Reep

If you don't enjoy a good laugh, it may be best if you stay out in the pick-up this time around. Today could turn out to be a seam-splitter from start to finish.

Jon Reep – Metro Jethro himself – the “Dodge Hemi Guy” and winner of NBC's *Last Comic Standing*, was born in Hickory, NC, (“home of the pig from *Green Acres*”) and graduated as a theatre and communications major from NC State University in 1997. He hasn't stopped communicating since. A year after graduation, he hit the road as a full-time comic and, according to him, that was the end of his life as a normal human being.

In 2000, he moved to Los Angeles to try his hand at an acting career. He landed roles as the pot-smoking farmer Raymus in the movie *Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay*, and as the dim-witted cop Gerald Bob on the ABC sitcom



Rodney. You probably know him from the popular Dodge Ram commercial where he was the redheaded hillbilly who leaned out of a beat-up car and uttered the now-famous line, “That thing gotta Hemi?”

Reep was the winner of season five's *Last Comic Standing* on NBC, and he has appeared on Comedy Central, both on *Premium Blend* and in his own special. He performed at the Montreal *Just for Laughs* Festival in 1999 & 2004, in the Las Vegas Comedy Festival in 2005, and the Bonaroo Music & Arts Festival in 2006. He headlined during the Vancouver Comedy Festival in 2009, and modestly admits that his show is “filled with super-clever writing.”

Did you say that thing gotta Hemi?

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The Philly Deli celebrated their 30th anniversary in August 2009. That first store was located in Hanover Center, which is also the oldest shopping center in Wilmington. Since then, two more Philly Delis have been added, one at Porters Neck and one at Monkey Junction.

The Philly Deli's most valuable asset is their staff. From an initial crew of 12, the staff has grown to 125 members. A number of these people have made a career at the Philly Deli: 23 staff members have 5-10 years service, ten members have 10-20 years service, and four people have more than 20 years service.

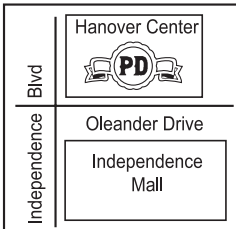
In order to hire and retain good workers, the Philly Deli has offered a number of valuable benefits over the years. From the very beginning, flexible schedules have been used.

Working around mothers' childcare and students' classes has always been an important focus. About 15 years ago, health and dental benefits were added. More recently, vacation pay was added.

One thing hasn't changed: high quality and consistency have remained a constant. The Philly Deli started out by importing all of their steak meat and hoagie rolls straight from Philadelphia. It's a practice they maintain to this day.

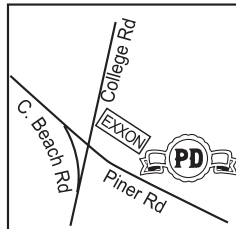
The Philly Deli has seen Wilmington go through a number of growth periods, slow periods, good times and tough times. However, by operating a good workplace, keeping a solid and experienced staff, and consistently offering quality food at reasonable prices, they have managed to retain the staying power that has kept them in business for thirty years.

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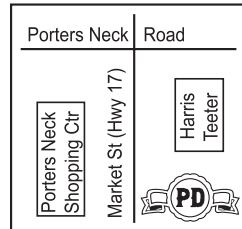
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

The Red Clay Ramblers

"The Red Clay Ramblers continue to invest their country with a little neon." – **The New Yorker**, June 2010

Now in their 38th year, the Tony Award®-winning Red Clay Ramblers are a North Carolina string band whose repertoire reflects their roots in old-time mountain music, as well as bluegrass, country, rock, New Orleans jazz, gospel, and the American musical.

In 1993, the hit ***Fool Moon*** on Broadway earned the Ramblers their second Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Music in a Play, and ***Fool Moon*** in Los Angeles set box-office records. ***Fool Moon*** went on to run abroad in Vienna and Munich, returning to Broadway for a second success in late 1995 and a third run in 1998-99, along with a five-week run at Kennedy Center. The Ramblers' long association with music and theater includes the original New York productions of ***Diamond Studs*** (1975) and Sam Shepard's ***A Lie of the Mind*** (1985). In 1988, the band scored Shepard's film ***Far North*** and also perform and appear in his second feature, ***Silent Tongue***. They have been guests numerous times on Garrison Keillor's ***A Prairie Home Companion*** and have appeared nationally with



Jay Leno (NBC's ***Tonight***) and Harry Smith (***CBS This Morning***). They have toured extensively in North America and in Europe, including four USIA concert tours to eastern Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and the Middle East.

