

ZOELLNER
ARTS CENTER
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

FALL 2022
PLAYBILL

25TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON





DEAR FRIENDS,

As Zoellner Arts Center looks to celebrate its past 25 years, and envisions the next 25, we want to pause and thank you, our supporters.

During this 25th Anniversary Season, we honor some of our founders, who in the early 1990s with Lehigh University leadership, embraced a vision to bring arts to the forefront of our community with a ‘dramatic new facility destined to become a major landmark.’

The realization of this vision is evident: since 1997, the center has welcomed over 1 million visitors, more than 150,000 Lehigh students, thousands of area school children, countless community organizations and hundreds of artists from around the world. Premier artists like Michael Feinstein, Postmodern Jukebox, and the New York Philharmonic, who inaugurated Baker Hall in 1997 and is honoring us with a performance for our 25th, grace our stage this fall.

In the spring, we will expand our cultural programming. Third Coast Percussion and Flutronix perform their new work *Rubix* and the talented artist Wu Fei joins us for a residency and performs *Hello Gold Mountain* with Professor Paul Salerni conducting students in Lehigh University’s Philharmonic and Choir.

And be sure to save this date: April 15, 2023, for the return of our gala with The Philadelphia Orchestra featuring Brian Stokes Mitchell, where we will also have a free outdoor performance by vertical dance company Bandaloop. Their talented dancers are on the cover of this program (photo by Jorg Badura) and prove that art is not subject to the confines of four walls.

How grateful and excited I am to be the Executive Director of Zoellner Arts Center at this moment in time. We celebrate the impact we’ve had over the last 25 years, and look forward to the next 25 of engaging and connecting with you in and beyond our building.

Mark Fitzgerald Wilson

Executive Director

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NOTATIONS

Lehigh University:
• Creative Writing Program
• Zoellner Arts Center

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NOV 5 Sat
7:30pm | Baker Hall

Get Happy:
MICHAEL FEINSTEIN
Celebrates the
Judy Garland Centennial



This Performance is in Honor of the Baker Family Legacy

**ZOELLNER
ARTS CENTER**
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



2022.2023
SEASON

Zoellner Arts Center receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Cornerstone Event: Honoring Visionaries in Celebration of Zoellner Arts Center's 25th Anniversary

Dexter F. Baker '50 '57G and his wife, Dorothy, championed innovation and the arts at Lehigh University and in the Lehigh Valley community.

Born near Philadelphia, Dexter Baker earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering and an MBA from Lehigh's College of Business and Economics. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1945 to 1946 and in the Army from 1950 to 1952. Baker joined Air Products, a Trexlertown-based company that is now one of the world's largest manufacturers of industrial gasses and chemicals, in the early 1950s. He successfully guided the company's expansion into Europe and was elected to its board of directors when he was in his late 30's. He went on to become chairman of the board and CEO at Air Products before retiring in 1992.

Baker rendered tireless service to Lehigh as a member of the university's board of trustees beginning in 1973 and as an active trustee emeritus. He pioneered departmental visiting committees and served as the chairman of the visiting committees for mechanical engineering and mechanics, chemical engineering and music.

Dexter and Dorothy co-chaired the \$33 million capital campaign for Zoellner Arts Center in the 1990s and made a generous contribution to name Baker Hall. Previously the Bakers had created the Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Gifted Arts Scholarship Program for students in the performing arts. In 2010, Baker founded the Dexter F. Baker Institute for Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation at Lehigh.

Dexter Baker passed away on Nov. 1, 2012. In 2014, the Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation gave a \$5 million gift to Lehigh to establish a fund to support Baker Institute initiatives in perpetuity.

Dorothy Baker, a graduate of Syracuse University, was a singer, community volunteer, and philanthropist with a passion for music, arts, and education for youth. She sang in the Bach Choir of Bethlehem and was one of the first female trustees of Muhlenberg College. In addition to the Baker Hall at Lehigh, she established the Dorothy Hess Baker Hall at Muhlenberg, the Community Music School's Dorothy H. Baker Recital Hall, and the Arts and Youth Development wing at the Boys and Girls Club of Collier County, Florida. She passed away in 2020.

