LEAD SINGER - LISA ROCK



Lisa has been performing to soldout crowds for years. She's written more than 15 original concerts and cabarets that have been seen across the country. Rock's amazing four octave range allows her to sing the hits like "We've Only Just Begun" and "Rainy Days and Mondays" in their original key, keeping the songs genuine and more recognizable for the audience. "When she hits the lower range of her marvelous voice," notes critic Alan Bresloff, "if you close your eyes, you can see Karen Carpenter's face."

A Message From Our Sponsor....

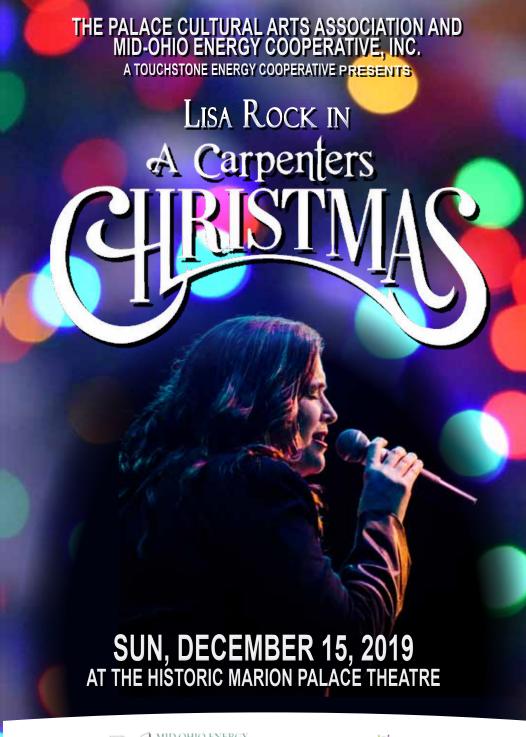
Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy Ten Length Cooperative, INC.

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

MID-OHIO ENERGY is a member-owned electric cooperative with territory in parts of 10 north-central Ohio counties. The cooperative has offices in Marion and Kenton and is committed to the communities we serve.

We salute the Marion Palace Theatre for its rich history and support of the arts in the Marion community. We're proud to partner with the Palace to bring A Carpenters Christmas to this beautiful facility for your entertainment. We hope you enjoy the show!

For more information visit us online www.MidOhioEnergy.com.







MEET THE CLOSE TO YOU BAND



LAUREN ABEL (Vocals) is an actor, singer, and dancer based in Orlando, Florida. She recently graduated from the University of Central Florida with a BFA in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. While at UCF she participated in multiple productions including "And the World Goes 'Round," "Young Frankenstein," "Bernarda Alba," "She Kills Monsters," "Titanic," and several dance concerts. Her most recent

professional role was Luisa in "The Fantasticks." Some of her favorite roles include Miss Dorothy in "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and Olive Ostrivsky in "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Lauren is also a trained gymnast and she is certified in unarmed stage combat through the SAFD. lauren-abel.com



KEN MCMULLEN (Music Director/Piano) is a professional musician in the Chicago area performing theatre and cabaret shows for numerous venues such as Theatre at the Center, Drury Lane Oakbrook, the Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, Davenports and various other community theatres in this area. He is also the principle pianist at the Lincolnshire Academy of Dance, and teaches private piano and voice. Ken is honored to be part of this great band.



ERIC JUSTEN(Bass/Guitar) is a guitar and bass player as well as teacher. He owns his own Chicago guitar studio and plays in several touring bands as well as theatre shows including the Trippin Billies. He has a huge range of influences including rock to pop to jazz and can be heard listening to eclectic bands from Van Halen to Slipknot to Jim Croce to the Beatles.



DREW JANSEN (Backing Vocals/Keyboard)
A once and future resident of Little Rock AR who recently returned home after 35 years in Minnesota, Drew has enjoyed an active and varied career as a musical composer/lyricist ("Church Basement Ladies," "How To Talk Minnesotan: The Musical"), television writer

(Mystery Science Theater 3000), performer (Let's Bowl!), commercial voice-over, on-camera host, free-lance copywriter for greeting cards and comic strips, and cabaret pianist and singer. A life-long devotee of all things Carpenters, Drew cherishes the memory of actually getting to meet and chat with Karen and Richard...at a Barry Manilow concert...a year before he saw ABBA live. Drew likes the '70s.



IAN LETTS (Reeds) recently graduated from Northern Illinois University with degrees in Jazz Performance and Music Education. Through affiliation with the NIU Jazz Ensemble, Ian has had the fortune to perform with high caliber jazz artists such as Randy Brecker, Ernie Watts, Victor Lewis, Wycliffe Gordon, Steve Davis, Brian Lynch, Paquito D'Rivera, and Terrell Stafford. In addition to performing with The Close to You Band, Ian is a member of CRISP, the Pete Ellman Big Band, and the Jose Valdez Mambo All-Stars.



JOHN AGNO (Drums/Percussion) is a much sought after drummer in the Chicagoland area for theatre, bands and cabaret. He is thrilled to be on tour and looks forward to playing at the Marion Palace Theatre.