The Ramblers' '04-'05 Off-Broadway run of ***Lone Star Love*** earned Outstanding Musical nominations from both the Lucille Lortel Awards and the NY Outer Critics' Circle, and the original cast recording of the show was released January 2006 by PS Classics of New York. Their recording ***Fool Moon, the Music*** was released September 2007. The Red Clay Ramblers appeared with the North Carolina Symphony New Year's Eve 2007, and ***Carolina Jamboree***, their second ballet launched by the Carolina Ballet in 2005, was reprised June 2008 and has been broadcast statewide numerous times over UNC Public Television. ***The Daily Advance*** calls the Ramblers' latest CD, ***Old North State***, released in October 2009, "North Carolina culture at its best."

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. Today's performance is presented through the auspices of 1st Mark Artists, New York, NY. www.redclayramblers.com



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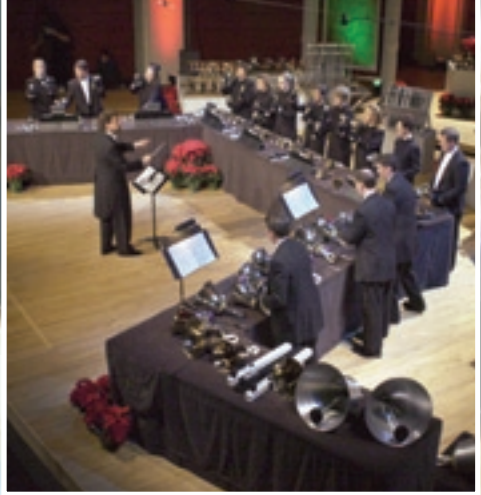
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

The Raleigh Ringers Holiday Concert



This is where you get “Jingle Bells” from jingling bells. Seasonal classics from this renowned 17-member NC-based handbell choir might have a familiar ring – but pair them with hits from Lynyrd Skynyrd, The Who, Led Zeppelin & Queen and you have a typical night with the un-typical Raleigh Ringers.

Since its founding in 1990, The Raleigh Ringers has been dazzling concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock ‘n’ roll tunes arranged specifically for handbells.

The Raleigh Ringers performs on one of the most extensive collections of bells and bell-like instruments owned by any ensemble in the world. In just 19 years, The Raleigh Ringers has made a significant impact on the world’s handbell music repertoire by commissioning more than 90 compositions and arrangements for handbells.

Under the direction of David M. Harris, The Raleigh Ringers has released four CDs, plus a DVD of a holiday concert titled **One**

Winter Evening at Meymandi which was broadcast on more than 250 public television stations in 44 states. The group has performed in 34 states and in several cities in France during its tours, and plays two dates each year in Raleigh. The Raleigh Ringers also sponsors a yearly festival for children who play handbells and a festival for advanced adult ringers.

In 2007 The Raleigh Ringers was selected as one of six recipients of the City of Raleigh’s “Medal of Arts” award. This award is bestowed each year to groups or individuals from Raleigh that have made exemplary contributions to the arts community. In 2004, the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers produced a video promoting its work and chose to include lengthy performance footage from the Raleigh Ringers to demonstrate the capacities of handbells on the concert stage.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Natalie MacMaster

Christmas in Cape Breton

Thalian Hall is honored to welcome back to its stage this gracious icon of fiddling royalty. She is the virtuoso, electrifying Cape Breton artist whose passion and proficiency on her beloved four-string amplifies the traditional Canadian East Coast sound for contemporary times.