The Bakers have four daughters, Ellen Baker Ghelardi, Susan Royal, Leslie Baker Boris, and Carolyn 'Carol' Baker, who are continuing their legacy for the future and expanding the footprint of their impact.

Tonight's performance has been generously underwritten by the Dexter F. and Dorothy H. Baker Foundation.

ABOUT MICHAEL FEINSTEIN

In addition to his recognition as one of the leading musical entertainers and piano virtuosos of recent decades, Michael Feinstein's work as an educator, archivist, interpreter, and Ambassador of the Great American Songbook have established the popular and honored musician as a pre-eminent force in contemporary music. His dazzling career as a top-selling and critically acclaimed recording artist and a star performer on Broadway, and the world's great concert stages has earned him five GRAMMY® Award nominations, two Emmy nominations of his PBS-TV specials and acclaim for his NPR series. His live concerts have spanned the globe including such iconic venues such as The White House, Buckingham Palace, Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, and the Sydney Opera House.

This year, Feinstein released to rave reviews, *Gershwin Country*, an album of standards in duet with some of the biggest names in country music from Dolly Parton and Alison Krauss to Brad Paisley and Amy Grant.

As an extension of his work as a legendary performer and passionate guardian of his nation's greatest musical traditions, Feinstein founded the Great American Songbook Foundation in 2007. The foundation works to preserve and elevate America's rich musical legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators and performers; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars, historians, and performers; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual high school Songbook Academy®. For over a decade, Feinstein served as a Founding Member on the Library of Congress' National Recording Preservation Board; an organization dedicated to ensuring the survival, conservation and increased public availability of America's sound recording heritage.

Feinstein earned his fifth Grammy Award nomination in 2009 for *The Sinatra Project*, his CD celebrating the music of "Ol' Blue Eyes." *The Sinatra Project, Volume II: The Good Life* was released in 2011. He released the CDs *The Power Of Two* – collaborating with *Glee* and *30 Rock* star Cheyenne Jackson – and *Cheek To Cheek*, recorded with Broadway legend Barbara Cook. For Feinstein's CD *We Dreamed These Days*, he co-wrote the title song with Dr. Maya Angelou.

His Emmy Award-nominated TV special *Michael Feinstein – The Sinatra Legacy*, which was taped live at the Palladium in Carmel, IN, aired across the country in 2011. The PBS series *Michael Feinstein's American Songbook*, the recipient of the ASCAP Deems-Taylor Television Broadcast Award, was

broadcast for three seasons and is available on DVD. His most recent primetime PBS-TV Special, *New Year's Eve at The Rainbow Room* – written and directed by *Desperate Housewives* creator Marc Cherry – aired in 2014. For his nationally syndicated public radio program *Song Travels*, Feinstein interviewed and performed alongside of music luminaries such as Bette Midler, Neil Sedaka, Liza Minnelli, Rickie Lee Jones, David Hyde Pierce and more.

Feinstein was named Principal Pops Conductor for the Pasadena Symphony in 2012 and made his conducting debut in June 2013 to celebrated critical acclaim. Under Feinstein's leadership, the Pasadena Pops has quickly become a premier orchestral presenter of the Great American Songbook with definitive performances of rare orchestrations and classic arrangements. He launched an additional Pops series in 2014 at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in Palm Beach, Florida.

Feinstein's book *The Gershwins and Me* – the *Los Angeles Times* best-seller from Simon & Schuster – features a new CD of Gershwin standards performed with Cyrus Chestnut at the piano.

Feinstein serves as Artistic Director of the Center for the Performing Arts, a \$170 million, three-theatre venue in Carmel, Indiana, which opened in January 2011. The theatre is home to diverse live programming and a museum for his rare memorabilia and manuscripts. Since 1999, he has served as Artistic Director for Carnegie Hall's *Standard Time with Michael Feinstein* in conjunction with ASCAP. In 2010 he became the director of the Jazz and Popular Song Series at New York's Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Feinstein's at the Nikko, his nightclub at San Francisco's Nikko Hotel, has presented the top talents of pop and Jazz since 2013. He debuted at Feinstein's/54 Below, his club in New York, late in 2015. His first venue in New York, Feinstein's at the Regency, featured major entertainers such as Rosemary Clooney, Glen Campbell, Barbara Cook, Diahann Carroll, Jane Krakowski, Lea Michele, Cyndi Lauper, Jason Mraz, and Alan Cumming from 1999 to 2012. Most recently, Feinstein opened his first Los Angeles location, Feinstein's at Vitello's, in June of 2019. He has designed a new piano for Steinway called "The First Ladies," inspired by the White House piano and signed by several former First Ladies. It was first played to commemorate the Ronald Regan centennial on February 6, 2011.

