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IU AUDITORIUM 2017-2018 SEASON TO INCLUDE MONTY PYTHON'S JOHN CLEESE, TONY AWARD WINNER KINKY BOOTS, STRAIGHT NO CHASER, AND MORE.

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BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – Indiana University Auditorium announces its 2017–2018 season, featuring hit Broadway shows, celebrity engagements, contemporary and classical musical acts, dance, holiday traditions, and more. The season will run September 2017 through April 2018.

2017–2018 season highlights include an appearance by iconic comedian and writer, Monty Python's John Cleese; Bloomington debuts of Broadway shows *Kinky Boots* and *Motown: The Musical*; a holiday season concert by Straight No Chaser; family-friendly events *The Wizard of Oz* and Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*; a performance and educational residency by The Minnesota Orchestra; and more.

"The 2017–2018 season is filled with incredible arts and entertainment, and we could not be more excited to bring them to our community," said Director of IU Auditorium Doug Booher. "It is a special honor to host an icon like John Cleese, as well as the many other world-class musicians, performers, and Broadway musicals in store this season. We know Bloomington audiences are going to love this year's lineup as much as we do, and we can't wait to share it with all of you."

To get the best possible seats, patrons may become subscribers by choosing five or more events between now and July 21, and can purchase these using a variety of payment options—including payroll deduction for IU employees and bursar billing for IU students. Subscribing at this time allows patrons to get the best seats available before tickets go on sale to the general public on August 15, 2016. For more information visit IUauditorium.com or call (812) 855-1103.

The IU Auditorium 2017-2018 season is presented with support from season partners Curry Auto Center, The Herald-Times, B97, IU Residential Programs and Services, and the Cook Family of Companies.

To see the complete list of events for the 2017–2018 season, visit IUauditorium.com. The website features video clips and selections of songs from next season's performances, in addition to direct links to the IU Auditorium Facebook Fan Page, Twitter page, and Email Club, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year. Tickets are available online 24/7 at IUauditorium.com or in person at the IU Auditorium box office, open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2017-2018 IU Auditorium Season

DIAVOLO

Tuesday September 26 7:30 p.m. Family Friendly

Los Angeles-based DIAVOLO | Architecture in Motion embarks on a daring exploration of the human body and its architectural environment through dance. Founded in 1992 by artistic director Jacques Heim, DIAVOLO has performed their compelling repertoire for thousands of concertgoers throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

DIAVOLO uses dance to explore the relationship between the human body and its architectural environment. Artistic Director Jacques Heim steers DIAVOLO's diverse team of dancers, designers, choreographers, and engineers to create visceral and awe-inspiring works that reveal how we are affected emotionally, physically, and socially by the spaces we inhabit.

Meticulously designed bespoke architectural structures serve as the central inspiration for each work, activated by the stylistically varied and intensely physical choreography which has become the hallmark of this truly original company throughout its rich 25-year history.

John Cleese

Sunday October 1 3 p.m. Mature Audiences

Living comedy legend John Cleese is heading in your general direction for a live and truly unforgettable evening of conversation and audience Q&A (absurd and/or ridiculous questions only are requested, please).***

John will tell stories of his life and career and you just may finally find out the air-speed of an unladen swallow. Before John silly walks his way on to the stage, the excitement will build as the audience will get to watch *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* in its entirety on the big screen.

"The world's funniest man" first made his mark as a member of the legendary Monty Python troupe in the 1960s, and has gone on to write, produce, direct, and star in some of the greatest comedic hits of the last 40 years. Don't miss your chance to see the man who has achieved nothing short of comedy royalty in this thrill-of-a lifetime evening.

***Coconuts NOT included in ticket price.

Kinky Boots

Tuesday & Wednesday October 24 & 25 8 p.m.

Kinky Boots is Broadway's huge-hearted, high-heeled hit! With songs by Grammy and Tonywinning pop icon Cyndi Lauper, this joyous musical celebration is about the friendships we discover, and the belief that you can change the world when you change your mind.

Inspired by true events, *Kinky Boots* takes you from a gentlemen's shoe factory in Northampton to the glamorous catwalks of Milan. Charlie Price is struggling to live up to his father's expectations and continue the family business of Price & Son. With the factory's future hanging in the balance, help arrives in the unlikely but spectacular form of Lola, a fabulous performer in need of some sturdy new stilettos.

