Smokey Joe's Cafe

Center for Performing Arts

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The Center for Performing Arts
Governors State University

presents

IRVING STREET REP.

Smokey Joe's Cafe - The Songs of Leiber and Stoller

Saturday, November 15, 2008

The Center for Performing Arts' 2008-2009 Season is sponsored in part by a generous grant from The Illinois Arts Council, an Agency of the State of Illinois.

TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE IS SPONSORED BY THE Chicago Community TRUST AND AFFILIATES
Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller

Originally produced on Broadway by Richard Frankel, Thomas Viertel, Steven Baruch, Juilliard Theatres, Jack Viertel, Rick Stine, Frederic H. Mayerson and Center Theatre Group, Ahmanson Theatre, and Gordon Davidson. All of the songs in SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE were written by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller (alone or with others) except "Spanish Harlem" by Phil Spector and Jerry Leiber. "Spanish Harlem" by Spector and Leiber is published by Mother Bertha Music, Inc. and Jerry Leiber Music by arrangement with ABKCO Music, Inc. Messers. Leiber and Stoller wish to acknowledge and thank the following writers who collaborated with them on various songs in the show: Ben E. King, Doc Pomus, Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil, Kent Harris, Ralph Dino & John Sembello, and Carlo Donida & 'Mogul'. THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER is presented through special arrangement with R&H Theatricals, 1065 Avenue of The Americas, Suite 2400, New York, NY 10018. www.rnhtheatricals.com

Act I

Neighborhood
Young Blood
Ruby Baby
Dance With Me
Keep On Rollin’
Searchin’
Kansas City
Love Me/Don’t
Fools Fall in Love
Poison Ivy
Don Juan
I Keep Forgettin’
On Broadway
D.W. Washburn
Saved

(INTERMISSION)

Act II

Baby That Is Rock & Roll
Yakety Yak
Charlie Brown
Jailhouse Rock
Pearl’s A Singer
Teach Me How to Shimmy
Loving You
Treat Me Nice
Hound Dog
I’m A Woman
There Goes My Baby
Love Potion #9
Some Cats Know
I (Who Have Nothing)
Spanish Harlem
Fools Fall in Love
Stand By Me

IRVING STREET REP. - CAST NOTES

Dawn Marie Driver An amazing talent that has toured the globe, Dawn has played Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, The United Nations, and opera houses across Europe, Portugal and South Africa. Dawn has appeared with Stevie Wonder, Eartha Kitt, Lou Rawls, Yolanda Adams, Ben Vareen and Melba Moore. She has collaborated with Edwin Hawkins, Dwight R.B. Cook, Louis Johnson and Woodie King, and has written and produced three original musicals.

Safiya Fredericks Safiya has had great success performing in experimental plays and new works in and around New York City. Past favorite roles have included some more traditional characters, such as Ernestine in Lynn Nottage’s Crumbs from the Table of Joy, Aaron in Titus Andronicus, and Dogberry in Much Ado About Nothing. You can also catch her in the film Shock which sporadically makes an appearance on Showtime. She has trained at the University of California Irvine and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. Special thanks to her family for their continued love and support, and to the great people at Irving Street Rep!

Famecia Ward Famecia Ward was a Kennedy Center Theatre Festival Nominee for her role as Timoun in Once on this Island. Her other roles include Kate in The Wild Party, Aida in Rocky Horror Picture Show and Timarete in Lysistrata. She has also been seen as Dorothy in The Wiz and in various roles in “McDonald’s Salutes the Faces of Black History”. In 2004 Famecia made it to the second round on “American Idol”.

Vida Allworthy Vida has toured the US and Canada in regional, dinner theatre and industrials. She teaches ballet, tap and jazz in New Jersey, and conducts numerous dance workshops for New Jersey State Teen Arts Festivals at the College of New Jersey. She is a resident choreographer for HCRHS, for whom she has choreographed 10 musicals. She has also performed in Century Productions’ Trial of the Century, the re-enactment of the Lindbergh baby kidnapping. Ms. Allworthy sings with an R&B group called “Lockdown”. Sophisticated Ladies marked her 10th collaboration with Irving Street Rep., which she is very happy to be involved with.

Ron Lucas Ron has performed the role of John in Miss Saigon in Stuttgart, Germany. He is currently touring in his one-man show The Nat King Cole Songbook and has also been seen in the new musical version of Bingo Long and the Traveling All Stars and Motor Kings and Jesus Christ Superstar. His other credits include regional productions of Ain’t Misbehavin’, Five Guys Named Moe, Sophisticated Ladies, Hair, Godspell, and as Billy Eckstein in Mr. B. Changed The Key. Television work includes “Law and Order”, “Law and Order SVU”, “Oz” and “Spin City”. Ron also writes songs and jingles and narrates and sings educational tapes for school children.

