



08

Summer's in the air.



ann arbor summer festival
June 13 – July 6

season program



130th Season **2008**
09 UMS

Complicite

A Disappearing Number

Conceived and Directed by
Simon McBurney

Mark Morris Dance Group

**Wayne Shorter Quartet
and Imani Winds**

**A Tribute to Munir Bashir
and the Baghdad
Conservatory of Music**

Sphinx Orchestra

co-presented with the
Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Tokyo String Quartet

Sabine Meyer clarinet

The Rite of Spring

Compagnie Heddy Maalem

Soweto Gospel Choir

**Milton Nascimento
and the Jobim Trio**

Anne-Sophie Mutter violin
Camerata Salzburg

Beethoven Sonata Project Concerts 5 & 6
Andrés Schiff piano

Joe Lovano "Us Five" Quintet

and **Jason Moran**

Emanuel Ax and
Yefim Bronfman pianos

**Estonian Philharmonic
Chamber Choir**

Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra

Leon Botstein music director
Robert McDuffie violin

Handel's Messiah

Rubberbandance Group

Victor Quijada and
Anne Plamondon co-artistic directors

Rubberbandance Group

Family Performance

Farewell Tour

Guarneri String Quartet

Tord Gustavsen Trio

Gilgamesh

Kinan Azmeh clarinet
Kerem Murad MaqTAP

Richard Goode piano

Chanticleer

Lawrence Brownlee tenor

Martin Katz piano

Sweet Honey in the Rock

Kodo

Batsheva Dance Company

New York Philharmonic

Lorin Maazel music director

Wynton Marsalis and the
**Jazz at Lincoln Center
Orchestra**

Brentano String Quartet

Peter Serkin piano
Richard Lalli baritone

**Aswat: Celebrating the
Golden Age of Arab Music**
with **Simon Shaheen**

The Silk Road Ensemble

with **Yo-Yo Ma** cello

Altenberg Trio Vienna

Sulayman Al-Bassam Theatre

Richard III – An Arab Tragedy

Based on *Richard III* by **William Shakespeare**

Zakir Hussain tabla

Pandit Shivkumar Sharma santoor

The Romeros

Dan Zanes & Friends

One-Hour Family Performance

John Williams guitar

St. Louis Symphony

David Robertson conductor

Anssi Karttunen cello

Chick Corea/John McLaughlin:

Five Peace Band

Beethoven Sonata Project Concerts 7 & 8

Andrés Schiff piano

"Dedicated to You"

Kurt Elling Sings
the **Coltrane/Hartman Songbook**

Takács Quartet

Marc-André Hamelin piano

From the **Faz Festival of Sufi Culture**
in **Faz, Morocco**

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the **Hmadcha Ensemble**

Julia Fischer violins

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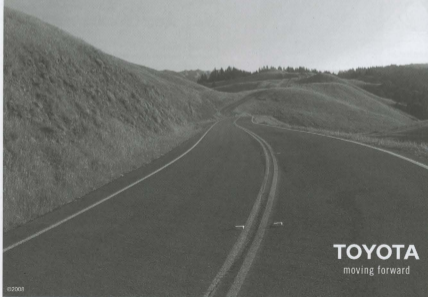


BETWEEN DISSONANCE
AND HARMONY RESIDE
TWO WORDS.

WHY NOT?

Two words that can inspire every one of us to make a difference. Toyota is proud to support the Ann Arbor Summer Festival and its commitment to enriching our community through the celebration of the performing arts.

toyota.com/whynot



TOYOTA
moving forward

OUR TOWN/GOWN PARTNERS

Welcome to the 2008 Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Since 1984, the Summer Festival has been a highlight of summer activities in the City. Governed by the Board of Trustees made up of staff of the University of Michigan and residents of the City of Ann Arbor, the Festival is a unique reflection of what makes Ann Arbor a truly wonderful place to live. With three weeks of outstanding entertainment coming your way, the Festival reflects the cultural diversity, character and genuine warmth of the community.



I invite you to join us at the Power Center or Hill Auditorium for a fantastic lineup of indoor performances that range from Chinese acrobats to World music, Country, Celtic and Cabaret. Plus, join us at Top of the Park, at our new location on the Ingalls Mall for star filled nights of free local and regional entertainment followed by a fabulous array of films that begin at dusk.

However you choose to enjoy the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, we're glad to have you here and hope to see you return next year.

Sincerely,

John Hiatt
Mayor, City of Ann Arbor

From the harmonies of the Manhattan Transfer and the comedy of the Capitol Steps, to the rhythms of the Funk Brothers and the acrobatics of the Cirque d'Or, the 2008 Ann Arbor Summer Festival delivers three weeks of fascinating entertainment for our community.

The University of Michigan is proud to host the 25th Summer Festival at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, Hill Auditorium, and the grassy surroundings of Ingalls Mall. It is a silver anniversary worth celebrating!

We are particularly proud to share the enthusiasm of the Summer Festival with a national audience via National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion."

Our campus-community partnership will once again provide a variety of compelling performances of dance, music, comedy, and family entertainment. Join us at Hill Auditorium for a concert by Willie Nelson, or wander over to the Power Center for the Reduced Shakespeare Company or Mandy Patinkin. Free movies and live music can be found at Top of the Park.

Thank you for joining us during our truly wonderful Ann Arbor tradition.

Sincerely,

Mary Sue Coleman
President, University of Michigan



WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

This year, the sky is the limit, literally.

Now celebrating our 25th season, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival launches into its silver anniversary year with a nod to the past and an eye to the future. We are very excited to share with you the 2008 lineup, which offers a fresh mix of eclectic music, dance, theater, comedy, and family fun.

From acoustic folk to daredevil acrobats to over-the-top cabaret, this year's Mainstage Series offers something for everyone. Our season soars with country music legends, pop superstars, Broadway showstoppers, Motown hitmakers, and Lake Wobegon storytellers. Plus, wait until you see the outdoor serial spectacle, The Dream Engine, which is planned for Top of the Park.

Take a deep breath: Summer's in the air.

Robb Wolfe
Executive Director



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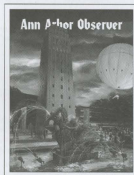
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival is to provide a widely accessible, high quality summer program representing a variety of the performing arts for the cultural enrichment and entertainment of a regional audience in the festive atmosphere.

FESTIVAL COMMITTEES:

Artistic

John Neville-Andrews
Jessica Fager
Christopher Kendall
Anne Rubin

Audience Development

Peter Schork, *Chair*
Susan Chandler
Katy Downs
Karen Edwards
Peter Fayroian
Steve Guttman
Kevin Heslip
Sudha Maheshwari
Nancy Paige
Pat Pooley
Kathleen Russell
Amy Settee
Kim Scott
Angeline Smith

Audience Development Teen Advisors

Alex Damico,
Pioneer High School
Ari Goldstein,
Community High School
Tim Guttman,
Huron High School
Alia Parsico-Shammas,
Open School
Mark Schork,
Pioneer High School
Allie Stein,
Pioneer High School
Bennett Stein,
Pioneer High School
Olivia Vander Taig,
Greenhills

Development

Patricia Garcia, *Co-Chair*
Connie Kinneer, *Co-Chair*
LeAnn Auer
Howard Cooper
Bettye Elkins
Dawn Foerg
Sara Johns
Jerry Lax
Margaret McKinley
Dave Roberts
Peter Schork
Kevin Wilson
Shauna Wilson

Finance

Erik Bakker, *Co-Chair*
Jim Reece, *Co-Chair*
Connie Kinneer
Julie Fritz
John Lawrence
Peter Schork

Long-Range Planning

Alan Cotzin, *Co-Chair*
Fred Mayer, *Co-Chair*
Susan Chandler
Julie Fritz
Connie Kinneer
John Matlock
Jamie Mistry

25th Season Celebration & Gala

Deanna R. Dornier, *Co-Chair*
Ronald G. Miller, *Co-Chair*
LeAnn Auer
Glenda Bullock
Ed Davidson
Karen Edwards
Kathy Hentschel
Stephen Kerr

Connie Kinneer
Stephanie Lord
Paul Morel
Bruce Moyer
Patricia Pooley
Bonnie Reece
Maya Sevarino
Maura Thompson

Nominations

Sue Chandler, *Co-Chair*
Peter Schork, *Co-Chair*
Peter Fayroian
Patricia Garcia
Connie Kinneer
Jim Kosteva
Fred Mayer
Margaret McKinley
Patricia Pooley

Operations

Julie Fritz, *Co-Chair*
Jim Kosteva, *Co-Chair*
David Bara
Bill Bess
Francis Glorie
Jim Kosteva
John Lawrence
Fred Mayer
Jayne Miller
Samantha Misak
Bruce Moyer
Jim Reece
Peter Schork

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Estelle Titiev
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WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the entire Ann Arbor Summer Festival family, I am honored to welcome you to our 25th season.