It's a signature sound that has resonated with world audiences through ten albums, multiple gold records, and numerous Juno and East Coast Music Awards. It has brought her honorary degrees (from Niagara University, NY, Trent University, and St. Thomas University), and the Order of Canada. The captivating performer also has the respect of the musical *crème de la crème* with whom she has worked, including Mark O'Connor, Yo-Yo Ma, Bela Fleck, Alison Krauss, Carlos Santana and others. She has performed on stage with The Chieftains, Paul Simon, Faith Hill, Luciano Pavarotti, and in front of millions of television viewers on ***The Tonight Show with Jay Leno***, ***Late Night with Conan O'Brien***, ABC's ***Good Morning America***. She has taken her passionate Cape Breton sound throughout Europe and North America.



But to Natalie MacMaster, her beloved family now shapes and informs her musicianship as much as the jigs, reels, air, waltzes, strathspeys, marches and traditional folk that feed her spiritual soul.

“Not so much the sound as the delivery,” states MacMaster, who married another Thalian Hall favorite, fiddle phenomenon Donnell Leahy of Leahy, in 2002. “I am a mom now. I am a wife. Those things are my priorities in life, and I think people get a sense of that – of that part of who I am – through my show. But my music itself hasn't really changed.”

Born in Troy, Inverness County, Nova Scotia, Natalie MacMaster's impressive musical lineage carries a cadre of amazing fiddlers, including her uncle Buddy MacMaster, her cousin Andrea Beaton, and the late, great Canadian folk icon John Allan Cameron. Wanta bet that Natalie and Donnell's children have some music in their genes?

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Barbara Bailey Hutchison

Songs of the Season



With almost 20 CDs recorded, this Grammy® Award-winning singer-songwriter has a voice that is familiar to millions of television and radio listeners. She has appeared at the White House three times, performed in nearly all 50 states, Japan, Korea, the Philippines and Thailand.

Barbara grew up in Detroit, Michigan. She launched her career in music while attending Michigan State University, where she gained a loyal following performing in the local listening rooms and music clubs. She began touring colleges & universities throughout the United States and was voted Best Solo Performer, Best Acoustic Performer and Best Female Performer in a national magazine poll, bringing her to the attention of national advertisers who chose her to sing hundreds of commercials for McDonald's, Hallmark Cards, Heinz, and other national brands.

In 1996, she recorded her first album of original lullabies – for which she received the coveted Grammy® Award for Best Musical Recording for Children. Suddenly, she was in great demand for family

and children's performances, a niche she found to be equally rewarding and one in which she still actively performs today. Hutchison is happy to be writing meaningful songs, and to be able to present them to intelligent and attentive listeners. She loves nothing better than sharing her songs, telling their stories, and joking with her audience whether they are adults, children, or a happy mix of both.

Her lyric driven, melodic and often humorous alternative folk music often speaks to issues of tolerance and human rights. Wanting to maintain more control over the content and production of her music than major labels wished to grant, Hutchison founded her own label, having now produced eleven of her CDs. A gifted visual artist as well as musician, Barbara has taught songwriting, papermaking, and portrait drawing at the Young Scholars Institute and Kids on Stage summer programs in middle Tennessee for the past twenty years.

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RAINBOW ROOM

Frank Vignola's Tribute to Django Reinhardt



Frank Vignola is considered one of the most accomplished, multi-dimensional players walking the planet today. Playing and composing in almost every genre, Vignola will take this weekend to play tribute to one of his icons, Django Reinhardt, on the centennial of the legendary gypsy jazz legend's birth.

Whether being featured on a Donald Fagen recording, a jam with David Grisman, as Les Paul's right-hand man or leading his own group, Frank Vignola has proven himself to be one-of-a-kind.

Born on suburban Long Island, Vignola started playing the guitar at the age of five. Growing up admiring a variety of guitarists from Reinhardt to Frank Zappa, Vignola never listened to jazz exclusively but was also a major fan of rock, R&B, and pop. As a young adult, Frank studied at the Cultural Arts Center of Long Island. He was lucky enough to play numerous sideman gigs in the 1980s, including recording and touring with Madonna, Leon Redbone and Ringo Starr. He moved from sideman to leader in 1988 with his

famed Hot Club of France tribute, hailed in the *New York Times* as one of the Top Ten Acts of the Year and forging the way for the many Django Hot Club groups that followed. In 1993, at the age of 27, he signed with Concord Jazz and recorded his first Concord session as a leader. Many more Concord releases followed in the 1990s, as well as three releases for the Telarc label as co-leader of the group Travelin' Light.

