

LARCOM THEATRE MAY 2, 2025

THE PROGRAM



Hit That Jive Jack	Johnnie Austin and Skeets Tolbert
Crazy Game	Emily Saliers
You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go	Bob Dylan
American Tune	Paul Simon
Tear My Stillhouse Down	Gillian Welch
Water is Wide	Cecil Sharp (Traditional)
Helpless	Neil Young
She Used to Be Mine	Sara Bareilles
Deportee (Plane Wreck at Los Gatos)	Woody Guthrie and Martin Hoffman
When You're My Age	Lori McKenna
<i>Intermission (15 minutes)</i>	
Everybody Knows	Leonard Cohen
Joni Mitchell Medley	Joni Mitchell
Down To Zero	Joan Armatrading
Beeswing	Richard Thompson
Flower Duet from Lakmé	Léo Délibes
He's Got a Way	Billy Joel
Whatever Lola Wants	Adler and Ross
Bluebird Blackbird	Dinty Child and Sean Staples
Ring of Fire	June Carter and Merle Kilgore
La Vie en Rose	E. Piaf and Louisguy
<i>Encore</i>	

THE MIRANDA RUSSELL BAND



Brittany Betts is a versatile trumpeter, singer, composer, collaborator and worship facilitator based on the North Shore. She performs with the David Whitney Orchestra, Riverside Renaissance Swing Band, Cantemus Chamber Chorus and the vocal ensemble, ONE. She served as Artist-in-Residence at First Church Congregational in Swampscott in 2023-2024. This fall will mark her second season as the Cape Ann Symphony Chorus director. Brittany traveled the country and abroad as a 'Glocal' Musician Educator and Worship Coordinator with the Global Mission Unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 10 years. During that time she also served on the music staff of Visible Music College in Memphis, TN where she taught voice, music theory, rock bands, the World Music Ensemble and a guided improvisation class. Music has the capacity to bring people together for good and Brittany hopes you feel that tonight!

Leo Ciaramitaro is a drummer and teacher of American roots-based music. He plays with bands and artists throughout New England, and hails originally from Gloucester, Massachusetts. He holds a Bachelor of Music from Berklee College of Music and a Master of Music from Longy School of Music at Bard College. Playing professionally since 1996, he began his career drumming in local clubs and theaters, eventually moving on to touring Broadway Shows. He spent four years on the road in touring productions of *Footloose*, *Grease*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. Several hundred nights of show tunes, weddings, and gigs later, Leo's love of drumming and performing continues to grow. Leo studied for 10 years with the late Boston jazz luminary, Bob Gullotti. This is his 29th year working with Miranda.

Joe Kessler's career began at age nine with his first public performance playing classical violin. By the age of 17 he had expanded his repertoire to include Klezmer, folk, bluegrass, Balkan, jazz, rock, and pop. Joe has performed in over 10 countries on three continents. When not traveling to gigs, studio sessions, or teaching lessons, Joe resides in Gloucester, MA with his beautiful wife and two rescued ex-racing greyhounds.

David Landoni received his B.A. from Berklee College of music in 1986. In 1989, David became a member of the Artie Shaw Orchestra under the direction of Dick Johnson, touring

worldwide. He has played and recorded with jazz legends including Herb Pomeroy, Hal Galper, Sheila Jordan, and Lee Konitz. David is currently freelancing and recording with many top flight artists including drum legend Joe Hunt, and pianists Tim Ray, and Eugene Maslov. David maintains a private teaching studio.

Justin Piper resides north of Boston where he teaches, composes and performs. His 2016 album 'Avant Funk' has been re-released through Arabesque Records and is available from all major online retailers. His album, 'transcend' was released in August 2017. He is the musical director for the band Ripcord, while also leading his own group that performs his compositions along with improvisation-based pieces.

David Sparr has been a professional keyboardist for about as long as the next oldest member of the band has been alive. To date, working with The Miranda Russell Band is one of his all-time favorite gigs, and that is only partially because of the free pie at rehearsals. It remains a joy and an honor to work with such a talented group of musicians! Although David's sparkling wife, Jamie Leader, suggests maybe he should lay off the pie.

With special appearances by:

Mark Earley is a two time Grammy nominated, Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame inductee, & 6 -time W.C. Handy Award-winning saxophonist. His musical journey has brought him from NYC's Lincoln Center to The San Francisco Blues Festival, The Moscow International Performing Arts Centre to the JBL Jazz Festival in Paris.

He has collaborated with scores of musicians, including Jay McShann, Duke Robillard, Albert Collins, Louis Bellson, Joe Williams, James Cotton, Billy Boy Arnold, Otis Clay, Gerald Levert, Taj Mahal, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Roomful of Blues, Victor Wainwright, The Temptations, Omar Hakim, Wayne Newton, & Red Skelton.

Neal Ferreira Dubbed a "Boston mainstay" by the Boston Globe, Neal Ferreira is a nationally recognized lyric tenor who has been performing professionally in opera & oratorio for over two decades. Most recently he appeared in *Die tote Stadt* with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and as Ares in Mark Adamo's *Lysistrata* with Odyssey Opera, the premiere recording of which will be released on Pentatone later this year. This summer he will sing roles in *Tosca* with the BSO at Tanglewood, and *Frederick Douglass* with the Boston Modern Orchestra Project at Jordan Hall. In addition to performing, Ferreira is an Assistant Professor of Voice at Berklee College of Music.

Daisy Nell from Essex, MA is a folk musician and educator known throughout Cape Ann for her singing and songwriting. Her work includes several CDs and ten children's books. She also performs with her husband Stan Collinson, and with their band Crabgrass. Daisy says

it's an honor and a privilege to even be in the same building as this illustrious crew, let alone stand on the same stage.

Tom Palance is known for his versatility as a trumpet player and innovative teacher. He has retired from the US Navy Band in Washington DC after 20 years of service. At the band Tom was the soloist with the Commodores Jazz Band. Tom now resides in Ipswich, where he is a freelance trumpet player, composer, conductor and teacher. Tom is on the faculty at The Berklee College of Music and is the Artistic Director of The Orchestra on The Hill.

Cecelia Russell is a recent graduate of Colorado College where she studied environmental science and led a successful fossil fuel divestment movement to reallocate the college's endowment funds. Raised in a musical family, she played cello and sang and has been performing with her mother and grandmother from a young age. Now, she's helping her parents run the family business and still finds time to practice music, take a daily dip in the ocean, and spend time with her cherished grandparents.

SPECIAL THANKS



Mum and Stan, Dad, Josh, Patrick, Donnie, Lisa and the crew at the Larcom. To the band: thank you for being the best around! Doug, the absolute love of my life; we are the lucky ones.