With direction and choreography by two-time Tony Award-winner Jerry Mitchell (Legally Blonde, Hairspray) and a book by Broadway legend and four-time Tony Award-winner Harvey Fierstein (La Cage Aux Folles), *Kinky Boots* is the winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score, and Best Choreography.

Take a step in the right direction and discover that sometimes the best way to fit in is to stand out.

Dennis James Hosts Halloween

Saturday October 28 7:30 p.m. Family Friendly

Bloomington's favorite musical mastermind Dennis James returns for his 49th annual spooky spectacular, *Dennis James Hosts Halloween*. This family-friendly event features classic silent film *The Monster*, presented with live organ accompaniment by James, and an annual pre-show costume contest hosted by B97.

The 1925 silent film "The Monster" is a horror comedy featuring the famed silent film star Lon Chaney, also known as the "Man of a Thousand Faces." Chaney's films have been featured in recent "Dennis James Hosts Halloween" events, including silent films "The Phantom of the Opera" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame."

Watch IU alumnus and renowned cinematic organist James as he brings the orchestrations of silent film to life on the Auditorium's 4,543 pipe organ.

Motown: The Musical

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday October 31, November 1 & 2 8 p.m.

It began as one man's story ... became everyone's music ... and is now Broadway's musical. *Motown: The Musical* is the true American dream story of Motown founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to the heavyweight music mogul who launched the careers of Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye, and so many more.

Featuring more than 40 classic hits such as "My Girl" and "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," *Motown: The Musical* tells the story behind the hits as Diana, Smokey, Berry, and the whole Motown family fight against the odds to create the soundtrack of change in America.

Come experience the live stage celebration of the record label that shattered barriers, shaped our lives, and made us all move to the same beat.

The Knights

Wednesday

November 15 8 p.m.

Since their inception, The Knights have been playing by their own rules—transforming the orchestral experience and breaking the barriers between audiences and music.

Founded in the early 2000s by artistic directors Colin and Eric Jacobsen, this New York-based ensemble is comprised of accomplished musicians and composers driven by an open-minded spirit of camaraderie and exploration. They bring together a tapestry of cultural and musical influences to create vibrant programs that encompass their roots in the classical tradition and passion for artistic discovery. Through adventurous programming, unbridled energy, and a collaborative music-making process, The Knights bring classical music to life in a way that surprises and inspires both new and longtime listeners.

At their Bloomington engagement, the ensemble will premiere a new work co-commissioned by IU Auditorium: "Suite for Improviser and Orchestra," by Arabic clarinetist Kinan Azmeh featuring Israeli mandolinist Avi Avital and The Knights founder, Colin Jacobsen.

Chimes of Christmas

Saturday December 2 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Family Friendly

Join the Singing Hoosiers this December for the merriest family-friendly event of the season, Chimes of Christmas. The Grammy-nominated ensemble leads an evening of seasonal festivities alongside some favorite Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and community ensembles in this annual holiday concert to make your spirits bright.

Chimes of Christmas continues to be a favorite holiday tradition for Bloomington audiences and captivates young and old with its wide range of musical talent, seasonal song selections, and innovative arrangements of holiday tunes.

Don't miss this merry and bright musical celebration to kick of the season in style.

Straight No Chaser

Friday
December 15
8 p.m.

The boys are back! IU-born a cappella phenomenon Straight No Chaser returns home this holiday season with an all-new live show packed with holiday favorites and dynamic pop arrangements.

A group *The New York Times* calls "vibrantly warm-blooded," SNC has set the new standard in a cappella performance. Since their original formation at Indiana University in 1996, the group has pulled a cappella into the modern pop landscape with inventive arrangements of pop hits, medleys, and classic holiday songs.

The Chasers' return to IU Auditorium marks 21 years of perfecting their signature sound and tongue-in-cheek charm. They have won the adoration of millions of fans worldwide with an unforgettable live show *Broadway World* calls "both impressive and just plain fun."

Minnesota Orchestra

Tuesday January 23 8 p.m.

The Grammy Award-winning Minnesota Orchestra, now in its second century and led by music director Osmo Vänskä, ranks among America's top symphonic ensembles, with a distinguished history of acclaimed performances in its home state and around the world; award-winning recordings, radio broadcasts, and educational engagement programs; and a visionary commitment to building the orchestral repertoire of tomorrow.

One of the globe's most active ensembles, the Minneapolis Orchestra presents about 175 programs each year and is heard by live audiences of more than 300,000 annually. The orchestra has strong roots in live performance, but is also celebrated for its recordings, commissions of new music, and world-class educational programs.