In 1984, the first full season of the Festival, our young family was thrilled to discover a spectacular summer celebration called "Top of the Park." On our first visit we ate, listened to music, danced a little and later watched the outdoor movie with our two sons fast asleep on our laps. It was summer in Ann Arbor and it was marvelous.

Every year, we found more to love about the Festival. Every year the Festival got bigger and better. Today, the Festival is all grown up. It has achieved national recognition and become a source of enormous community pride. For 25 years, we've provided outstanding summer entertainment, engaging our diverse population in a common celebration and bringing internationally known performers to Ann Arbor.

We are truly fortunate to have the support of the University of Michigan, the City of Ann Arbor, and our many generous corporate and individual sponsors. With their help and the gifts of time and talent from our trustees and staff, we continue to reach new levels of community entertainment, enrichment and involvement.

We trust that you will enjoy the show this evening. After the curtain falls, stroll across to Washington Street and have a snack at Top of the Park, listen to the band, watch the movie, and take in the beauty of our campus and town. Savor everything the Festival has to offer.

Thank you for joining us this year as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. We look forward to seeing you many times this summer.



Dawn H. Foerg
Board Chair



Festival Staff

Robb Wouffe
Executive Director

Astrid Giese
Production Director

Amy Nesbitt
Business & Operations Manager

Brenda Vidovic
Marketing & Promotions Manager

Robin Sherer, C.P.A.
Festival Accountant

William Hubenschmidt
Community Engagement Assistant

Meghan Shank
Production Assistant

Melissa Takach
Development Assistant

Ariel Wan
Graphic Design Intern

Marissa Santiago
Festival Intern

Credits

Phire Branding Company
Festival Branding
University Lithographers
Festival Printing

Top of the Park Staff

Jeffrey Beyersdorf
TDP Production Manager

Steve Guttman
TDP Site Manager

Bryan Broulette
Assistant TOP Site Manager

Steven Hall
TDP Stage Manager

Travis Laguire-Quinn
Audio Engineer

David Pickell
TDP Production Associate

Rob Chockley
TDP Financial Assistant

Brendan Durratt
TDP Financial Assistant

Festival Ticket Office Staff

Jenny Graf
Ticket Office Manager

Suzie Davidson
Assistant Ticket Office Manager

Karen Jenks
Group Sales Coordinator

Stephanie Zangrilli
Ticket Office Associate

Sara Sanders
Ticket Office Assistant

Student Assistants:
Catherine Allan, Toni Jones,
Alejandro Manso, Parmis Nassir, Andy Smith

Venue & Ushering Staff

Dianne Widzinski
House Manager

Jullianne Pissak
Usher Coordinator

Katy Blackhall, Brian Roddy
Usher Assistants

Mainstage Staff

Douglas Edwards
Production Manager

Mark Allen Berg
Lighting Director

Jim Lillie, Jeff Jones
Sound Board Operators

Joe Schlenke
Artist Liaison

Michelle Bisbee
Mainstage Artist Services Assistant

Brandon Carruth
Production Associate

Ernest Caviani
Piano Tuner



Stagehands for the Power Center and Hill Auditorium are members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States and Canada.



The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is a proud member of the following organizations:
• International Festival and Events Association
• Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce
• Institute of Management Accountants
• Ann Arbor Chapter

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY LEADERS



Yasuhiko "Yas" Ichibashi
President, Toyota Technical Center

Toyota Technical Center is proud to support the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. An Ann Arbor tradition that brings a wide variety of programs to help broaden the community's interest and understanding of world cultures as well as celebrate the diversity within our community.



Ryan D. May
Insurance Representative, Edward Jones Insurance

Congratulations, Summer Festival, on your 29th fantastic season. On behalf of all the Edward Jones offices in the county, we are delighted to be a major sponsor this year. Thanks for your attendance, and have a great summer!



Erik Bakker
Senior Vice President, JP Morgan Chase

JP Morgan Chase is honored to be a major sponsor of the 2008 Ann Arbor Summer Festival. The Summer Festival has been an Ann Arbor institution for 29 years. Our community is fortunate to have events such as the Summer Festival, which contribute so much to our quality of life. We salute and thank all the entertainers, volunteers and organizers who make this event a wonderful Ann Arbor summer tradition.



Tim Marshall
President & CEO, Bank of Ann Arbor

As Ann Arbor's premier locally owned and locally operated bank, Bank of Ann Arbor is proud to continue our tradition of support for the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Your year after year, the Summer Festival is top quality performance being vibrant to our community. The Summer Festival signals the start of summer in Ann Arbor!



George Jones
CEO, Borders Group

For three weeks each year, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival reminds us all why we love to live and work in our community. It is a thrill to welcome world-class talent to our home town and to celebrate the performing arts with such spirit. Borders is proud to be a part of it. Enjoy!



Jim Wasty
President, D & W, Inc.

D & W, Inc. has been a proud sponsor of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival for several years and through our support we hope to endorse those varied performing arts for the Ann Arbor community to enjoy.



Charlie Coene
Regional President, Convey Bank

Convey is honored to have continuously supported the Ann Arbor Summer Festival for 29 years. The Summer Festival is a tradition that enriches our community each year. Our congratulations go to Robb and his team for another great line up!



Leo Legatski
President, Elston Corporation of America

I believe that supporting the Ann Arbor Summer Festival is an unrequited obligation for everyone that can support it. ASFF is much more than the ticketed events with their broad variety & popularity. The Top of the Park is an early Summer gathering place for everyone on those marvellous evenings.



Howard Cooper
Director, Howard Cooper Import Center

Howard Cooper Import Center has been a proud supporter of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival for many years. We applaud the innovative and well-rounded programming, which will once again ensure a delightful 28 days of stellar entertainment.



Jim Hume
Principal/Creative Director, Pire Branding Company

Pire Branding Company, one of Ann Arbor's premier advertising, design and interactive firms, is thrilled to be a sponsor and partner to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. We salute everyone who helps bring this wonderful event together, year after year. Enjoy the show!



Susan Bellinson
Marketing Director, Whole Foods Market

Whole Foods Market is proud to again sponsor the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Ann Arbor is very fortunate to host this summertime event which adds to the quality of life in our community. Thank you to all the hardworking Summer Festival staff, volunteers, and performers that make it all happen!

Please patronize our sponsors and program advertisers.
Please request our vendors at Top of the Park.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEDIA PARTNERS



Mary McDerwold
Marketing & Development Director, WEMU, ALI FM

As long time supporters of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, WEMU is delighted with our new role as major media sponsor for Top of the Park. The Ann Arbor Summer Festival and WEMU have the same mission: to serve our community with the best mix of national and local programming possible. And I think we both succeed.



Bob Bolak
General Manager, Ann Arbor Radio

Ann Arbor's 107.9MHz sponsors "Top of the Park" rights this year. My 14 year-old and his friends will be there, but I'm not allowed to say hello, for fear of embarrassing him! However, deep down, I'm proud that 107.9MHz can help put on these cool family-friendly shows!



Laurel Chompton
Publisher, The Ann Arbor News

The people at The Ann Arbor News are glad to be long-time supporters of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. We appreciate everything that the Ann Arbor Summer Festival does to enrich our community - plus it's just so much fun!



Patricia Garcia
Publisher, Ann Arbor Observer

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival brings our community together in a joyous celebration of summer. People of all ages gather for marvelous evenings of world class music performances, exceptional local and regional entertainment at TOP, and family-friendly movies under a starry sky. The Ann Arbor Observer is pleased to partner with the Ann Arbor Summer Festival to present this feast for the senses.




Stephen Schram
Sponsor, Michigan Public Media, Michigan Radio, Michigan Television

D & W, Inc. has been a proud sponsor of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival for several years and through our support we hope to endorse those varied performing arts for the Ann Arbor community to enjoy.



Mark Hauptstchein
President and CEO, MLive.com

MLive.com is thrilled to partner with the Ann Arbor Summer Festival once again. Each year the Festival does a terrific job of bringing world-class performers to our area, as well as highlighting local talent at Top of the Park. These performances are truly one of the things that make Ann Arbor such a fun place to be in the summer. MLive.com is proud to support The Ann Arbor Summer Festival.



ann arbor summer festival

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival offers a wide range of giving opportunities to the business community, including corporate sponsorship and media partnerships. We provide companies with an opportunity to create highly visible and valuable associations with one of the leading multi-disciplinary performing arts festivals in the country. It also offers a chance to demonstrate your company's commitment to the community and the quality of life in Ann Arbor.

Corporate sponsorships and media partnerships provide a considerable level of promotion and public relations that can strengthen your organizations' image and enhance visibility locally and nationally. We provide your company with prominent recognition, unique special events, and other exclusive promotional planning.

Please contact the Festival office at (734) 994-5999 for more information about opportunities next season.

