

arts news release

scottsdale center for the performing arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 29, 2016
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SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS FEBRUARY EVENTS

Highlights include Japan's thundering KODO drummers, Grammy Award winner Branford Marsalis, world-renowned pianist Olga Kern and the Montreal-based circus The 7 Fingers performing their tantalizing new show *Cuisine & Confessions!*



The 7 Fingers, *Cuisine & Confessions*. Photo: Alexandre Galliez

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

Native Trails

Selected Thursdays and Saturdays, January 12 – March 30, 2017, Noon – 1 p.m.

January 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28

February 2, 4, 16, 18, 23, 25

March 2, 23, 25, 30

Outdoors at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts

Free Admission

Native Trails is a free outdoor festival celebrating the Native American cultures of the Southwest through song and dance. Each event brings together traditional instruments, colorful dances and authentic attire to share the stories of Southwest tribes, including the Hopi, Diné (Navajo), Akimel Au-Authm and San Carlos Apache. Audiences enjoy performances such as the Southwest horse dance, inter-tribal pow-wow dancing, world-championship-level hoop dancing and the audience-participatory round dance. Native Trails also features Native American artisans selling specialty items such as jewelry, baskets, flutes and paintings, as well as light snacks and beverages. Guests are invited to bring blankets, lawn chairs or picnic baskets.

Presented by Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and Produced by Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts in Collaboration with Scottsdale Convention & Visitors Bureau.

yMusic

Friday, February 3, 2017, 8 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$39, \$49

Hailed by NPR's Fred Child as "one of the groups that has really helped to shape the future of classical music," yMusic is a group of six New York City instrumentalists flourishing in the overlap between the pop and classical worlds. Their virtuosic execution and unique configuration (string trio, flute, clarinet and trumpet) have attracted the attention of high-profile collaborators and more recently inspired an expanding repertoire of original works by some of today's foremost composers. In addition to performing its own repertoire, yMusic serves as a ready-made collaborative unit for bands and songwriters, and has striven to bring a classical chamber music aesthetic to venues outside the traditional concert hall. Its members have individually toured and recorded with artists such as Bon Iver, Paul Simon, Bjork, The National, Meredith Monk, Antony & the Johnsons, David Byrne, The New York Philharmonic and Sufjan Stevens.

Late Nite Catechism

Starring Patti Hannon

Written by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan

January 6 – March 31, 2017

Performed Weekly, Fridays, 8 p.m.

January 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Stage 2

Tickets: \$39

Spontaneous, clever and outrageously fun, the record-breaking *Late Nite Catechism* has been running every season at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts since 2000! Ruling her classroom with a razor-sharp wit, Sister teaches her students – who happen to be the audience – everything she knows about sins and saints while doling out rewards and reprimands with lightning speed.

Each *Late Nite* performance is unique and will appeal to people of all ages and faiths.

Late Nite Catechism III: 'Til Death Do Us Part

Starring Patti Hannon

Written by Maripat Donovan With Marc Silvia

January 7 – April 1, 2017

Performed Weekly, Saturdays, 8 p.m.

January 7, 14, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25

April 1

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Stage 2

Tickets: \$39

Arizona's favorite ruler-wielding nun, Sister, is back in the habit! In this popular sequel to the *Late Nite Catechism* comedies, Sister offers up the latest dogma fresh off the Internet, some hilarious lessons about love and marriage, and her own outrageous version of *The Newlywed Game*.

Each *Late Nite* performance is unique and will appeal to people of all ages and faiths.

Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel

The Genius of Chopin

Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 7:30 p.m. (NEW DATE – rescheduled from Dec. 6, 2016)

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$39, \$49

Returning for his 38th season in Scottsdale, acclaimed pianist Jeffrey Siegel makes the joy of music accessible to audiences of all ages. His brilliantly engaging concerts with commentary combine captivating remarks with world-class performances of masterpieces of the piano repertoire – and conclude with a fast-paced Q-and-A session.

The Genius of Chopin showcases works by the great Polish composer Frederic Chopin, one of the great virtuoso pianists of the Romantic Age.

Concert may feature Keyboard in the Sky™ video-display technology.

Presenting Sponsor: Joan and David Goldfarb

Classical music concerts at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts are also supported in part by the Dayton Fowler Grafman Endowment for Classical Music.

San Francisco Opera: Grand Opera Cinema Series

Tosca by Giacomo Puccini

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 7 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

General Admission: \$12

Screened in glorious HD, the Grand Opera Cinema Series features recent productions of the world-renowned San Francisco Opera.

An idealistic artist, a celebrated singer and a corrupt police chief engage in a fierce battle of wills in this tempestuous tale of cruelty and deception. With its themes of political intrigue, sexual intimidation and official hypocrisy, Puccini's great melodrama set in 1800 is anything but dated. Canadian soprano Adrienne Pieczonka makes her Company debut in the title role. Baritone Lado Ataneli (Scarpia) and Italian tenor Carlo Ventre make up the other sides of this fatal love triangle.