Frank has made featured appearances with artists including Donald Fagan, Queen Latifah, Mark O'Connor and Wynton Marsalis. He has written 18 guitar instruction books for Mel Bay Publications and has recorded several educational CD-ROMs for Truefire.com. He has performed hundreds of clinics and master classes at major universities throughout the country, including Julliard and Boston University.

"How versatile is Frank Vignola? He's collaborated with Lionel Hampton and Madonna, covers Mozart and Black Sabbath on the same record, and is one of Les Paul's favorite guitarists." – **Boston Globe**

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Blood Done Sign My Name

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"Mike Wiley is a brilliant artist and educator ... This is about mending the broken world through the power of story, and making scholarship and art speak to the breach in our common life. I am proud to have Mike as a colleague in those efforts." – Author Tim Tyson

This powerful, riveting multi-character portrayal by playwright/actor Mike Wiley is the theatrical adaptation of Tim Tyson's best-selling memoir about the 1970 racial murder in Oxford, NC, before Tyson's father (Rev. Vernon Tyson) and his family relocated to Wilmington, NC.

Formerly of Theatre IV and Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, Mike Wiley is an M.F.A. graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill. His expanding repertoire of original productions display his ability for bringing to life multiple, intertwined characters, with Wiley often portraying more than two dozen persons in a single drama. His performances actively engage audiences, bringing surprising elements of personal participation and discovery to the experience.



Profiled in *Our State Magazine*, Wiley is currently gaining additional acclaim and Best Actor awards at film festivals for the impressive Rob Underhill film *Empty Space*. Recently named the Lehman Brady Visiting Professor at Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies, Wiley appeared by special invitation at the 2009 National Black Theatre Festival. He has been jury-selected for professional industry showcases by Arts Midwest and the Performing Arts Exchange.

Directed by Serena Ehardt, Wiley's theatrical adaptation of *Blood Done Sign My Name* premiered with a sold-out opening run at Duke University in Durham, NC, and has been drawing capacity audiences across the country. Wiley has performed the play for two consecutive years in Oxford at the invitation of the town where the infamous hate crime occurred.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Bettye LaVette



If Thalian Hall permits levitation, every person at this performance should prepare for a close-up view of the newly painted ceiling. The power of Bettye LaVette's musical honesty and emotion could likely alter sea level along the entire southeastern coastline. You'll ask, "Where has she been?" Don't worry, she'll tell you.

In her newest CD, *Interpretations: The British Rock Songbook*, this singular artist uncovers common ancestry through compositions by the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd, before concluding right where the very idea for the recording started: her visceral, show-stopping rendition of The Who's "Love Reign O'er Me" from the 2008 Kennedy Center Honors. That performance served notice that Bettye LaVette is no mere singer. An extraordinary interpreter of song, she doesn't simply shape a piece of music to suit her tastes; she is a conjurer of deep, emotional truths.

"Bettye LaVette punched a hole right through her version of Pete Townshend's 'Love Reign O'er Me,' letting all the song's emotion pour out in a way that its creators never conceived," observed the *New York Daily News*. Townshend

himself came up to Bettye after her performance, took her hands into his and said, "You made me weep."

Throughout *Interpretations*, her performances are a revelation, not just of raw emotion, but of the unbreakable ties between British rock and American blues and R&B, which when combined, catalyzed popular music. That Lennon, McCartney, and so many others who crossed the Atlantic, were deeply influenced by American music is no great secret. What Bettye demonstrates so convincingly is the degree to which rock 'n' roll and soul remain bound by bloodlines. Paul McCartney's "Maybe I'm Amazed" is transformed from a majestic pop song into a stark, almost desperate expression of devotion. Profound alienation becomes intense longing on Pink Floyd's "Wish You Were Here," and the wistful naiveté of The Moody Blues' "Nights in White Satin" matures into a deep and unshakeable lament. Bettye LaVette inhabits every song she touches. Enduring works of art float to rafters of every stage she stands on.