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County
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toll-free in Michigan at 800.221.1229

ONLINE

Visit our web site at www.annarborsummerfestival.org or go to www.tickets.com.

Please note that there is a processing fee for all tickets purchased on the Internet. Tickets are not available on the Internet 24 hours prior to the performance. If you wish to purchase tickets for an event during this time, you may do so in person or by phone.

IN PERSON

June 9 - July 6
Michigan League Ticket Office
911 North University
Monday - Friday: 10 am - 5 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 1 pm
Closed Sundays

EVENING/AFTERNOON OF SHOW

The Ticket Office opens at the performance venue 90 minutes before the performance and remains open until 30 minutes after the performance begins.

POWER CENTER TICKET OFFICE

121 Fletcher Street
HILL AUDITORIUM TICKET OFFICE
825 N. University Avenue

SUNDAYS

The Ticket Office is closed for all phone orders on Sundays. If you wish to purchase tickets for a Sunday event on the day of the performance, you may do so 90 minutes before each performance at the performance venue ticket office.

SPECIAL NEEDS &

Our venues are accessible for persons with disabilities. Please refer to the map on this page for our venue locations. Call 734.764.2538 for more information.

CHILDREN

Children under the age of 3 will not be admitted to indoor Festival performances in consideration of other patrons. All children must be able to sit quietly in their own seats throughout the performance. Children unable to do so, along with the adult accompanying them, may be asked to leave the theater. Remember, everyone must have a ticket, regardless of age.

SORRY, NO REFUNDS

Due to the nature of the performing arts, programs are subject to change. Refunds are given only in the case of event cancellation or date change. Handling fees are not refundable.

GOOD NEIGHBOR TICKET PROGRAM

The Good Neighbor Ticket Program is a unique outreach initiative that provides human service agencies in the greater Washtenaw County area with complimentary tickets to select indoor performances. The program is offered to those whose financial and/or social situation would otherwise prohibit them from experiencing live performances of the performing arts.

Tickets are distributed solely through non-profit, human-service organizations that coordinate their efforts to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival with their clients. Tickets are not granted directly to individuals. To participate, interested organizations must submit an application to be part of the Good Neighbor Ticket Program.

If your organization is interested in taking part in the Good Neighbor Ticket Program, please contact the festival office at (734) 994-5999.

We appreciate the generous support from our sponsors for the 2007 Good Neighbor Ticket Program.

Support for this
program is provided
by Jean and Jim Lubs
and Festival 5000

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Tom Thompson Flowers
Whole Foods Market
Zanzibar



The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is made possible with the support of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

ArtsAlliance
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



festival 5000

In addition to encouraging new and increased levels of giving, this effort provides a reliable stream of income for the organization, specifically for operations and several of the admission-free community engagement programs that Ann Arbor Summer Festival offers to the audience at large.

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP • 25TH SEASON CELEBRATION

Concept

We are excited about this new fundraising effort to support the Festival's 25th Season Celebration. We ask supporters to pledge a minimum donation of \$5000 over a 5-year period. The annual minimum donation should be \$1,000.

Purpose

- To reward and recognize our most loyal donors
- To encourage new and increased levels of giving
- To create a reliable stream of income for the organization, specifically for operations and several of the admission-free community engagement programs that Ann Arbor Summer Festival offers to the audience at large

festival 5000

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Carolyn Lepard
Elizabeth and John Mall
Sonya Yvonne Mark
Tracy and Jamie Mistry
Susan and Mark Oringer
Linda and Bill Powers
Bonnie and Jim Reeds
Annette and Peter Schork
Nancy and James Stanley
Pat McCune and Ed Stein
Janeth and Hub Turner
Laurie and Tim Wadhams
March Walker
Toni and Don Walker
Eileen and Ron Weiser

Benefits

For more information about becoming a Festival 5000 member, please contact Astrid Giese, Development Director, at agiese@umich.edu or 734-994-5999, extension 202.

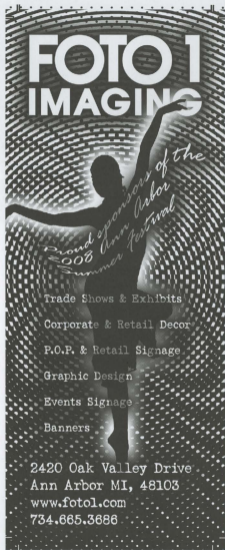


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Marilyn Mason, the Organ Series takes place on
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Anderson Moore Hall. Tickets can be purchased by
calling the Festival Ticket Office at (734) 764-2538 or
at the door.*

Sunday, June 15, 4:00 p.m.
Pierre Darchambeau, Guest Violinist
Marilyn Mason, University Organist

Sunday, June 22, 4:00 p.m.
Tapani Yrjola, Guest Violinist
Michele Johns, Adj. Professor of Organ

Sunday, June 29, 4:00 p.m.
Louis Nagel, Professor of Piano

Sunday, July 6, 4:00 p.m.
Brenda Wimberley, Guest Soprano
Marilyn Mason, University Organist

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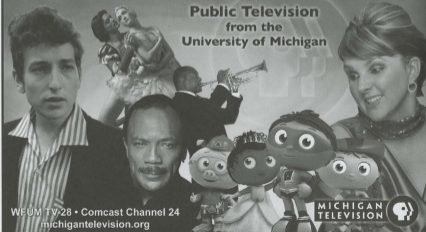
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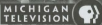


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Saturday, June 14
5:45pm SHARP
Broadcast Live from
Hill Auditorium



A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION is a live radio variety show created and hosted by Garrison Keillor. The program is known for its musical guests and comedy sketches, as well as Keillor's segment, "News from Lake Wobegon."

A Prairie Home Companion With Garrison Keillor

Co-Presented by Ann Arbor Summer Festival and Michigan Radio 91.7 FM

July 6, 1974: The first live broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion* at Macalester College, St. Paul. Twelve people watch the show — in a 400-seat hall.

1975: First live broadcast road show.

1976: PHC broadcasts from all over the Twin Cities.

1977: Death March to the Prairie tour begins in April: 16 shows, 16 towns, 16 days.

1978: PHC moves to St. Paul's World Theater.

1979: First national live broadcast from the University of Minnesota's 4700-seat Northrop Auditorium.

1980: PHC releases a Fifth Anniversary album, one year late.

1981: First appearance for Kate MacKenzie and Stoney Lansosome.

1982: Vern Suttou and Philip Brunelle perform "Thanksgiving Cantata," composed from notes of thanks written by audience members.

1983: "The Department of Folk Song" becomes a regular feature.

1984: Ceiling plaster falls at the World Theater necessitating a hasty venue change.

1985: Time magazine puts GK on the cover as *Lake Wobegon Days* reaches No. 1 on the *New York Times* best-seller list.

1986: PHC returns to the renovated World Theater. The show travels to Alaska and Hawaii.

1987: Garrison announces that PHC will cease in June. The Farewell Broadcast runs over time — by 40 minutes.

1988: GK does the Second Annual Farewell at Radio City Music Hall.

1989: The Third Annual Farewell tour hits 11 states. In November, broadcasts resume with a new name: *The American Radio Company of the Air*.

1990: The show is broadcast from Mark Twain's house in Hartford, CT.

1991: Shows come from Seattle, San Diego, Chicago, New York — and live from London.

1992: GK announces a return to the World Theater in St. Paul.

1993: The show resumes the *A Prairie Home Companion* name. A broadcast in Birmingham, AL, is almost cancelled because of a blizzard.

1994: Emmylou Harris arrives mid-show and joins GK in a duet — straight off her tour bus.

1994: The World becomes the Fitzgerald Theater, honoring St. Paul native F. Scott Fitzgerald. Tim Russell joins the cast.

1995: The first Tweet from *Towns Under Two* thousand completion.

1996: The first joke show.

1997: The Polka Show comes from the ballroom in Gibbon, MN.

1998: PHC celebrates Studs Terkel's 88th birthday with a three-fired birthday cake — so many candles the frosting melts.

1999: PHC's 25th anniversary.

2000: GK solicits sonnets from the audience for a Valentine's Day broadcast. The show travels to Edinburgh, Scotland.

2001: Prairie Home travels to Dublin, Ireland, and Berlin, Germany.

2002: Two hundred listeners fly to Minnesota for a Lake Wobegon Weekend in January. They ice fish, go to a hymn sing and eat hot-dish in a church basement.

2003: PHC celebrates Christmas at The Town Hall in New York City.

2004: The 30th Anniversary show is broadcast from the Fitzgerald Theater.

2005: Prairie Home hosts its first cruise, to the Canadian Maritime Provinces.

2006: *A Prairie Home Companion* the motion picture is released in June.

2007: PHC broadcasts from a baseball field in Lanesboro, MN. It rains so hard the broadcast signal is knocked out.