The IU Auditorium performance will feature Osmo Vänskä as conductor and Inon Barnatan on piano. The Orchestra will perform Sibelius's *En Saga*, Opus 9; Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Opus 23; and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A major, Opus 92.

The Sound of Music

Wednesday & Thursday January 31 & February 1 8 p.m.

The hills are alive! A brand new production of *The Sound of Music* is coming to IU Auditorium. The spirited, romantic, and beloved musical story of Maria and the von Trapp family will once again thrill audiences with its Tony, Grammy, and Academy Award-winning Best Score, including "My Favorite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "Edelweiss," and the title song.

The Sound of Music features music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse—based on "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp.

The Sound of Music enjoyed extraordinary success as the first live television production of a musical in over 50 years when "The Sound of Music Live!" aired on NBC in December, 2013 and was seen by over 44 million people. 2015 marked the 50th anniversary of the film version, which continues to be the most successful movie musical in history.

Birdland All-Stars "The Art of Jazz"

Friday February 23 8 p.m.

Featuring the finest musicians in New York, The Birdland All-Stars have been thrilling audiences at "The Jazz Corner of the World" for the last 10 years. Returning to the road for the first time in five years, the Birdland All-Stars, led by Tommy Igoe, have created new arrangements featuring the music of David Bowie, The Police, and Steely Dan, as well as fresh treatments of iconic compositions by Charlie Parker, Chick Corea, and Herbie Hancock.

The Birdland All-Stars is a project born out of the legendary Birdland Jazz Club by Tommy Igoe, who is also the creator for The Birdland Big Band, which performs weekly as the club's orchestra

in residence. All-Stars brings the live Birdland Big Band experience to communities across America—with *The Art of Jazz* twist.

The multimedia presentation *The Art of Jazz* brings the All-Stars' live performance to a whole new level, as accomplished visual artists create paintings in real time which are inspired by the music as it is experienced by the audience.

Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella

Wednesday & Thursday February 28 & March 1 7:30 p.m. Family Friendly

Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* is the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical from the creators of *The Sound of Music* and *South Pacific* that's delighting audiences with its contemporary take on the classic tale.

This lush production features an incredible orchestra, jaw-dropping transformations and all the moments you love—the pumpkin, the glass slipper, the masked ball and more—plus some surprising new twists!

Be transported back to your childhood as you rediscover some of Rodgers & Hammerstein's most beloved songs, including "In My Own Little Corner," "Impossible/It's Possible" and "Ten Minutes Ago," in this romantic Broadway experience for anyone who's ever had a wish, a dream ... or a really great pair of shoes.

Cabaret

Tuesday & Wednesday March 20 & 21 8 p.m. Mature Audiences

Direct from Broadway, the acclaimed masterpiece returns! As part of their 50th anniversary season, the critically acclaimed and award-winning Roundabout Theatre Company is proud to present Sam Mendes (*Skyfall, American Beauty*) and Rob Marshall's (*Into the Woods* and *Chicago*, the films) Tony Award-winning production of *Cabaret*.

Welcome to the infamous Kit Kat Klub, where the emcee, Sally Bowles, and a raucous ensemble take the stage nightly to tantalize the crowd—and to leave their troubles outside. But as life in pre-WWII Germany grows more and more uncertain, will the decadent allure of Berlin nightlife be enough to get them through their dangerous times?

Come hear some of the most memorable songs in theatre history, including "Cabaret," "Willkommen" and "Maybe This Time." Leave your troubles outside—life is beautiful at *Cabaret*, John Kander, Fred Ebb, and Joe Masteroff's Tony-winning musical about following your heart while the world loses its way.

The Wizard of Oz

Tuesday & Wednesday April 17 & 18 7:30 p.m. Family Friendly This new production of *The Wizard of Oz* is an enchanting adaptation of the all-time classic, totally reconceived for the stage.

Developed from the ever-popular MGM screenplay, this production contains the beloved songs from the Oscar-winning movie score, all the favorite characters and iconic moments, plus a few surprises along the way, including new songs by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Click your heels together and join Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Dorothy, and her little dog, Toto, as they journey through the magical Land of Oz to meet the Wizard and obtain their hearts' desires. Watch out for the Wicked Witch of the West and her winged monkeys as you rediscover the real story of Oz in this fantastic musical treat for the whole family.

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