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RAINBOW ROOM

Susan Werner

She's our most-requested "repeat" attraction, so we're trying to keep her here as long as we can ... hence the four-show stint in the Rainbow Room. Yes, you should see all four performances. They're *that* worth it.

Susan Werner is a daring, innovative songwriter with a killer live show. She makes a connection with the audience more quickly than any artist we've ever seen. By the time she's done her first three words of the evening, folks are locked in and never let go.

Boldly weaving old with new to create new genres of music when existing ones do not suit her muse, she constantly keeps audiences guessing and laughing simultaneously. Most of her work infuses traditional music styles with her unmistakable contemporary worldview, challenging listeners to experience music from a fresh, unexpected perspective.

In her 2004 release *I Can't Be New*, she delivered her contribution to the Great American Songbook by writing originals in the style of Gershwin and Porter, but from a modern woman's point of view, prompting the *Chicago Tribune* to call her "the



most innovative songwriter working today." In 2007, she blended faith and doubt in *The Gospel Truth* with original songs drawing on gospel music traditions and presenting lyrics praised by religious believers and non-believers alike. The CD was named Top Folk Album of the Year by NPR/Folk Alley and WUMB, and Susan was named Best Contemporary Folk Artist at the 2008 International Folk Alliance conference. With 2009's *Classics*, Werner delivers new arrangements of popular songs of the '60s and '70s. Drawing on her training as a classical vocalist (she has an M.A. in music history and voice performance), and the diverse talents of esteemed Boston Symphony and Pops players, *Classics* features songs chosen for the renewed relevancy of their messages, for their correlation with her own worldview, and for their potential to blossom when performed with chamber music instruments.

We won't even guess what she'll come up with next ...

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Danny Ellis: 800 Voices

Danny Ellis' *800 Voices* is a stunningly poetic musical memoir of his years as a boy in Ireland's Artane Industrial School orphanage. Uplifting and inspiring, it is an unforgettable testament to the strength and power of the human heart. Released last year, the CD has received international acclaim, with Ellis named the JPF music organization's worldwide Lyricist of the Year in 2009.

The cinematic, narrative musical concert spans Danny's eight years at Artane – from days of aching loneliness to a revelatory joy and ultimate catharsis that the discovery of music eventually brought to the young Irish lad. Experiences that might have fostered broken, angered bitterness forever instead gave birth to hope, optimism, and now, a fortunate sharing of a rare, remarkable gift, blending shades of Paul Simon, Leonard Cohen and James Taylor into a singularly unique, literate musical voice.

Music has been the driving force in Danny's life since he first blew the sheen off a trombone to get into the Artane school band when he was eight. Departing the orphanage at the age of sixteen, he toured for a decade with top Irish showbands. He later worked for years as



a session singer in London's Abbey Road Studios. He toured Europe with Graham Parker & the Rumour and the Foundations, and emigrated to America in 1991.

Last spring, he performed at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, and he continues to receive accolades in the U.S. and abroad on his live performance, the remarkable lyricism of his musical story, and his journey in finding the positive, hope-filled perspective from a childhood that might have sent less resilient souls into a dark and resentful adulthood.

"Writing these songs changed me forever – and for better," Danny says. "Now, the circle is complete – the adult reaching across the past to the lost child within, saying 'hang in there kid, this is gonna work out fine.'"

"Spell-bindingly beautiful and deeply moving. Full of marvelously crafted songs, with superb lyrical twists and turns and moments of wonderful insight. The astonishing accuracy of the picture it painted had me in tears of both laughter and devastation ... An essential Irish album." — Niall Stokes, *Hot Press Magazine*

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In the Mood

The WWII Musical Revue

We once again welcome this hit-after-hit audience favorite. It's two hours of two-dozen swinging big band musicians, singers, dancers, almost every hit song from the 1940s, jitterbugging that stops your breathing – and an instantaneous, nostalgic journey to the last decade when all of America was listening to the same music – when its promise for the future wore the uniforms of the American Armed Forces.

With the music of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Erskin Hawkins, The Andrews Sisters, Frank Sinatra and more, ***In the Mood*** lives in a musical revue league of its own.