In 2013 Feinstein released *Change Of Heart: The Songs of Andre Previn* in collaboration with four-time Oscar and 11-time Grammy Award-winning composer-conductor-pianist Andre Previn. The album celebrates Previn's

pop songs and motion picture classics. Earlier album highlights include *Hopeless Romantics*, a songbook of classics by Feinsteins’s late friend Harry Warren, recording with legendary jazz pianist George Shearing. His album with songwriting icon Jimmy Webb, *Only One Life – The Songs of Jimmy Webb*, was named one of “10 Best CDs of the Year” by *USA Today*.

Feinstein received his fourth Grammy nomination for *Michael Feinstein with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra*, his first recording with a symphony orchestra. The year before, Rhino/Elektra Music released *The Michael Feinstein Anthology*, a two-disc compilation spanning 1987 to 1996 and featuring old favorites and previously unreleased tracks.

Feinstein was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, where he started playing piano by ear as a 5-year-old. After graduating from high school, he moved to Los Angeles when he was 20. The widow of legendary concert pianist-actor Oscar Levant introduced him to Ira Gershwin in July 1977. Feinstein became Gershwin’s assistant for six years, which earned him access to numerous unpublished Gershwin songs, many of which he has since performed and recorded.

Gershwin’s influence provided a solid base upon which Feinstein evolved into a captivating performer, composer, and arranger of his own original music. He also has become an unparalleled interpreter of music legends such as Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer, Duke Ellington, and Harry Warren. Feinstein has received three honorary doctorates.

Through his live performances, recordings, film and television appearances, and his songwriting (in collaboration with Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Lindy Robbins, Bob Merrill, and Marshall Barer), Feinstein is an all-star force in American music. For more information, please visit www.MichaelFeinstein.com.

Zoellner Media Partner:



Zoellner Arts Center appreciates your feedback.

Check your email early next week for a brief survey. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE APRIL 15, 2023



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An evening with
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*Performance
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FRI DEC 16 | 7:30PM

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ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

FALL 2022 SEASON AT A GLANCE



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LUVME <i>The Life and Love of Joe Coogan & The Overlook Quartet</i>	SEP 24
THE SALONNIÉRES	SEP 28 - OCT 1
NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC	OCT 1
THE AMAZING MAX  FAMILY SERIES	OCT 8
THE WEEKLINGS <i>BEATLESBASH</i>	OCT 15
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL ARTS Brahms and Poulenc	OCT 22 & 23
HOME FREE <i>Road Sweet Road Tour</i>	OCT 29
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA	OCT 30
GALATEA	NOV 4 - 12
MICHAEL FEINSTEIN <i>Get Happy! Celebrating the Judy Garland Centennial</i>	NOV 5
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY FACULTY STRING QUARTET <i>Strings and Threads</i>	NOV 6
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY STUDENT JAZZ ENSEMBLES	NOV 12
ACADEMY OF VOCAL ARTS Verdi's <i>La Traviata</i>	NOV 13
WIND ENSEMBLE AND SYMPHONIC BAND <i>A New Beginning</i>	NOV 20
DAN AND CLAUDIA ZANES  FAMILY SERIES	NOV 27
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY PHILHARMONIC <i>Reflections & Celebrations</i>	DEC 2 & 3
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL ARTS <i>Christmas Vespers</i>	DEC 4
WESTMINSTER CONCERT BELL CHOIR	DEC 16
SCOTT BRADLEE'S POSTMODERN JUKEBOX <i>A Very Postmodern Christmas</i>	DEC 17
CHRISTMAS WITH THE CELTS	DEC 18

KEY: PRESENTING SERIES | MUSIC DEPARTMENT | DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

