



Season 93: Issue 3

MAR 01-JUN 30, 2022

APPLAUSE

An official newsletter of the historic Marion Palace Theatre



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

SPRING HAS SPRUNG WITH GREAT ENTERTAINMENT! - KIRK DETWEILER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The theatre season at the Palace Theatre mirrors the New York Broadway theatrical season: July through June. Taking over as Executive Director from the retiring Bev Ford in November, the 2021-2022 season was nearly half over, so I had plenty of time to put together the 2022-2023 season (to be announced in mid-May).

Through happenstance and some luck, the second half of

the current season presented schedule changes giving us an opportunity to add exciting and diverse offerings to the current season.

Retired Marion pediatrician, Dr. Al May and his wife Ingrid, a retired local teacher, approached me and proposed to sponsor a classical concert in the May Pavilion (which happens to be named after the couple). Working with Warren Hyer of the Central Ohio Symphony, we have put together an afternoon concert on March 26th. Titled "Go for Baroque," the concert will feature music from the baroque period by Bach, Vivaldi, and Telemann. It is not a coincidence that the concert was scheduled for March 26th, which is within a few days of the birthday of Johann Sebastian Bach.

"Clue on Stage," based on the popular board game and 1985 film of the same name, will be presented on April 1 and 2 in the main theatre. Directed by Emily Yaksic, the play will feature local talent and is sure to be a crowd favorite. More details are on page 2 of this newsletter.

Two events, not on the original season schedule have been added to April: TV Star Tony Danza brings to the Palace his cabaret-style show, "Stories & Standards" on Saturday, April 23. The same weekend, Sunday, April 24, we are honored to present the US Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus for an afternoon concert.

Two more events will round out the month of May: BritBeat pays tribute to the Fab Four and delivers an immersive concert experience on May 6 and

The Gleeze Cats, who describe themselves as "a top-notch, premium quality doo-wop band from Cleveland, Ohio" perform in the May Pavilion on May 20.

June is generally a quiet month at the Palace Theatre, but after seeing the great response we had for Dueling Pianos in February, I hired a former associate of mine from my years as a Cruise Director for Royal Caribbean. "Matt Yee's Outrageous Adult Sing-Along" will feature Hawaiian-native and cruise ship favorite, Matt Yee for an adults-only bang-up good time June 25 in the May Pavilion.

The shows presented at the theatre would not be possible without the support of our volunteers, members, and sponsors. Sponsoring events this quarter, a big thank you goes out to Dr. Al and Ingrid May (Go For Baroque!), Premier Bank ("Clue on Stage" and BritBeat), Marion Community Foundation Mary H. Hollaway Fund ("Clue on Stage") and Kathleen O'Shea Fund (Tony Danza), Marion Logistics Services (The Gleeze Cats), Y-Men's Service Club of Marion (Matt Yee), and the Jeff Richmond/Tina Fey Family Foundation (yes, THAT Tina Fey), co-sponsoring BritBeat and Tony Danza. With their financial support, we can provide quality entertainment at reasonable prices. The upcoming 2022-2023 season is chock full of a variety of entertainment and we are seeking sponsors. Please feel free to reach out to me if you are interested in becoming a sponsor and for more information!

Side note, and yes, I am a name-dropper, I know you are wondering how we got Tina Fey to sponsor shows in Marion, Ohio. The answer is quite simple. I went to Kent State and did many college shows with Jeff Richmond. Jeff met Tina Fey when he was the musical director for the Second City Improv Group in Chicago and they eventually married. Generous donors for the Kent State Theatre Department, I approached Jeff with the opportunity to support the performing arts here in Marion, and thankfully they agreed!

I, and the entire staff at the Palace Theatre, hope you thoroughly enjoy the remainder of the 2021-2022 season. Watch out for our mid-May announcement about what's coming up for 2022-2023!

Kirk

GO FOR BAROQUE! BACH, VIVALDI & TELEMANN IN CONCERT

The May Pavilion serves as an ambient setting for a classical concert performed by a chamber ensemble from the Central Ohio Symphony. Inspired by the musical experimentation and innovation of the baroque period, GO FOR BAROQUE: BACH, VIVALDI & TELEMANN IN CONCERT will delight music aficionados of all ages. Sponsored by Ingrid May, former teacher of the German language at River Valley and Harding High Schools.

Tickets: \$15 adults; \$5 students.



SATURDAY, MAR 26 AT 2:30PM

MARIONPALACE.ORG



APRIL 1 & 2, 2022

MAIN STAGE @ 7:30PM

It's a dark and stormy night... and you've been invited to a very unusual dinner party. Each of the guests has an alias, the butler offers a variety of weapons, and the host is, well . . . dead. So whodunnit? Don't miss this must-see comedy that will keep you guessing until the final twist.