On radio in the 1940s, and in theaters and ballrooms, the big bands were drawing record crowds. Vocal groups and soloists sang a repertory of great songs, and for the last time in the 20th century, the entire country shared a common popular music. This body of song did much to sustain national morale during World War II, the pivotal event of the 40's. The National Archives in Washington, DC brought ***In the Mood*** to their audiences as part of their commemoration of the



50th Anniversary of WWII, and the response was extraordinary, with crowds lining up for hours before curtain time. The engagement was twice extended to extra performances.

In 1993, the Archives presented a repeat performance, out-of-doors on Constitution Avenue. Thousands attended, and many stayed to dance the night away. As a result, ***In the Mood*** began a series of tours that played to audiences across the United States during the 50th Commemoration of WWII.

Since then, ***In the Mood*** has visited Europe and has been part of the entertainment for presidential inaugurations. The high-spirited, energetic musical tribute has become one of the most popular performances on the national scene, with repeat invitations at almost every venue it's ever visited.

Take a deep breath. Don't be surprised if you have to get up and do a little jitterbug yourself around midnight tonight ... This is music that's too good to forget.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. ***In The Mood*** is presented with the cooperation of Producer Bud Forrest and Gurtman and Murtha Associates, New York, NY. www.inthemoodlive.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 11
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Galumph

Galumph is made up of three wizards named Andy Horowitz, Greg O'Brien and Marlon Torres, each of whom is much stronger and more twisted than most of us will ever be. They entwine stunning acrobatics, striking visual effects, knee-slapping physical comedy and inventive choreography into a world of outrageous imagination, beauty, muscle and refreshing merriment.

Formed in 2002, Galumph delivers a fast-paced, athletic brand of movement, distinctive for its ingenuity. Highlights include "Velcro" as seen on **The Late Show with David Letterman**, **Crook and Chase** (TNN) and the MDA Jerry Lewis Telethon, and "Clackers" that has been viewed on MTV, Showtime, A & E, **Just for Laughs** in Montreal and by over one billion television viewers around the globe. Other pieces feature experiments in human architecture set to music by Rachmaninov, Mahler and the virtuoso Czech band Jablkon.

To put today's experience in clearer context, consider this enlightening excerpt from **Free Play – Improvisation in Life and Art** by Stephen Nachmanovitch:

"Anthropologists have found "galumphing" to be one of the



prime talents that characterize higher life forms. Galumphing is the immaculate rambunctiousness and seemingly inexhaustible play-energy apparent in puppies, kittens, children, baby baboons – and also in young communities and civilizations. Galumphing is the seemingly useless elaboration and ornamentation of activity. It is profligate, excessive, exaggerated, and uneconomical. We galumph when we hop instead of walk, when we take the scenic route instead of the efficient one, when we play a game whose rules demand a limitation of our powers, when we are interested in means rather than in ends. We voluntarily create obstacles in our path and then enjoy overcoming them. In the higher animals and in people, it is of supreme evolutionary value."

We expect to see further examples of galumphing as you depart the theatre after today's performance. It's entirely permitted.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. Galumph is presented through the auspices of DCA Productions, New York, NY. www.galumph.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 24
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Cantabile

The London Quartet



This grandly entertaining, *a cappella* vocal group spans the gamut from madrigal to McCartney, or as Germany's *Die Welt* prefers – from “Monteverdi to Monty Python.”

Members of the London Quartet “Cantabile” are Michael Steffan, baritone; Mark Fleming, tenor; Steven Brooks, tenor; and Richard Bryan, counter-tenor.

Since 1982, this talented foursome has recorded 13 solo albums, with more than 2,000 live performances around the world. Their expansive career includes musicals in London's West End, galas aboard the Queen Elizabeth 2, concerts at Carnegie Hall, Covent Garden operas, guest appearances with the BBC Big Band, and their famed classical parodies in front of 40,000 people at the **BBC Proms in the Park**.

With an unusually expansive repertoire illustrating a wide range of musical styles, the quartet's concert offerings cover everything from *a cappella* favorites to the sacred music of the last millennium.

Performing with and without instrumental accompaniment, the group enjoys loyal followings for a number of its themed concerts.

Hold That Tiger presents a celebration

of popular vocal harmony, featuring non-stop doo-wop re-creations of hits by The Mills Brothers, The Four Freshmen, The Ink Spots, the Beach Boys, Manhattan Transfer, New York Voices & more.