Recorded summer 2009, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco.

Sung in Italian with English subtitles

2 hours and 5 minutes with two intermissions

Intermission includes a behind-the-scenes interview

KODO: DADAN 2017

Friday, February 10, 2017, 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 11, 2017, 8 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$39, \$49, \$69

Inspired by the profound natural beauty of their home on remote Sado Island in the Sea of Japan, Kodo explores the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, the taiko. For three decades, the ensemble has forged new directions, striving to preserve and re-interpret the rhythms of this ancient instrument, whose primal sound is said to resemble a mother's heartbeat as felt in the womb. Kodo's exhilarating, virtuoso performances feature thundering drums, vocals and dance. Its hallmark giant drum, the nearly 900-pound *O-daiko*, is a challenging, show-stopping instrument that demands both strength and tenderness to play.

Dadan (meaning "drumming men") was designed by Kodo Artistic Director Tamasaburo Bando as a simultaneously raw and refined performance that features solely young male Kodo performers in a bold exploration of percussion instruments.

Sunday A'Fair

Selected Sundays, January 15 – April 2, 2017, Noon – 4 p.m.

January 15, 22, 29

February 12, 19, 26

March 5, 19, 26

April 2

Outdoors at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts

Free Admission

Celebrating its 30th season, Sunday A'Fair features free outdoor concerts in Scottsdale Civic Center Park by top Arizona musicians, along with an arts-and-crafts market, fun activities for children and families, and free docent-led tours of the sculptures in the park. Guests are invited to bring blankets, lawn chairs or picnic baskets, and enjoy a relaxing afternoon of great entertainment. Delicious foods from the grill, snacks and cocktails, beer, wine and soft drinks are also available for purchase.

Highlights of Sunday A'Fair 2017 include Peace and Community Day honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan. 15; La Gran Fiesta: A Celebration of Latin and Hispanic Cultures headlined by the L.A.-based band Salt Petal on Feb. 19; and Origination: A Festival of Native Cultures celebrating the arts of France and Native Arizona on March 26.

Presenting Sponsor: Nationwide

Signature Sponsor: Renewal by Andersen

Supporting Sponsor: Wag N'Wash

Branford Marsalis Quartet with Special Guest Kurt Elling

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 7:30 pm

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$39, \$49, \$69

The Branford Marsalis Quartet will be joined by Grammy Award-winning guest-vocalist Kurt Elling in a singular collaboration of musical forces. The tight-knit working band, featuring Marsalis on saxophones, Joey Calderazzo on piano, Eric Revis on bass and Justin Faulkner on drums, rarely invites other musicians into the folds of their nearly telepathically cohesive unit. Elling's deep jazz vocabulary, technical versatility and outstanding intonation will enable the band to perform a variety of material in new ways. Energized by the artistic promise of this collaboration and looking beyond the Great American Songbook, the band members have all contributed new arrangements to perform with this special lineup. Although following the format of a standard jazz quartet with vocals, the collaboration between jazz's most intense band and one of jazz's foremost singers will prove to be anything but standard.

Signature Sponsor: Merrill Lynch

ASU Concerts at the Center

Size Matters! ASU Wind and Percussion Ensembles

Monday, February 13, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater
General Admission: \$10 (Free for Students, Teachers and Veterans)

Combining performances with commentary from the stage, this concert series showcases the talented faculty and students of the Arizona State University Herberger Institute School of Music.

Directed by Gary Hill and Jason Caslor, the ASU Wind and Percussion Ensembles break down into some very uncommon chamber group combinations with a focus on instruments of unusual size. (Appropriate for all ages.)

Close Encounters with Music

Fiddler OFF the Roof

Cody Austin, tenor

Roman Rabinovich, piano

Sarah McElravy, violin

Yehuda Hanani, cello

Shengwen Wu, clarinet

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$19, \$29, \$39

Close Encounters With Music is an enriching concert experience that brings together sublime chamber music, distinguished performers and insightful commentary. Esteemed cellist and Artistic Director Yehuda Hanani introduces each program from the stage, putting the composers and their times in perspective.

Fiddler OFF the Roof explores the fascinating phenomenon of Jewish music, including the work of Ravel, Mahler, Bernstein, Weill, Gershwin, Schoenfield, Bruch, Achron and Mendelssohn.

Signature Sponsors: Dr. Sergio and Mrs. Anita Baranovsky; Naomi Caras-Miller and Alvin Miller; Linda and Alan Englander; Deborah and Richard Felder

Supporting Sponsors: Barbara Koval and Andrea Yablon

Classical music concerts at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts are also supported in part by the Dayton Fowler Grafman Endowment for Classical Music.

