

RHAPSODY & RHYTHM: The Gershwin Concert Experience

Music and lyrics by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin

Sunday, January 8, 2017; 2 pm

Media Sponsor



Rhapsody & Rhythm is the definitive Gershwin concert experience, offering a unique and entertaining multimedia musical celebration. This exciting concert event includes special family stories plus rare Gershwin home videos and photos, providing an unforgettable experience. It's packed with sensational performances and beloved Gershwin songs such as "I Got Rhythm," "Summertime," "Strike Up the Band," "Someone To Watch Over Me," and "S Wonderful."



RICHARD GLAZIER

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana, Glazier began studying piano when he was 6 years old. In 2007, the Cleveland Institute of Music awarded him its prestigious Alumni Achievement Award for his contributions to American Popular Song. He has won several major international piano competitions including the Pro Musicians International Award and

the National Federation of Music Clubs Young Artist Competition. Glazier has had three nationally broadcast television specials on PBS. The shows have won multiple awards, including four Telly Awards for Outstanding Achievement in entertainment, documentary and cultural programming. He has been featured on the PBS *News Hour* and has produced six CDs for Centaur Records. He has performed at numerous prestigious venues, including Carnegie Hall, the United Nations, Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution, Newport Festival and the Ravinia Festival in Chicago. Glazier earned his Bachelor and Master degrees in Piano Performance from Indiana University School of Music and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Cleveland Institute of Music.



KARA FREEMAN

Working as a professional singer for most her life, Kara has been able to see the world doing what she loves. She has extreme versatility and enjoys performing everything from pop to classical to country. As a jazz singer, she has traveled to Singapore with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and toured all over Japan. She was the featured vocalist for a children's festival in Istanbul, and has also been the pop diva in New

Year's Eve celebrations in Las Vegas and the Bahamas. She is a featured soloist with JT and Friends and several other bands. Her vocals were also featured when she was a member of the house band on the NBC hit show *The Singing Bee*, hosted by Joey Fatone. Kara was part of the original Los Angeles cast of the long running smash hit musical *The Marvelous Wonderettes* at the El Portal Theatre. Other musical theatre credits include the national tour of *Love Sweet Love: A Burt Bacharach Musical*, *The Winter Wonderettes* at Laguna Playhouse, Mayzie in *Seussical*, Lola in *Damn Yankees*, and Cinderella in *Cinderella*. Originally from Fayetteville, Arkansas, Kara has an undergraduate degree in Musical Theatre Performance from Ouachita Baptist University as well as a Master's degree in Opera and Musical Theatre Performance from Southern Illinois University.



MICHAEL ANDREW

For two years, Michael Andrew was the headline singer and bandleader at the world famous Rainbow Room atop Rockefeller Center in New York City where he entertained audiences nightly and hosted a live Radio Broadcast, *Live From The Rainbow Room*. He was the band-leader and singer at

Merv Griffin's "Coconut Club" in The Beverly Hilton in California. While on *Larry King Live*, Merv called Michael Andrew "one of the great singers of all time." Michael performs as a guest artist with symphonic orchestras across the country and recently performed with Michael Feinstein and the Pasadena Pops and with the Philly Pops, Charlotte Symphony, and Orlando Philharmonic Orchestras. His own bands, SWINGERHEAD and THE ATOMIC BIG BAND continue to be in demand at events around the country. Andrew has played a singer in the movies *Heartbreakers*, *Bobby Jones*, and *Stroke of Genius* and produced music for several films including *Inglorious Bastards* and recent German released films, *13 Minutes* and *Rico, Oskar und die Tieferschatten*. Michael Andrew starred in the world premiere of the new musical, *The Nutty Professor* written by Marvin Hamlisch and Rupert Holmes, directed by Jerry Lewis. He received rave reviews from the press including: "...terrific lead performance" - *Time Magazine*; "...astonishing..." - *The Tennessean*; "Andrew creates his own glittering path..." - *ArtsNash*; "Star-Making...Andrew's virtuoso performance is startling in its complexity...clearly this is a role he was born to play." - *Broadway World*; "One of the best talents to come down the pike in 50 years" - Jerry Lewis (*playbill.com*).

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