From Stage to Screen highlights songs from Cantabile's albums **Music of the Night** and **A Tribute to Hollywood**. Cantabile appeared in the West End for over a year in the Tim Rice/Stephen Oliver musical **Blondel**, and **From Stage to Screen** presents stunning vocal arrangements, a number of which were specially written for them by Andrew Lloyd Webber's arranger, David Cullen.

Christmas with Cantabile provides unsurpassed choral purity combined with side-splitting comedy in music. “Carol” is the Christmas story told by 28 carols strung together for a total performance time of only 2 minutes long, and “The Twelve Days of Christmas” as never heard before (imagine the noise all those 12 days' worth of gifts could make!)

“One of the finest vocal groups in Europe.” — **Classic FM Magazine**

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. Cantabile is presented through the cooperation of Agence Station Bleue in Montreal, Canada. www.cantabile.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Dr. Etta, Family Specialist

Comic-of-the-Year Etta May says she's finally had to set up a therapy practice because, "Dr. Phil and Dr. Laura don't know jack!" No matter what your problem is, Dr. Etta's already had it. Real life. Real problems. Real prozac. Welcome to the new two-act seminar from the star of "The Southern Fried Chicks" who's become a family specialist – with a family you'll be so thankful is not yours.

Etta May was born and raised in Bald Knob, Arkansas, the only girl in a family of ten children, which is enough in and of itself to make a girl overtly sassy. Her first career in front of an audience was as a school bus driver. She says she still believes that unruly children can be worse than a nightclub full of drunks, but she said she found a surefire way to handle the passengers: spray Armor-All on the seats, then hit the brakes anytime someone was disruptive.

In the late 1980s, Etta May went to Los Angeles to try her luck in show business. Her first acting role was in the penultimate episode of Showtime's award-winning sitcom **Brothers**. She continued working in



Hollywood, both in acting and in stand-up, landing a recurring role on the first season of **Davis Rules** with Jonathan Winters, and later appearing in the film **A League of Their Own**.

She relocated to Lexington, KY in 2000, saying "In New York and L.A., you survive. I feel like I'm living in Lexington."

Free from the pressures of the Hollywood lifestyle, Etta May focused on perfecting her stand-up routine. This move paid off when she was named "Funniest Female Stand-Up Comic" at the American Comedy Awards. Today, she performs stand-up all over the country, regaling her audiences with stories of life as a Southern "poor white trash" wife and mother – and now a forthright no-holds-barred therapist. Etta May says she knew it was time to hang out her shingle when she asked her teenage daughter if she was sexually active – and the daughter disgustingly replied "Oh mother, no – usually I just lie there."

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. Dr. Etta is presented through the auspices of Music City Artists, Nashville, TN. www.ettamay.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 16
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Yesterday and Today

*The Interactive Beatles
Experience*

There's no denying that everyone has a Beatles song attached to an event in their life. **Yesterday & Today** connects the audience and performers in a way like none other. Each performance becomes a unique and remarkable event.

The audience determines the song list and even the narrative in this explosively fun, expert recreation of the music and harmony of The Beatles. This is a show about the music, how it became a worldwide soundtrack for life. No wigs. No fake accents. No impersonations. No not-feeling-the-beat. No wishing-it-would-ever-end. No not-being-able-to-squeal. Beatlemaniacs can rejoice, cause it's all here.

"I noticed if you asked somebody their favorite Beatles song, they couldn't just tell you the name of the song," says musician and show creator Billy McGuigan. "It was never just, 'The Long and Winding Road.' It was always, 'Man, when I was 16, there was this girl ...' There was always a story."

Before the performance, audience members are invited to fill out a card requesting a Beatles' song.



During the show, McGuigan calls out the name of the person on the card and has a conversation about the song and the story behind it.

"When I call out someone's first name," he said, "and read their card and tell their story, everybody sort of leans forward. It becomes a really cool give-and-take between performer and audience. It becomes about all of us together as opposed to just a performer with an audience watching. The mysterious 'fourth wall' of performance disappears. It's exciting every night. We never know what the show is going to be like."