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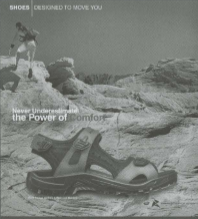
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STREB vs. GRAVITY

Production Staff

Action Architect and Choreographer:
Elizabeth Streb
Technical Director: Justin D'Apolto
VJ/DJ: Zaire Baptiste
PSM / Lighting Supervisor: Ian Strimple
Company / Tour Manager: Katy Savard
Set Design: Michael Casselli
Projection Design: Aaron Henderson
Lighting Consultant: Shane Mongar
Sound Design: Maxim Safoulline

Actioneers:

Jackie Carlson
Fabio Tavares Da Silva
Sarah Donnelly
Leonardo Giron
Arii Iyago
Cassandra Joseph
Kevin Lindsay

Action Events

Act I	Act II
Orbit	Air
Crash	Quarant
Moon	Tied
Tip	Revolution

INTERMISSION

**Program Subject to change

Elizabeth Streb in 1997 was awarded a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Award. In 2003, Streb was appointed to the Mayor's Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, a commission mandated by the City Charter to advise the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. She holds a Master of Arts in Humanities and Social Thought from New York University, a B.S. in Modern Dance from SUNY Brookport from which she has received an honorary doctorate of fine arts as well. Streb also holds an honorary doctorate from Rhode Island College. Elizabeth Streb is the recipient of numerous other awards and fellowships including the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1987, a Brandeis Creative Arts Award in 1991, two New York Dance and Performance Awards (Bessie Awards), in 1988 and 1989 for her sustained investigation of movement; and over 20 years of on-going support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Once called the Eve! Knievel of dance, Elizabeth Streb's choreography, which she calls "PopAction," intertwines the disciplines of dance, athletics, boxing, rodeo, the circus, and Hollywood stunt-work. The result is a bristling, muscle-and-motion vocabulary that combines daring with strict precision in pursuit of the public display of "pure movement". In 2003 Streb established S.L.A.M. (STREB Lab for Action Mechanics) in Brooklyn, NY (www.streb-usa.org). S.L.A.M.'s door is literally open for the community to come in and watch rehearsals, take

Tuesday, June 17
8:00 p.m.
Power Center

STREB VS. GRAVITY

Traditional dance takes heavy collateral damage as STREB declares all-out war on gravity in this award-winning show. Powerful bodies fly, carom, and splat in an artfully dangerous, action-packed program of extreme sports meets slapstick gymnastics. Let the action begin!



classes and learn to fly. The central idea of SLAM (besides always being public) is to mix three extreme action forms: PopAction, KiAction and Circus Arts.

Streb believes that true movement invention (the rubric of her investigations) happens accidentally with the mixing together of strangers and out of the diverse movement voices that accidentally cross paths. SLAM is the Petri dish that feeds the possibility for these new forms to emerge.

The STREB Extreme Action Company is committed to presenting its work in traditional and non-traditional venues and has been seen in public spaces throughout New York and across the country in such venues as Vanderbilt Hall in New York's Grand Central Terminal, the Winter Garden of the World Financial Center in New York, in front of the Cyclone at Coney Island, on the mall outside the Smithsonian Institution, during a Minneapolis Twins and New York Yankees game at the Minnesota Metrodome, in the Anchorage under the Brooklyn Bridge, during intermission of the International Squash Tournament finals and at the State of Illinois Center in Chicago.

STREB has been seen on the David Letterman Show, CBS Sunday Morning, CNN Showbiz Today, Nickelodeon, NBC's Weekend Today, MTV, ABC Nightly News with Peter Jennings and on Larry King Live.

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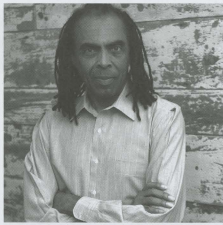
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Gilberto Gil
And Broad Band

Gilberto Gil has developed one of the most relevant and renown careers as a singer, composer and guitar-player in both world and pop music. In a career that has spanned four decades, with over 30 albums released, Gil has six gold records, four platinum singles and five million records sold. The Tropicalist genre he introduced, alongside Caetano Veloso, has secured his fame internationally as well as at home in Brazil. His extensive and prolific catalogue of work has been covered and recorded by João Gilberto, Elis Regina, Gal Costa, Sérgio Mendes, Ernie Watts, and Toots Thielmans. Over the years, his political and environmental activism gained prominence alongside his musical career and reached a new height in 2002 when he was appointed minister of culture for Brazil. As a musician and as a diplomat, Gil possesses a key role in the constant modernization of Brazilian popular music and culture throughout the world.

North American concert dates have been announced for Grammy Award-winning artist Gilberto Gil for June and July 2008. Following his unprecedented solo tour here in 2007, Gil returns with a full band lineup for 11 concerts in major markets, his first such tour since 1999. Performing the repertoire from his latest CD "Banda Larga Cordel" (June 2008 / Warner Music Latina), Gilberto Gil continues to raise the banner he's been carrying in his most recent works – the Broad Band (Banda Larga).

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Wednesday, June 18
8:00 p.m.
Power Center

GILBERTO GIL
Brazilian superstar Gilberto Gil brings his trademark fusion of samba, salsa, bossa nova, rock, and folk music to Ann Arbor for one night only.

Gil has delved deeply into the vertiginous waters of the digital revolution and its accelerated information highway. He wants his music to use all of these means of communication including mobile phones, the internet, cable, digital TV, ringtones, truetones, downloads, etc.

Band Members:

Gilberto Gil, Vocals, Guitar
Sergio Chiavazzelli, Guitars
Arthur Maia, Bass Guitar
Alex Fonseca, Drums
Claudio Andrade, Keyboards
Gustavo di Dalva, Percussion
Bom Gil, Guitars

GLOBAL PARTY &
EDUCATIONAL EVENT -
See page 45 for details.

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Saturday, June 21
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THE MANHATTAN
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their mix of jazz, pop, be
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Over their career, the
quartet has produced 25
albums and won nine
Grammy Awards.

The Manhattan Transfer

The Group

Tim Hauser
Janis Siegel
Alan Paul
Cheryl Beatty

It's been more than thirty years since Tim Hauser worked as a marketing executive and New York cobby with dreams of creating a vocal group. One night in 1972, Hauser's taxi fare was an aspiring singer named Laurel Masse, who was familiar with Jukin' an album Hauser had made with an earlier Manhattan Transfer combo. A few weeks later Hauser met Janis Siegel at a party. Although Siegel was then performing with a folk group called Laurel Canyon, Hauser convinced her and Masse to be part of his nascent group. At the same time, Alan Paul was singing hearts on Broadway, appearing in the original production of Grease. When he met with Hauser, Siegel, and Masse, the groundwork was laid for The Manhattan Transfer, which was officially "born" on October 1, 1972.

Early on, the group developed a strong cult following. In 1975 they released their self-titled album, and enjoyed early success in Europe. Their next two albums brought them a string of top ten hits in Europe, and their overseas popularity was cemented with

the release of *The Manhattan Transfer Live*. Masse then left the group in 1978 to pursue a solo career, and was replaced by Cheryl Beatty. Their next album, *Extensions*, earned them their first domestic pop hit, "Twilight Zone/Twilight Tone." The album featured "Birdland," the piece that has since become The Manhattan Transfer signature tune. The most played jazz record of 1980, "Birdland" brought The Transfer their first Grammy Award, and the award to Janis for Best Arrangement for Voices.

In the 1990s, the group's restless creative energy found them writing more original material (The D'Barat Di'Avvenues which earned them yet another Grammy for Best Contemporary Jazz Performance), and tackling seasonal standards, children's music, 1950's & 1960's popular music, and, foreshadowing the success of "Dancing With The Stars," different genres of swing music.

The release of *The Definitive Pop Collection*, a 2-disc retrospective of the group's greatest hits, provides not only an opportunity to look back at one of the greatest bodies of work in American popular music, but also the chance to look ahead to 2008, the 35th Anniversary of a group that is restless, adventurous, limitless, and, as the Philadelphia Inquirer so aptly put it, a group that "still can sound dangerous!"

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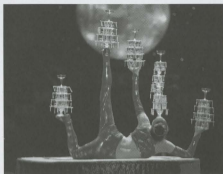
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Sunday, June 22
5:00 p.m.
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Yao Deng Bo
Production Director
Gregory A. Kovolo
Assistant Production Director
Douglas S. Pickens
Administrative Director
Jessie S. Chang
Acrobatic Head Coach
Zhao Hua

Performers

Cheng, Yuan
Ding, Yong Xia
Fang, Yan Bing
Guo, Xuan
Li, Fang Fang
Liu, Hong Jun
Liu, Yong Pu
Niu, Zhi Feng
Shen, Jia Hui
Wang, Shao Min
Wang, Shao Zhang
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- Act I Thousand Hands Dance, Contortion
- Act II Umbrella Juggling, Foot Juggling (Jar & Table), Ball Juggling
- Act III Hat Juggling, Swaying Board Balancing, Table Hoop, Dancing Plates
- Act IV Pas De Deux (Ballet Duo)
- Act V Spinning Wheel
- Act I Lion Dance, Leather Straps, Rope Dance
- Act II Power Act, Diablo Yo-Yo
- Act III Tower of Chairs
- Act IV Flags, Bicycle Family
- Act V Finale

Program subject to change as necessary

GLOBAL PARTY –
See page 45 for details.