Directed by Emily Yaksic and featuring a cast of local talent, this play, as in the movie and game, centers on six guests who assemble at a remote manor for a dinner party. When their host turns up dead, Wadsworth the Butler (Michael Cochran), Miss Scarlet (Morgan Schwartz), Professor Plum (Eric Mosley), Mrs. White (Diane Ehrman), Mr. Green (Cameron Williams), Mrs. Peacock (Jennifer Gonsalves), and Colonel Mustard (Bruce Cudd) race to find the killer.

Completing the cast in supporting roles are Isabelle Combs, Sharon Gale, Linnea Gerlach, Farrah Gregg, Kathy Hill, Ralph Hill, Scott Needels, Cadence Tighe, Camryn Tighe, and Amy Werling.

Join the fun on April 1 & 2 and find out WHO did it, WHERE, and with WHAT!

Reserved Seating \$22.

Co-sponsored by



TONY DANZA STANDARDS & STORIES

SATURDAY, APR 23

MAIN STAGE @ 7:30PM

Combining timeless music

with wit, charm, storytelling, and a dash of soft shoe and ukulele performances, Tony, along with his band, perform their hit cabaret show. Danza fans will enjoy hearing his favorite standards from the Great American Songbook, selections from the hit Broadway musical *Honeymoon in Vegas* (which he also starred in), and stories about his life and personal connection to the music.

Perhaps best known for his starring roles on two of television's most cherished and long-running series, *Taxi* and *Who's The Boss*, Tony Danza has also established himself as a song and dance man, and recently received rave reviews for his performance in *Honeymoon in Vegas*, with the New York Times calling his performance "sly genius," and a "career high." Among his past successes, Tony has starred in beloved films such as *Angels In The Outfield*, *She's Out of Control*, and *Hollywood Knights*.

Danza most recently returned to television starred in the 2018 Netflix original series, *The Good Cop*, along with Josh Groban. Today, Tony and his band continue to tour the country with their hit cabaret show, *Tony Danza: Standards & Stories* which debuted in 2017 to a sold-out audience in New York City.

Reserved Seating \$54, \$47, \$39, \$32

Co-Sponsored by

JEFF RICHMOND & TINA FEY
FAMILY FOUNDATION



U.S. NAVY BAND SEA CHANTERS

SUNDAY, APR 24, 2022 AT 3PM

The Navy Band Sea Chanters are the United States Navy's official chorus. The Sea Chanters perform for the public throughout the United States. They perform a variety of music including traditional choral works, sea chanteys, opera, Broadway, contemporary music, and naturally, patriotic selections. At home in Washington, D. C., they perform for the president, vice president, and numerous congressional, military, and foreign dignitaries. Tickets are free for this event. Sponsored by PILLAR CREDIT UNION.



BRITBEAT A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022

MAIN STAGE @ 7:30PM

Take a trip back to 1964 and experience a theatrical recreation concert. It is the Beatles.

It is their look, their sound, their mannerisms, their accents, their costuming, their instrumentation, and their vocal harmonies in the most authentic recreation that you will find. The show is produced to feature a live concert through the ascending Beatles' eras of music including Ed Sullivan, Sgt. Pepper, and Abbey Road with retro costume and vintage instrument changes. The entire concert plays to the backdrop of immersive and captivating moving multimedia that intertwines with the moods and emotions of the Beatles' iconic music catalog.

Join us at the Palace Theatre on May 6th and celebrate the greatest rock and roll group of all time.

Reserved Seating \$20, \$25, \$30



Co-Sponsored by

JEFF RICHMOND & TINA FEY
FAMILY FOUNDATION



2022 SUMMER MUSICAL AUDITIONS!

DATE: Saturday, May 14, 2022

TIME: 1p-2p children (ages 8-11); 2p-5p adults (age 15+) & dancers

AUDITION DETAILS: Those interested in principal and chorus roles are asked to come prepared to sing a one-minute Broadway-style audition tune. A pianist will be provided. No CDs, please. Those auditioning for lead and supporting roles should also be prepared to read from the script. Adult participants wanting a non-singing dance role may audition from 2p-5p. All auditioners should come dressed in casual clothing and shoes appropriate for performing choreography. A casting breakdown will be posted online at marionpalace.org/auditions by April 22.

DIRECTOR: Clare Cooke

SHOW DATES: July 9, 10 and July 15, 16, 17.



THE GEEZECATS

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022

MAY PAVILION @ 7:30PM

This Cleveland, Ohio-based band delivers a concert filled with harmony and hilarity featuring the classic songs of the late '50s and early '60s. Experience a delightful mix of Rock 'N' Roll, Doo-Wop, and improv comedy presented in a stage package of which you've not seen before...that is, unless you've seen The GleezeCats!