Thodos Dance Chicago

Friday, February 17, 2017, 8 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$39, \$49, \$59

Dedicated to the American voice in contemporary dance, Thodos Dance Chicago has performed with captivating style described as "breathtakingly athletic" and "powerfully beautiful." The ensemble of 12 versatile dancers has toured nationally and internationally, sharing its award-winning repertory works and story ballets.

Thodos Dance Chicago's program will include the critically acclaimed *A Light in the Dark: The Story of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan*, which was co-choreographed by Artistic Director Melissa Thodos and Tony Award-winning Broadway legend (and Valley resident) Ann Reinking. The dance tells the intimate family story of Helen Keller, the extraordinary woman who was deaf and blind yet went on to become a world-famous writer, political activist and inspiration to all, and her teacher Anne Sullivan, who led Helen into a world of education, activism and intellectual celebrity.

This performance is presented in loving memory of Howard Cohen.

Black Arm Band**Dirtsong: A Journey Through Australia's Heartland**

Saturday, February 18, 2017, 8 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$39, \$59

Black Arm Band is one of Australia's leading performing arts companies, widely acclaimed in Australia and internationally for its distinctive music theater performances, celebration of indigenous music, culture and language, and uniquely powerful visual imagery. The ensemble's musical tradition and presentation are forged from more than 40,000 years of living culture, infused with contemporary styles that have been adopted as their own by Aboriginal Australia.

Supporting Sponsor: Courtyard by Marriott, Scottsdale Salt River

Sunday A'Fair**La Gran Fiesta: A Celebration of Latin and Hispanic Cultures**

Sunday, February 19, 2017, Noon – 4 p.m.

Outdoors at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts

Free Admission

La Gran Fiesta showcases live Latin music and dance, arts and crafts, fun activities for families, delicious cuisine and more. Highlights include a free concert with Los Angeles-based band Salt Petal, known for their cross-border fusion of Argentine folk, Brazilian tropicalia, cumbia and indie rock. Guests are invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy a relaxing afternoon of great entertainment.

Presenting Sponsor: Nationwide

Virginia G. Piper Concert Series: Olga Kern, piano

Sunday, February 19, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$59, \$69

Olga Kern is now recognized as one of her generation's great pianists. With her vivid stage presence, passionately confident musicianship and extraordinary technique, the striking pianist continues to captivate fans and critics alike. Kern was born into a family of musicians with direct links to Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff and began studying piano at the age of 5. She jumpstarted her U.S. career with her historic gold medal at the 2001 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth, Texas, as the first woman to do so in more than 30 years. The first prize winner of the Rachmaninoff International Piano Competition at the age of 17, Kern is a laureate of many international competitions and tours. Her performance career has brought her to many of the world's most important venues.

Returning to Scottsdale by popular demand, Kern will perform a program of Russian and American composers.

Concert may feature Keyboard in the Sky™ video-display technology.

Series Sponsor: Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

Supporting Sponsor: Dewey Schade

Classical music concerts at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts are also supported by the Dayton Fowler Grafman Endowment for Classical Music.

The Musical Box

Performs THE BLACK SHOW Featuring the Music of "Selling England By the Pound"

Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$25, \$45, \$65

Renowned for their high-quality reproductions of historic Genesis performances since 1993, The Musical Box takes fans on a time-travel ride, offering the chance to relive the magic of this unique experience. These performances have required exhaustive visual, scenic, audio and musical research, even tracking down the original music instruments used at the time. The visual aspect of The Musical Box shows are based on thousands of photos and many amateur films taken at Genesis concerts, as well as the original slides used by the group during their shows. Impressively, The Musical Box is the only group licensed and supported by Genesis and Peter Gabriel, and has presented close to 1,000 concerts across the world to more than one million spectators in prestigious venues such as The Royal Albert Hall in London, the Olympia in Paris and the Bell Center in Montreal.

Presented in partnership with Danny Zelisko Presents

Rob Kapilow: What Makes It Great?

The Songs of George Gershwin

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Musical Instrument Museum, Phoenix

Tickets: \$38.50, \$48.50, \$53.50

What makes great music great? Through his entertaining concert presentations, commentaries on NPR's *Performance Today* and CD series, Rob Kapilow has brought the joy and wonder of classical music – and unraveled some of its mysteries – to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Characterized by his unique ability to create an "aha" moment for his audiences and collaborators, whatever their level of musical understanding, Kapilow's work brings music into people's lives: opening new ears to musical experiences and helping people to listen actively rather than just hear.

Combining both performance and engaging commentary from the stage, Kapilow explores the beloved works of composer and pianist George Gershwin (1898–1937), known for his lyrical melodies that draw from both classical and jazz music, such as "Rhapsody in Blue," "An American in Paris," "I've Got Rhythm" and more.