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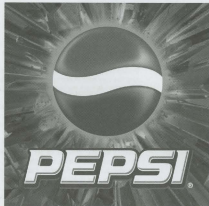
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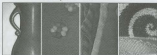
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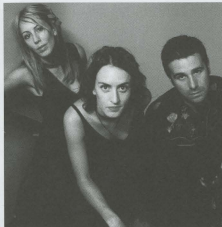


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Tuesday, June 24
8:00 p.m.
Power Center



THE WAIFS Indie-folk Australian trio, The Waifs, return to the states this summer in support of their newest release, SunDirtWater. Featuring warm vocal harmonies, guitar, and harmonica, these Aussies play bluesy, roots rock that is unmistakably Americana. Matthew Santos opens.

The Waifs With Special Guest Matthew Santos

The Waifs

SunDirtWater is The Waifs' fifth studio album and the follow up to their triple platinum, multi ARIA Award winning record Up All Night. Recorded in Nashville and co produced by the band and Compass Record's Gary West, Josh Cunningham, Donna Simpson and Vikki Thorn were joined by long time bassist Ben Franz and drummer David McDonald as well as some of Nashville's most esteemed session players: Hammond organ by Reese Wynans (Shavie Ray Vaughan), steel guitar by Dan Dugmore (Linda Ronstadt, James Taylor) and a splash of clarinet in the home stretch by Jeff Coffin (Bela Fleck).

For those who came in late, the road looms large and long in The Waifs' inspirational tale of self-determined international success. It intersected for sisters Donna and Vikki and guitarist Josh in a remote corner of the Western Australian desert some 15 years ago.

Their mobile cottage industry of campfire-crafted songs and independently recorded, gold-selling CDs slowly reached critical mass in Australia between '96 and '00, while their captivating on-stage chemistry spilled into a contagious festival following through Europe and North America.

With SunDirtWater they reach a new benchmark of worldly eclecticism, without surrendering one iota of the homesown and unaffected heart and soul that's made The Waifs one of Australia's most loved and admired musical exports of this century.

Matthew Santos

Currently based out of Chicago, 25-year old Matthew Santos has established himself as one of the rare and striking voices quickly emerging from the Windy City's music scene. With a growing fan base hailing him for his ethereal voice, Santos has secured his place in current music with his distinguished style and unique musical gift.

Native to Minneapolis, Santos discovered his passion for music at age six when he started playing piano, but it was not until the age of fifteen that his inspiration for playing guitar began. At first Santos pursued the visual arts, but he decided to dedicate his life solely to music and relocated to Chicago in 2001 to study music composition at Columbia College Chicago. He released his first independently produced album *Change is Better* in 2004 and his EP *As a Crow Flies* in 2006. His live album *Matters of the Bittersweet* was released in November 2007 under Candy-Rat Records.

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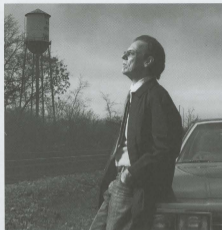
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John Hiatt & the Ageless Beauties

Thursday, June 26
8:00 p.m.
Power Center



JOHN HIATT
Eleven-time Grammy nominee John Hiatt melds rock, acoustic, folk, new wave and Mississippi Delta blues into songs recorded by some three-dozen artists over the last three decades, from Eric Clapton to Bob Dylan.

John Hiatt

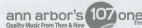
John Hiatt's 30 year career includes a string of critically acclaimed albums, including the upcoming release *Same Old Man*. His songs have been covered by a diverse range of artists including Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton and B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt, Buddy Guy, Emmylou Harris, Iggy Pop, The Neville Brothers, Roseanne Cash, Steve Earle, Willie Nelson and The Jeff Healey Band. His songs have garnered Grammy® nominations, reached number one and he's even gained a youthful new audience with his part in the cartoon band of Disney's 2002 film *The Country Bears*.

It was recently announced by the Americana Music Association that John Hiatt will be the recipient of the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award for Songwriting. The award will be presented during the 7th Annual Americana Music Association Honors & Awards in September at the Ryman Auditorium, Nashville. Past recipients include Americana icons Willie Nelson, Rodney Crowell, Guy Clark, Cowboy Jack Clement, John Prine and Billy Joe Shaver.

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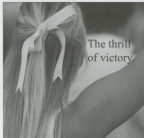
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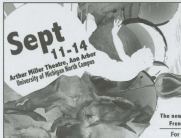
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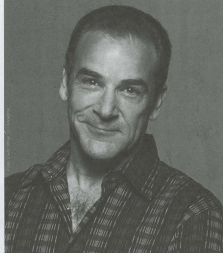
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28 Mainstage Series



Saturday, June 28
8:00 p.m.
Power Center

MANDY PATINKIN
Whichever role you know him for, Mandy Patinkin's favorite is reaching out to live audiences with the power and the passion of popular song. His interpretations of popular standards from Rodgers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, Harry Chapin, Irving Berlin and Cole Porter come straight from the heart, mesmerizing audiences from coast to coast.

Mandy Patinkin In Concert with Paul Ford on piano

Mandy Patinkin

To some fans, he's the Tony Award-winning revolutionary from *Evita* who grew into a bonafide Broadway star in *Sunday in the Park with George*. To others, he's the Emmy Award-winning Best Actor, for his portrayal of Dr. Jeffrey Geiger in "Chicago Hope," or the star of the new CBS drama series, "Criminal Minds." To some, he's Madonna's piano man in *Dick Tracy* or the scholar who made Streisand swoon in *Yentl*. And to others still, he will always be the man whose name is Inigo Montoya, the swash-buckling swordsman in *The Princess Bride*.

But whichever role you know him for, Mandy Patinkin's favorite is reaching out to live audiences with the power and the passion of

popular song. He belongs to the special breed of singer who doesn't merely dramatize songs, but incorporates them into his very being. And the result, MANDY PATINKIN IN CONCERT, is nothing short of electrifying. His interpretations of popular standards, superbly accompanied by Paul Ford at the piano, come straight from the heart, mesmerizing audiences from coast to coast. From Rodgers and Hammerstein to Stephen Sondheim, Harry Chapin, Claude-Michel Schönberg and back to Irving Berlin and Cole Porter, "Mandy Patinkin is in the business of showstopping!" raves *The New Yorker*. "He is a musical force of nature!" And MANDY PATINKIN: IN CONCERT is a musical journey you'll never forget.

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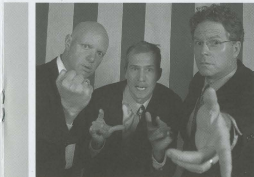
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Sunday, June 29

8:00 p.m.
Power Center

REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY.
From Washington to Watergate, from the Bering Straits to Baghdad, from New World to New World Order, the Reduced Shakespeare Company will take audiences through the glorious quagmire that is American History in this election year, special edition performance!

Reduced Shakespeare Company

In "The Complete History of America (abridged)"

A Reduced History

Since its pass-the-hat origins in 1981, the Reduced Shakespeare Company has created six world-renowned stage shows, four TV programs, and numerous radio pieces, all of which have been performed, seen, and heard the world over. The company's itinerary has included stops at the White House, the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, London's West End, Seattle Repertory Theatre, American Repertory Theatre and Montreal's famed Just For Laughs Festival, as well as performances in Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Japan, Malta, Singapore and Bermuda, plus countless civic and university venues throughout the USA, the UK, and Europe.

The RSC's first three shows - *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *The Complete History of America (abridged)*, and *The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)* - ran for nine years at the Criterion Theatre, becoming London's longest-running comedies. For many years the RSC had more shows running at the West End than Andrew Lloyd Webber. They were also funnier.

The RSC condensed literature into a 90-minute roller-coaster ride in *All the Great Books (abridged)*, playing to great acclaim at the Kennedy Center, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Studio Arena in Buffalo, and Alabama Shakespeare Festival, as well as Great Britain, Holland, Ireland, and Sweden (in Swedish!).

The "Bad Boys of Abridgment" applied their fast, funny and physical approach to *World History in Western Civilization: The Complete Musical (abridged)* (original title: *The Complete*

Millennium Musical (abridged)), which toured simultaneously in the US, UK and Australia, and the *Movies in Completely Hollywood (abridged)*, which has toured the UK, Belgium, Holland, and the US since 2005.