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**General Admission
\$16**

Patrons may request up to 6 free general admission tickets by mailing a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
MARION PALACE THEATRE, SEA CHANTERS CONCERT TICKETS,
276 WEST CENTER ST, MARION, OH 43302.

Tickets may also be picked up at the Marion Palace Theatre Box Office and at Pillar Credit Union locations (300 Barks Rd E - Marion) and (869 Meadow Dr- Mount Gilead).

Any unclaimed seats will be available to non-ticket holders just prior to concert.

Sponsored by



Spring 2022

MARCH 2022

04-06 RHS BEAUTY & THE BEAST
07-Apr 04 LINE DANCE MONDAYS
11-13 PHS CINDERELLA
17, 31 TRIVIA NIGHT THURSDAYS
18-20 EHS THE SECRET GARDEN
26 GO FOR BAROQUE!

APRIL 2022

01 & 02 CLUE ON STAGE
03 SHOW CHOIR SPECTACULAR
06 VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

07 & 21 TRIVIA NIGHT THURSDAYS
23 TONY DANZA
24 NAVY BAND SEA CHANTERS
29-May 01 MOVIE WEEKEND

MAY 2022

05 & 19 TRIVIA NIGHT THURSDAYS
06 BRITBEAT BEATLES TRIBUTE
13 MTC NURSE GRADUATION
14 SUMMER MUSICAL AUDITIONS
15 DOUCE DANCE RECITAL
20 THE GEEZECATS
20-22 MOVIE WEEKEND

28 NORTH POINTE DANCE RECITAL

JUNE 2022

03-04 MOVIE WEEKEND
05 TRECA GRADUATION
11 FIRE FIGHTER CONCERT
17 TRI RIVERS GRADUATION
18-19 MOVIE WEEKEND
24 & 26 MOVIE WEEKEND
25 MATT YEE'S ADULT SING-A-LONG

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Matt Yee's OUTRAGEOUS ADULT Sing-Along Show!

Matt Yee is a one-of-a-kind entertainer. Born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii the singer/songwriter/comedian has risen to the rank of a number one international entertainer aboard cruise ships. On June 25th, the charismatic entertainer brings his talents and his outrageous show to landlocked Marion, Ohio.

Palace Executive Director, Kirk Detweiler has personally seen Yee perform dozens of times in his former career as Cruise Director and says Yee never disappoints. "People couldn't get enough of Matt

Yee's Outrageous Adult Sing-Along Show. He is one of the most requested artists and has a huge fan base. Regardless of gender or orientation, he knows how to connect with his audience and make sure everyone has a good time."

Yee is a master at bringing people together to sing and laugh. His catalog of music selections shifts from "Candle in the Wind" and "We Will Rock You" to the theme from Green Acres over the course of a single raucous night. His shows incorporate fabulous costumes and lots of laughs with incredible vocals, piano riffs, and stories.

Detweiler continues, "Please be aware, this is definitely an adult show. He's flashy, outrageous, and a little dirty, but he is also this big, warm, and relatable guy that you can't help but adore. After seeing the success of Dueling Pianists in February, I immediately knew Matt would also be a big hit in the May Pavilion."

Yee did not always choose to perform as his vocation. After attending Dartmouth College on a vocal scholarship, he went to law school and spent some time in the world of corporate acquisitions and mergers before trying his hand at real estate and ultimately returning to his performance roots. In the late 90s and early 2000s, he had a string of radio hits in Hawaii which led to live shows.

In an interview with Edge New York, Yee shares, "I used to do a cabaret show, with a storyline. I would take strong female songs and have them sung by men. In the middle of the show, I'd do a sing-along to bump up the energy."

Yee has been described as "Elton John meets Margaret Cho," by The San Francisco Chronicle noting his flair for comedy, variety, and audience participation. He has shared the stage with tons of stars, including Idina Menzel, Margaret Cho, Gloria Estefan, Chita Rivera, Patti Lupone, Ru Paul, The Village People, Joan Jett, and more.

Yee's list of accomplishments includes The Hawaii Music Award, multiple ASCAP awards, an OMA Director's Award out of NYC, and a nomination for a JP Folks Award for his original single, "Every Facet of My Heart."

Yee admits the show isn't for everyone. "If you come in and intend to party and laugh and not be offended, then you're going to have a great time. But if not, then maybe you should walk up the street and go see 'Spiderman.'"

Tickets to see Matt Yee's Outrageous Adult Sing-Along Show are \$25.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25
MAY PAVILION | 8:30PM