Presented in partnership with the Musical Instrument Museum

The 7 Fingers: Cuisine & Confessions

Saturday, February 25, 2017, 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 26, 2017, 2 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$39, \$49

Based in Montreal, Canada, The 7 Fingers (Les 7 doigts de la main) was founded in 2002 with a mission to bring circus to a human scale, placing the extraordinary element of circus in ordinary contexts. The company's virtuoso performers fuse traditional circus arts, such as hoops, trapeze, teeterboard and juggling, with dance, theater and comedy.

Returning to Scottsdale by popular demand, The 7 Fingers will present one of its latest tantalizing creations, *Cuisine & Confessions*. Set in an iconic kitchen, the performance brings together eye-popping acrobatic choreography and pulsating music while evoking the joy and powerful memories associated with cooking – the touch of hands in batter, the smell of cookies baking, the taste of roasted oregano – leading us through a span of times and countries.

Signature Sponsor: Karen and John Voris

Supporting Sponsor: Gail and Daniel Tenn; WESTAF and National Endowment for the Arts

This project received support from Arizona Commission on the Arts; WESTAF, the Western States Arts Federation; and the National Endowment for the Arts

Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel

A French Musical Feast

Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia G. Piper Theater

Tickets: \$29, \$39, \$49

Returning for his 38th season in Scottsdale, acclaimed pianist Jeffrey Siegel makes the joy of music accessible to audiences of all ages. His brilliantly engaging concerts with commentary combine captivating remarks with world-class performances of masterpieces of the piano repertoire – and conclude with a fast-paced Q-and-A session.

A French Musical Feast showcases the sonic splendors of Debussy, Ravel and more.

Concert may feature Keyboard in the Sky™ video-display technology.

Part of the 2016–17 Discovery France Series

Presenting Sponsor: Joan and David Goldfarb

Supporting Sponsor: Vi at Silverstone, A Vi and Plaza Companies Community

Classical music concerts at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts are also supported in part by the Dayton Fowler Grafman Endowment for Classical Music.

SCOTTSDALE ARTS

Through its dynamic partnership with the City of Scottsdale, the nonprofit Scottsdale Arts (formerly known as Scottsdale Cultural Council) creates diverse, inspired arts experiences and educational and outreach opportunities for the community, while fostering the active engagement of individuals, businesses, education and government with the arts. Since its founding in 1987, Scottsdale Arts has grown into a regionally and nationally significant, multi-disciplinary arts organization offering an exceptional variety of programs through three acclaimed operating divisions – Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art (SMoCA) and Scottsdale Public Art – serving more than 375,000 participants annually.

SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Since 1975, Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts has provided a stage for a wide range of voices and perspectives, creating shared, inspiring experiences for the community that celebrate artistic excellence and cultural awareness. Today one of the premier performing-arts halls in the western United States, the Center presents a diverse season of dance, music, theater, comedy and film from around the world.

LOCATION AND PARKING

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts is located at 7380 E. Second St. in downtown Scottsdale. Free parking is available in the public parking garage located to the west of Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts on Wells Fargo Avenue. Additional free parking is available at the Old Town Parking Corral at East Second Street and Brown Avenue and at the Civic Center Library parking garage located on Drinkwater Boulevard at East Second Street.

ACCESSIBILITY

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts offers performance accommodations to enhance audience members' experience, including: American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation or live audio description with two weeks advance notice. Assistive-listening devices and wheelchair seating are also available. Visit www.ScottsdalePerformingArts.org/visit/accessibility/ or contact the Patron Services Box Office at 480-499-TKTS (8587) [TDD: 480-874-4694] for further details. Please inquire about services when ordering tickets.

TICKET DISCOUNTS

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts offers a variety of ticket discounts for members at the Duet level and above, groups of 10 or more and those purchasing packages to four or more events in one order. The Center provides free tickets to selected events for eligible students, teachers and active-duty military and veterans, and 50-percent off tickets to selected events for patrons 29 and under.

Visit www.ScottsdalePerformingArts.org/visit/tickets-discounts/ or call 480-499-TKTS (8587) for more information.

THE STORE

The award-winning Store at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts supports the mission and diverse programs of the nonprofit Scottsdale Arts. The Store's unique selection of merchandise includes artist-made jewelry, stylish furnishings for home and office, unique creations by Arizona artists, fair-trade and upcycled/recycled global crafts, music, books, greeting cards and imaginative toys. Purchases are tax-free, and members receive a 10-percent discount. Gift-wrapping and shipping are also available. The Store is open seven days a week: Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon – 5 p.m.; and throughout most evening events. Phone: 480-874-4644.

HOW TO REACH US

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