For television, the RSC was a *Jeopardy!* category in the 2005 and 2006 Tournaments of Champions. They wrote and starred in *The Ring Reduced*, a half-hour version of Wagner's Ring Cycle for Channel 4 (UK), and reduced the Edinburgh Festival for BBC and the soap opera *Glennor* for RTE Ireland. *Shakespeare (abridged)* aired on PBS and is available on DVD, as is *America (abridged)*.

For National Public Radio, the RSC has been heard on *All Things Considered*, *Weekend Edition*, *Talk of the Nation*, *Day to Day*, *West Coast Live*, and *To the Best of Our Knowledge*. The BBC World Service commissioned the RSC's six-part radio series *Reduced Shakespeare Radio Show*. *The Reduced Shakespeare Company Christmas* was heard on Public Radio International.

The Complete History of America

By Adam Long, Reed Martin, & Austin Tichenor

Featuring
Dominic Conti
Michael Faulkner
Mick Orfe

Directed by
Reed Martin & Austin Tichenor

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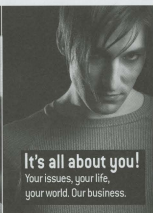
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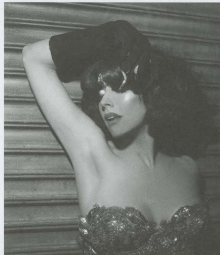
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Wednesday, July 2
8:00 p.m.
Power Center
Mature Audiences



MEOW MEOW has wowed audiences around the globe with her own brand of vamped-up kamikaze cabaret and exotica performance art. The international singing sensation brings trashy glamour to a whole new level. Her witty, wicked repertoire is sure to be a hit for adult festival attendees.

Meow Meow

In "Beyond Glamour: The Absinthe Tour"

Meow Meow

Meow Meow has wowed audiences with her own brand of vamped-up kamikaze cabaret and exotica performance art around the globe. She has performed at the Philharmonic, Berlin; Théâtre de la Ville, Paris; the Glamour Room, Shanghai; the Sydney Opera House; the Lincoln Centre, New York; the Saitama, Tokyo; the

Rex Theater, Wuppertal; and the Spiegeltheater at the Dublin, Brighton (UK), New York, Sydney, Auckland and Melbourne International Arts Festivals. Meow Meow is a frequent guest performer for Spiegeltheater's *Lo Clique* and the Weimar New York performance project, alongside including Justin Bond of *Kix & Herb* and Taylor

Meow Meow is a recipient of numerous awards including the Dance Paris residency and the Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art Award, New York. She has created works for a number of international arts festivals, including the Time-based Arts Festival in Portland, USA. Currently she is collaborating on a two-

woman show with China's most controversial contemporary dancer and first acknowledged transsexual, Jin Xing, in Shanghai. In 2006 she performed a special Mardi Gras season of *Beyond Glamour* with Pink Martin's Thomas M. Lauderdale at the Sydney Opera House; together they recorded an album called *Here Kitty Kitty ... the Lost Sessions*. She featured in the *le Phenomenale Festival* in France with colleagues Julie Atlas Muz and Dirty Martini, and sold out her solo shows at Joe's Pub, New York. She has previously collaborated with John Cameron-Mitchell, director of the feature films *Shoibus* and *Medwig* and the *Angry Inx*. Most recently she performed her solo cabaret show at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Brisbane Cabaret Festival and David Bowie's High Line Festival in New York.

Special Guest Pianist: Lance Horn

Mature Audiences

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Natalie MacMaster And Donnell Leahy

With a talent that remains both raw and wondrously refined, and backed by a band any top musician would be proud of, Natalie MacMaster continues to stun crowds around the globe with her feverish fiddling and mesmerizing step dancing.

Well-known to international audiences as one of Canada's major talents, Natalie has been an ambassador for traditional East Coast music, and is credited with lifting the style to its contemporary prominence. While acclaimed for taking Celtic music to new heights, each album Natalie releases displays a creativity and range that constantly expands the boundaries of the genre.

Natalie first picked up the fiddle at age nine and hasn't looked back. The niece of famed Cape Breton fiddler Buddy MacMaster (with whom she recorded a tribute album in 2005), Natalie quickly became a major talent in her own right. After winning numerous awards for her early traditional recordings, Natalie's subsequent releases have been boldly ground-breaking and received with abundant accolades.

With albums like *In My Hands* (Rounder), which fused Jazz, Latin, and the guest vocals of label mate Alison Krauss, and the Grammy-nominated *My Roots Are Showing* (Rounder), Natalie has proven time and time again that she is making her mark on music history. 2002's remarkable *Blueprint* (Rounder) combined Natalie's own

Thursday, July 3
8:00 p.m.
Power Center



**NATALIE
MACMASTER** is one of the most versatile and exciting musicians on the Celtic music scene. Her live performances are a testament to her incandescent musicianship and boundless energy, featuring foot-tapping rave-ups, heart-rendering ballads, and world-class step dancing. Donnell Leahy shares the stage.

musical radiance with the cream of American roots instrumentalists, including Bela Fleck, Jerry Douglas, Sam Bush, and Edgar Meyer, and won her "Best Female Artist of the Year" and "Best Roots/Traditional Solo Recording" at Canada's East Coast Music Awards in 2005. Two of Natalie's CDs have charted on Billboard's Top 20 Selling World Music charts, while four of her previous five CD releases have been certified "gold" (50,000+) in Canada.

Released last fall, *Yours Truly* is MacMaster's tenth album, and a return to the more wide-ranging stylings of *In My Hands*. Co-produced by Natalie and her husband, fellow fiddle virtuoso Donnell Leahy of the famed Canadian band Leahy, *Yours Truly* finds her continuing to ingeniously incorporate new sounds and concepts into her rich Cape Breton musical heritage, proudly claiming a place for the timeless strains of her native traditions in today's musical universe. The album boasts a moving version of the classic "Danny Boy" featuring a lead vocal by pop superstar Michael McDonald. Overall, the sound is steeped in the driving rhythms and soaring tonalities unique to Cape Breton, with MacMaster's trademark intensity and brilliance shining throughout.

GLOBAL PARTY -
See page 45 for details.

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Capitol Steps

Capitol Steps

Twenty-five years ago, the Capitol Steps began as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them. In the years that followed, many of the Steps ignored the conventional wisdom ("Don't quit your day job!"), and although not all of the current members of the Steps are former Capitol Hill staffers, taken together the performers have worked in a total of eighteen Congressional offices and represent 62 years of collective House and Senate staff experience.

Since they began, the Capitol Steps have recorded 26 albums, including their latest, *I'm So Indicted*. They've been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS, and can be heard 4 times a year on National Public Radio stations nationwide during their *Politics Takes a Holiday* radio specials.

The Capitol Steps were born in December, 1981 when some staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party. Ronald Reagan was President when the Steps began, so co-founders Elaine Newport, Bill Strauss and Jim Aicala figured that if entertainers could become politicians, then politicians could become entertainers! Their first idea was to stage a

Friday, July 4
5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Power Center

CAPITOL STEPS

Back by popular demand, these former Congressional staffers' brilliant song parodies and hilarious sketches and hilarious sketches are up-to-the-minute send-ups of all things political – satirizing issues, events, and personalities from both sides of the aisle. A not-to-be-missed performance in this election year!

nativity play, but in the whole Congress they couldn't find three wise men or a virgin! So, they decided to dig into the headlines of the day, and created song parodies & skits which conveyed a special brand of satirical humor that was as popular in Peoria as it was on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Although the Capitol Steps are based in Washington, DC, most of their shows are out-of-town or for out-of-town audiences, whether it's the National Welding Supply Association, a university audience, high schoolers, or state legislators. In fact, the Capitol Steps have performed for the last five Presidents (six, if you include Hillary). The only complaints the Steps seem to get are from politicians and personalities who are not included in the program!

The material is updated constantly, whether to include George Bush's latest malapropism, in "Don't Go Fakin' You're Smart" (to Elton John's "Don't Go Breaking My Heart") or John Kerry's positions on the issues ("I've Taken Stands on Both Sides Now") or on the international side, Ariel Sharon and Mahmoud Abbas reconciling their differences in the touching "Embraceable Jew." No matter who's in the headlines, the Capitol Steps are equal opportunity offenders.

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SUMMER 2008
JULY 10 - JULY 14 FESTIVAL



Saturday, July 5
8:00 p.m.
Power Center



THE FUNK BROTHERS Groove to the original sound of Motown with the legendary Funk Brothers from Detroit. Working as the studio band on countless Motown records, these iconic musicians recorded more #1 hits than The Beatles, The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones, and Elvis Presley combined.

