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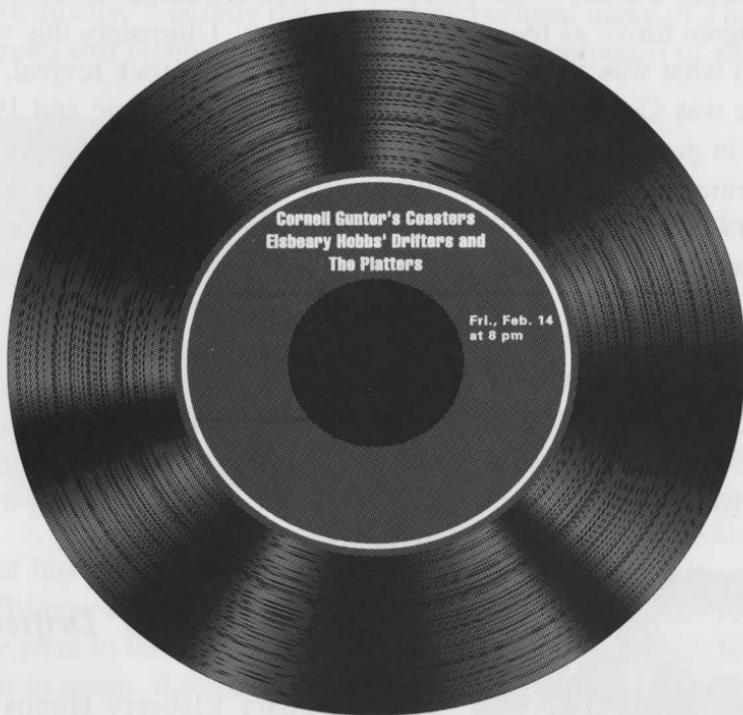


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THE CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Presents

Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Elsberry Hobbs' Drifters, and The Platters



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Cornell Gunter's Coasters

This year marks the 35th Anniversary of the formation of Cornell Gunter's Coasters out of the ashes of the surprising breakup of The Coaster group several months earlier. Cornell believed that The Coasters could be reborn. In fact,

he believed that all of the groups from that era could be reborn and once again thrive as live performing groups. Ultimately this vision led to what was soon to become known as "the rock revival." So unique was Cornell's approach to The Coasters' music and 1950's music in general, that within a year Cornell Gunter's Coasters were headlining in Las Vegas for six months out of the year. Soon, The Drifters, The Platters and other 1950's groups following Cornell's lead, were reformed as live performing acts with their own unique style.

It has been ten years since Cornell passed away. Since that time, his sister Shirley (who was an original member of The Platters and had been Cornell's manager and the creative force behind the group) has kept incorporating Cornell's genius into the group's ongoing tribute to the music of The Coasters.



The Elsberry Hobbs' Drifters

The legendary Elsberry Hobbs performed on the greatest Drifter hits of all time. In fact, the very first notes you hear on the Drifters first major hit for Atlantic Records, "There Goes My Baby," is the bass voice of Hobbs.

"There Goes My Baby" also introduced a whole new sound to rock & roll by incorporating strings with a classical score. Besides singing on many of The Drifters greatest hits, Hobbs was also known for having put together many of The Drifters live comedy and dance

from 1958-1996, with the exception of his time in the military and his work as a medical assistant. Hobbs was the leader of The Drifters from 1969 through his untimely death in 1996.

During their greatest years as a touring group they performed for three Presidents, the US Constitution's 200th Anniversary Good Will Tour of Russia, on all three national network TV stations, and throughout the world. Today, Hobbs' wife, Odessa Hobbs, has united many of her late husband's former group members as the Elsberry Hobbs' Drifters, to commemorate the great material to which he contributed so artistically. Not only does the group perform many of The Drifters tunes that Hobbs was noted for, but also a potpourri of standards and current rock songs.



The Platters

The Platters first formed during the dawn of the Rock and Roll era, the early part of the 1950's. At the outset, the group included five teenagers: Tony Williams, Zola Taylor, Herb Reed, Paul Rohl, and David Lynek. It has been nearly 30 years since the first original member left The Platters, yet the group remains one of the most popular in rock & roll history. The

list of hits by the original Platters includes ten songs that qualified for Billboard's 500 greatest rock & roll hits of all time, in which three were in the top 50. Over the years, the greatest care has been taken to assure that each new member of The Platters continues to sustain the excellence that is associated with the original group. In addition to appearing all over the world, the group has performed at President Clinton's Inauguration, The Coronation of The Queen of England, a good will exchange tour with the Chinese government, and at venues such as: Foxwoods Hotel and Casino, Westbury Music Fair, The Houston Astrodome, The Sahara in Las Vegas, and the Trump in Atlantic City. The group has appeared on the Today Show, Good Morning America and are currently on tour promoting their latest CD, "Live with The Platters".