McGuigan is still amazed at what the Beatles did in seven short years of producing music. "They were on such a creative rush," he said. "They spit out this incredible music even though they weren't musically trained. They started out as this really cool bar band and ended up being Bach and Mozart all in one."

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. This performance is presented through the auspices of Hyperion Productions, New York, NY. www.yesterdayandtodayshow.com

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 29-MAY 1
8 PM FRI • 7 & 9 PM SAT • 3 PM SUN
RAINBOW ROOM

Comedian-Ventriloquist Lynn Trefzger

First seen on TV's *Star Search*, Lynn Trefzger has appeared on ABC, A&E, TNN and Lifetime, and with the Smothers Brothers, Jeff Foxworthy, Drew Carey, Faith Hill, Tim McGraw & more. She is also featured along with Jeff Dunham and Jay Johnson in the new documentary about the art of ventriloquism *I'm No Dummy*.

An Ohio resident, Lynn is a self-taught ventriloquist who found fascination with puppetry and vocal illusion even as a child. As a sought-after professional, she brings together amazing figure manipulation, exceptional skills and a quick wit to create uniquely entertaining comedy which delights young and old nationwide. Writing and developing her own endlessly inventive routines, Lynn thrives on audience interaction and finds much of her material through personal experiences on the road.

Being an audience member at one of Lynn's shows is a joy unto itself. You could wind up onstage in a hysterical conversation without any control over what you're saying. Her puppets include a tipsy camel who's stored up far too much booze, and old man Judd, so crotchety and outspoken that what comes out of his crinkly latex mouth is bound to floor you.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. Lynn Trefzger appears at Thalian Hall through the auspices of DCA Productions, New York, NY. www.lynnrefzger.com



Voted Ventriloquist of the Year three times by her peers, Lynn was named 2006's Funniest Female Performer by *Campus Activities Magazine* and nominated as 2007's Funniest Female by *American Entertainment Magazine*.

Lynn Trefzger is a member of the Ohio Artists on Tour roster and has been selected for showcases by every major performing arts conference in the nation.



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FRIDAY, MAY 13
8 PM • MAINSTAGE

Orquesta GarDel



They've been called "a locomotive of energy on steel rails, with endless momentum and irresistible motion." This 12-member beat-driven attention-getting band plays classic and modern salsa music with a sense of authenticity that music lovers crave.

Founded in 2006 by David Garcia, a professor at UNC-Chapel Hill who specializes in Afro-Cuban music studies, and Nelson Delgado, a singer and seasoned veteran of the Triangle Latin music scene, Orquesta GarDel plays classic and modern salsa music rooted in the sound of the New York-Puerto Rico connection of the 1970s represented by artists such as Rubén Blades, Willie Colón, Eddie Palmieri, Ray Baretto, and Sonora Ponceña. Having established a book of classic salsa covers, GarDel is now writing original material that reflects the band's own personality and modern sensibilities.

Comprised of both Latino and Anglo musicians, Orquesta GarDel is on a mission to bring its energetic music to both

populations in an effort to unify and celebrate the cultures. It has appeared at events and venues including Shakori Hills, the North Carolina Salsa Festival, La Fiesta del Pueblo, Saxapahaw Music Series, Festival Ritmo Latino, Rocky Mount's Fiesta Latina, the Carrboro ArtsCenter, Mosquito, Montas Lounge, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and at numerous private events.

Upon watching dancers react to GarDel's set at Raleigh's 2007 Fiesta del Pueblo, the ***Independent Weekly*** remarked that "Orquesta GarDel is reaching hurricane strength. With vocalist Nelson Delgado and a cast of some of the Triangle's freshest and finest musicians, it may well be the salsa band to be reckoned with."

The exciting vibrant music of Orquesta GarDel is a non-stop rhythmic finale to Thalian Hall's 2010-2011 Main Attractions season. If the spirit moves you, feel free to get out of your seat and just dance up a storm!

Please silence all cell phones and pagers, and refrain from texting. All photography, audio and/or video recording of any kind is prohibited. This performance is presented through the auspices of the Hudson Brown Agency, Greensboro, NC.

<http://www.myspace.com/orquestagardel>



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