The Funk Brothers

The Funk Brothers

To Motown's stars, the four wooden steps leading down to Hitsville's basement were a bridge to a land of dreams. But to the studio musicians who shaped the Motown sound, the stairs were a gateway to a workplace, a cramped, smoke stained, dimly lit room they affectionately dubbed "The Snakepit."

For almost fourteen years on a daily and nightly basis, the musicians transformed that basement into a hit factory. They rolled masterpieces off the production line in an hour or less, trading friendly insults as they worked. Known as "Funk Brothers," they were utterly unknown.

Berry Gordy demanded assembly-line efficiency. Sessions started at 10 o'clock and were over in the afternoon. Most of the time they were three-hour sessions. Since they could call for a session seven days a week the Funk Brothers were always on call. They were paid \$10 a song until everything was right.

When they weren't working at Studio A, they could often times be found jamming at Millie's Chit Chat Lounge on 12th Street.

They have played on more #1 recordings than anyone in the world.

The major motion picture, "Standing in the Shadows of Motown" let everyone know of the Funk Brother's contributions to every Motown hit!

Today, the Funk Brothers are still bringing their magic throughout the world.

The Original Funk Brothers

Bob Babbitt, Bass
Uriel Jones, Drums
Eddie Willis, Guitars

Accompanied by:

Donna Curtin, Vocals
Robert Jones, Keyboards/Vocals
Ray Monette, Guitar
Delbert Nelson, Guitars
Marcia Ware, Vocals
Spider Webb, Drums
Trenita Womack, Vocals

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In 2008, we celebrate the 25th season of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, 25 years of world-class entertainment, fun-filled family adventures, romantic date nights, and outdoor mingling with friends on warm summer nights.

For two and a half decades, the Festival has been bringing the world to Ann Arbor: innovative artists, eager students, enthusiastic audiences, curious visitors and anyone looking to be inspired by the performing arts; all the while, garnering a reputation as once of Michigan's premier arts events and a destination for those in search of cultural fare to spice up their local summer evenings.

In tribute to the past 25 years, the Festival will be bringing back an "old school" favorite. WC Burgard, a long-time Festival supporter and widely celebrated local artist will create a specially commissioned piece of artwork for this landmark anniversary, which will be displayed throughout the season and reproduced into a limited run poster.

Celebrate with us at the 25th Season Gala. A night of flight and fancy that promises to take your breath away, the gala will honor the seasons of the past while soaring into seasons of the future.

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Up, Up, and Away!
25th Anniversary Gala



Wednesday, June 25 | 7:00-10:00 pm

Rackham Graduate School | Fourth Floor Assembly Hall and Balcony
 915 E. Washington Street, Ann Arbor

Join us for a magical evening as we celebrate 25 years of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. The festivities will include live entertainment, eclectic wine and dining, music under the stars, and a private balcony view of a spectacular outdoor performance by British aerial troupe, The Dream Engine.

\$125 per person

Invitations will be arriving soon. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Festival office at 734.994.5999.

www.annarborsummerfestival.org

A portion of the proceeds will support the purchase of a new inflatable movie screen and projection tower for Top of the Park.

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The Dream Engine

Aerial Performance / Outdoor Spectacle

The Dream Engine sends its performers into the sky, suspended as aerialists beneath large helium balloons and oversized, inflatable structures. Floating and gliding, they tumble and turn with balletic grace to the sounds of wistful music, exploiting the uncharted spaces between street and rooftops. This spectacle is sure to inspire, mystify, and enchant audiences of all ages.

The Dream Engine will perform "Heliosphere" and "Conedancers" on alternating evenings at Top of the Park.

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CHASE 

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT TOP



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Monday Nights at Top of the Park June 16, 23, 30 6:00-7:00 pm, 20-minute artist sets

This year, the Festival is introducing a new emerging artist stage specifically designed to showcase fresh, young talent. Programmed by and for young adults, this intimate, unplugged space will feature an eclectic mix of homegrown artists in a teen-friendly environment.

Monday, June 16 6:00—7:00 PM

Brandon Wlard
Bright and breezy experimental indie-pop.

Spencer Michaud
Elastic-voiced local singer-songwriter.

Mahoney
Anthem two-piece indie rock band.

Monday, June 23 6:00—7:00 PM

Funk
Funk-infused jazz.

Phonetic Sound
Strongly melodic alternative rock.

Echoes
Hardcore punk rock with pop sensibility.

Monday, June 30 6:00—7:00 PM

**Rock Band School and
Jazz Band School from
Ann Arbor Music Center**

Unique local music school showcases its up-and-coming young talent.



KIDZONE

The KidZone tent at the Top of the Park provides an exciting and safe arena for children of all ages to discover and explore a wide variety of fun and educational activities, games, and toys. Every night, parents and children alike are invited to come relax, play, and enjoy the outdoors at KidZone. The festival anticipates partnering with local arts and cultural organizations to schedule activities and events to take place in KidZone through the duration of the festival.

GREENSCENE

Here at the Festival, we have always been committed to leaving the planet, and Ingalis Mall in particular, as beautiful as we found it. GreenScene is an ambitious new project the Festival has launched as a way to make a vocal and public commitment to conscientiously greening the Festival wherever possible. We are striving to make a variety of changes in the way we run everything Festival, from our marketing and promotions to operations and production. We want to be as green as we can be!

As part of the overarching GreenScene initiative, the Festival is introducing Planet TOP on July 1, a special evening of environmentally conscious fun, education and activities. With local environmental groups and organizations invited to participate in the evening's festivities, Planet TOP will combine summer entertainment and environmental education within the fun, family-friendly setting of Top of the Park.

planet **TOP**



global parties

PRESENTED BY TOYOTA

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival presents artists from across the globe – some who preserve ancient traditions and others who shine with innovation. In support of our international programs and to celebrate the diverse community we serve, each year we throw a series of Global Parties at Top of the Park that spotlight different cultural heritages. Featuring free outdoor performances and demonstrations by local artists, these theme nights feature colorful parades, street dancing, hands-on art activities, and community resource tables.

AFRO-BRAZILIAN DANCE PARTY

Supporting Gilberto Gil & Brazil Band
Wednesday, June 18
Top of the Park, FREE
6:30 – 8:00 pm

Celebrate the cultural vibrancy of Brazil! Live music, dancing, samba, and other related cultural activities precede a performance by the legendary Gilberto Gil. Featuring the electrifying grooves of Brazilian-American fusion artists A Cor Do Brasil.

PAN-ASIAN CELEBRATION

Supporting the Golden Dragon Acrobats
Sunday, June 22
Top of the Park, FREE
6:30 – 8:00 pm

Join in a celebration that spans the vast Asian continent! Featuring live music, traditional costumes, yo-yo performers, interactive games, and a festive Lion Dance.

Community Partners: Ann Arbor Chinese Center, Asian Martial Arts Studio UM Center for Chinese Studies, UM Center for Japanese Studies

CEILDH: CELTIC NIGHT

Supporting Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy
Thursday, July 3
Top of the Park, FREE
6:30 – 8:00 pm

Celebrate Celtic culture with live music, dancers, festival giveaways, and other related activities. Our final Global Party of the season promises to cap off the season with a meeting of traditional and modern cultural leanings.

Community Partner: Saline Celtic Festival

WORKSHOPS

In continuing our mission to provide a widely accessible program, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival offers a number of free education and outreach opportunities in collaboration with visiting guest artists and local partners.

In addition, the Festival's education and outreach program has been expanded to include two exciting new areas of focus. These are the KidZone children's activity center and the Grassroot Stage, a teen-oriented performance space reserved for up-and-coming local talent.

ARTIST: STREB TOURING COMPANY

Genre: Modern Dance

Activity: Action Mechanics Workshop for Kids

Date: Monday, June 16, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Location: Power Center Rehearsal Room

Description: KIDACTION will teach the basics of the technique created by Elizabeth Streb. Kids will experience the joy of moving their whole bodies and the thrill of defying gravity. Learn how to fly and fall while having fun! Ready? Set? GO!

ARTIST: GILBERTO GIL

Genre: Tropicalismo/Brazilian Pop Music

Activity: Artist Discussion

Date: Tuesday, June 17, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Location: Downtown Ann Arbor District Library

Partners: 89.1 WEMU, Ann Arbor District Library, Metro Times
Description: Internationally renowned musician and current Brazilian Minister of Culture Gilberto Gil will hold a discussion exploring innovative public policies and practices relating to the cutting edge of issues like copyright, digital culture and internet rights. With an eye turned toward the future of digital music, Gil will focus on the connection between access to technology and the development of culture.

ARTIST: REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Genre: Sketch Comedy

Activity: "Improve with Improv" Workshop

Date: Sunday, June 27, 2:00 PM

Location: Power Center Rehearsal Room

Description: Learn what really happens in an auditor! Reduced Shakespeare Company members will demonstrate how improvisation techniques are used to quickly adapt to whatever a director throws at them. Teens and adults welcome, no previous acting experience required!