Jonathan Juarbe Performing since he was seven, Jonathan has had the pleasure of singing for the likes of Paul Simon, David Letterman, and “The Today Show”. Other regional credits include Grease, Gypsy and The Boys Next Door. He also has been a vocal captain aboard three ships for Royal Caribbean cruise lines. Jonathan has had the privilege of singing back up for Elton John at Radio City Music Hall. Jonathan is thrilled to be a part of this amazing cast of Smokey Joe’s Cafe and Irving Street Rep. As well as playing Michael, he has also played Victor in North Carolina. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their love and support, especially George and Marissa. I wouldn’t be here with out you!!!

Christopher Brasfield A graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Christopher is originally from Pass Christian, MS. He has recently been seen as the role of Zake in Prather Entertainment’s production of Disney’s High School Musical in Ft. Myers, Florida. His other credits include 42nd Street, CATS, Footloose, Sophisticated Ladies, and Flashback, a new workshop in which he played James Brown. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their love and support, especially George and Marissa. I wouldn’t be here with out you!!!

Tony Gibson Tony has appeared on stage in Ain’t Misbehavin’, The Bloody Eighth, Me and My Girl, The Rocky Horror Show, The Wiz, Big River, Nunsense Ah-Men, Show Boat, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, A Grand Night for Singing, South Pacific and Zombie Prom. He has also appeared in films and industrial videos, and recorded jingles and sung backup for several recording artists.

Johnathan Victorian Johnathan was most recently seen in television’s “Making the Band” with Puffy Combs. Other credits include Smokey Joe’s Café, Five Guys Named Moe, Your Arms Too Short to Box With God and The Cotton Club.

--- CAST NOTES CONTINUED ---
**IRVING STREET REP.**

- CAST NOTES CONTINUED -

**CURTIS FARROW** (Producer/Director) This marks Mr. Farrow's eighth year as producer and director of the McDonald's Gospelfest. A. Curtis Farrow has received many honors including: two Emmy awards for McDonald's Gospelfest 2000 and 2001; a commendation from the Newark Mayor and City Council; the Public Advocate Award for New York City; being chosen as CHRISTIAN TIMES' "Person of the Year"; and being named one of the top 20 influencers in Gospel Music. Mr. Farrow's other projects include The Paul Robeson Gala Voice of the Millennium at Newark's Prudential Center. The star studded cast included Whitney Houston, James Earl Jones, Lynne Whitfield, Branford Marsalis, Avery Brooks, The Dance Theatre of Harlem, and many, many more. In the range of industrials, his services have been used again and again by the Dupont Corporation in their Consumer Affairs Department. He has conceptualized and produced award shows, such as the Plunkett Awards, for two consecutive years in Tucson, Arizona; and for Corian, Suva, Dupont X-ray Film and others in Puerto Rico, Canada, Florida, Texas, Delaware and New York. Mr. Farrow's many clients include McDonald's, Citibank, Entenmanns, Bloomingdales, The Museum of Natural History, City Meals on Wheels, and The Urban League of Hudson County.

**DARIUS FROWNER** (Musical Director) Darius Frownner is a musical director and pianist from New York City. He is an award winning cabaret performer and plays regularly at the Duplex in Greenwich Village. Darius frequently collaborates with Broadway performers from shows such as Rent, The Lion King, and Phantom of the Opera. Often donating his talent for worthy causes, he has recently performed at The United Nations and appears with Joan Rivers at benefit engagements. He has taught children at a performing arts school, and works regularly at NYU. Many audiences in the United States and Europe have seen his work on Broadway, his tours of Ain't Misbehavin', and many various projects with Irving Street Rep. Other shows include A Chorus Line, Chicago, Fame, and "Jelly's Last Jam", which will be filmed for HBO. Darius enjoys performing as well as the whole process involved in creatively entertaining an audience. He hopes you have a good time tonight!

**ABOUT IRVING STREET REP.** Irving Street Rep. was founded in 1995 by veteran director/choreographer A. Curtis Farrow, and is dedicated to producing the finest in theatrical and musical entertainment. Its first production, Ain't Misbehavin', met with rave reviews which encouraged the group to tackle even more ambitious projects. Their next endeavor was a full-scale revival of Your Arms Too Short To Box With God, which included a cast of twenty and a thirty member gospel choir. It set Milwaukee on fire, and proceeded to tour the Midwest. Since then, Irving Street Rep. has produced tours of Sophisticated Ladies, Godspell, The Elegance of Ellington, The Nat King Cole Songbook, and the original works Rhythm, Hospitality, Ruth and Memories of Mahalia as well as standbys Ain't Misbehavin' and Five Guys Named Moe. Most recently, Irving Street Rep. reprised their production of Your Arms Too Short To Box With God starring Cissy Houston and Melba Moore, and co-produced the Paul Robeson Gala, which featured Whitney Houston, Lynn Whitfield, James Earl Jones and Ossie Davis. Irving Street Rep. is also responsible for the annual production of McDonald's Gospelfest, the Tri-State areas premiere gospel event. Visit them online at: www.irvingstreetrep.com