ARTIST: FUNK BROTHERS

Activity: Young Professionals Pre-Concert Networking Event

Date: Tuesday, July 1, 5:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Arbor Brewing Company

Description: Preview event aimed at post-graduates and young professionals featuring Ann Arbor Soul Club and

WCBN DJ Robert Wells spinning rare northern soul 45s. Stop by after work to enjoy a fresh brew or cocktail while you experience the sound of young America in the Sixties and early Seventies.

ACTIVITY: DREAM ENGINE ARTIST DISCUSSION

Date: Saturday, June 28, 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Location: Power Center Rehearsal Room

Description: Meet with Dream Engine performers to discuss their world of high-flying acrobatic artistry where the innovation of science meets the unhinged creativity of abstract art. Listen to the performers give first-hand accounts of what it means to explore the creative possibilities that exist in the space between street level and skyline.

Education and outreach activities are supported in part by:



ACTS Alliance

Molloy Foundation and the University of Michigan Office of the Senior Provost for Academic Affairs and the Office of Multicultural Initiatives

For more information on these activities, please contact the Festival Office at (734) 994-5999.

GENERAL INFO

Access & Special Needs

We are working hard to make the Festival accessible to all our visitors and patrons with disabilities, as it is our goal to offer everyone an enjoyable experience. We offer the following for our guests:

- Accessible parking at multiple locations throughout the site
- Select wheelchair and companion seating at all venues
- Courtesy wheelchairs at venues, when confirmed in advance
- Hearing-impaired support systems in performance venues
- Select integrated performances
- Large print programs, when requested in advance
- Select closed captioned movie screenings at Top of the Park.
- Accessible restrooms at all performance venues, including portable ADA restrooms at Top of the Park
- Disability awareness and sensitivity training for staff and volunteers
- Ramps for additional access to Top of the park area sidewalks
- Partnerships with local organizations to invite special needs children and youth camps for field trip visits to Top of the Park events.

If you have any specific questions about these options, please call the venue directly at (734) 994-2638.

Hours Restrictions

All restaurants will not be seated until a suitable break in the program.

- Cameras and recording devices are prohibited in the theater.
- Cell phones, paging devices and electronic alarms should be switched off before entering the theater.

Children

Children under the age of 3 will not be admitted to indoor Festival performances in consideration of other patrons. All children must be able to sit quietly in their own seats throughout the performance. Children unable to do so, along with the adult accompanying them, may be asked to leave the theater. Please use discretion in choosing to bring a child to a performance. Remember, everyone must have a ticket, regardless of age.

Parking

Due to construction projects in process around the Festival grounds, we strongly recommend that patrons allocate an additional 20 minutes to their normal travel time to park and arrive in the venue before the performance begins. All parking structures will remain open during construction, including

VISUAL ARTS: outside IN a photo exhibit by Myra Klarman

June 17 – July 6
Power Center
Lobby

Through the lens of a camera, and with the eye of an artist, Myra Klarman captures the beauty and magic of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. This year, the Festival is pleased to present a special exhibit entitled OUTSIDE.IN, a collection of large-scale prints by Myra Klarman that reflect the energy, vibrant color, and joyful spirit of the Festival.

Myra Klarman is a portrait photographer who lives and works in Ann Arbor, Michigan.



Fletcher and Palmer, which will have the aid of temporary traffic lights Via Palmer Drive and Huron. We thank you for your patience.

Please visit our website to print a detailed map of the area:
http://annarborsummerfestival.org/main_gethere.shtml

Contact Us
Ann Arbor Summer Festival, 522 S. Fourth Avenue, Suite B, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, Phone (734) 994-5999, Fax (734) 994-5885, www.annarborsummerfestival.org

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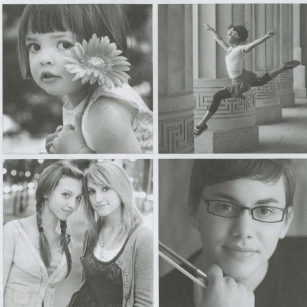
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The Ann Arbor Summer Festival is a non-profit organization that relies on the generous support of contributors. The income generated from the sale of tickets and other earned revenue cannot cover the festival's operating costs alone. Financial contributions from individuals sustain a spectacular array of artistic and public service programs, including admission-free concerts and movies at Top of the Park, education and outreach events, and a number of other community engagement activities.

Make a commitment to arts and entertainment in the community, and become a supporter of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. There are many ways to support the organization through individual gifts:

- Donations made by cash, check or credit cards.
- Gifts of Stock can be made in any amount.
- Tribute Gifts made in honor or memory of loved ones.

Matching Gifts: Many businesses offer matching gift programs. It is easy to take advantage of this employee benefit that doubles the impact of your contribution. Check with your human resources department to see if your company provides a matching gift program or contact Festival Development Director, Astrid Giese at (734) 994-5999 for more information.

Gifts of Appreciated Stock

Turning stock market gains into community investment.

Everybody wins when you make a gift of appreciated stock. Your gains are put to good use. Your gift of stock is reinvested in your community, and it qualifies for an immediate tax deduction based on the full market value. This makes for a more rewarding return on your portfolio.

Bequests

After providing for loved ones, you may want to consider leaving a portion of your estate to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. A charitable bequest is one of the easiest ways to make a lasting gift to the community. A bequest to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival can be easily made through a simple designation in a will or trust.

Ann Arbor Summer Festival Endowment Fund

Connie Kinnear, a long-time patron and volunteer for the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, established this endowment fund at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation on behalf of the organization. "[As] a Board member and Treasurer of the Summer Festival, I'm interested in the Festival's longevity and financial stability... It's time to start asking our supporters to remember the Summer Festival in their wills and estate plans. My hope is that getting this [fund] started, we can continue to provide 'Top of the Park'—which is really beloved by the community — at no charge to the public for many years to come."

(excerpt from Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, Annual Report 2005)

To make a gift to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival Endowment Fund, please send a designated check to the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, specifying that you would like the funds to go to the AASF Endowment Fund. Or call the Foundation directly at (734) 663-0401.

To make or discuss a gift to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, please contact Development Director, Astrid Giese, at (734) 995-4999 or agiese@umich.edu.

We appreciate your support!

FESTIVAL 400

The Festival 400 was created in 1985 to provide reliable and essential support for the Festival and its programs. Members of the Festival 400 pledged to contribute \$400/year for four years. We are extremely grateful that many have continued to give at the original \$400 level and higher. Over the years, their vision and commitment have greatly contributed to the Festival's success and stability. During this 25th Season, we thank you for your generosity and continued support.

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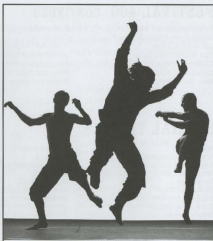
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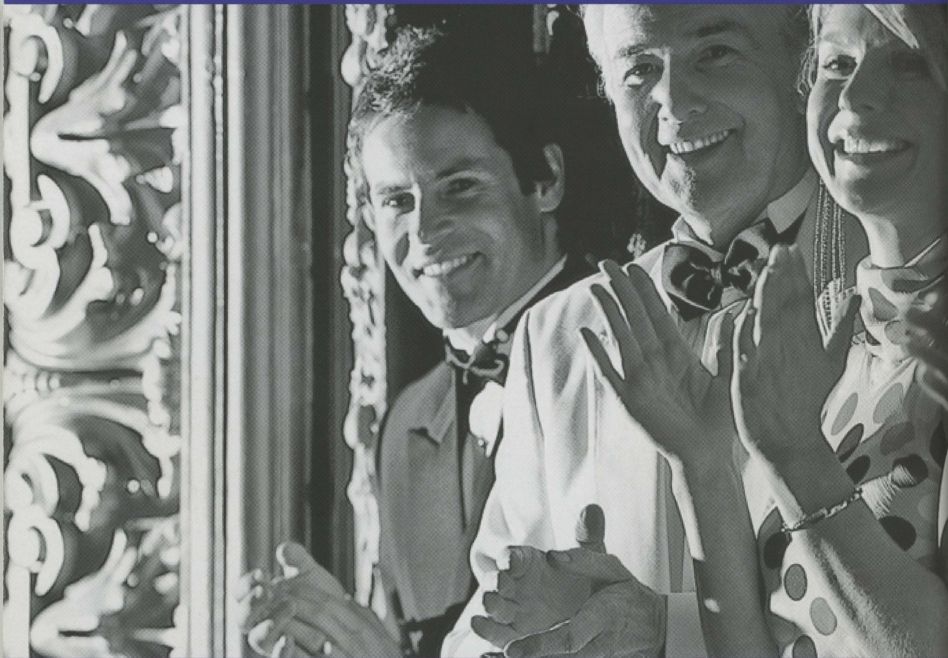
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