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**DENNIS JAMES HOSTS HALLOWEEN WITH A SPECIAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY
PERFORMANCE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26**

WHAT: Dennis James Hosts Halloween

WHEN: Friday, October 26, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: IU Auditorium

TICKETS: Tickets start at \$7 for children and IU Bloomington students, and \$13 for the general public, on sale now. Individual tickets may be purchased online at IUauditorium.com, in person at the IU Auditorium Box Office, as well as through Ticketmaster.com. The IU Auditorium Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September X, 2018

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – World-renowned cinematic organist Dennis James brings his signature spooky sound to IU Auditorium for the 50th anniversary performance of Dennis James Hosts Halloween on Friday, October 26 at 7:30 p.m.

The kitsch of silent film combines with the clamor of spooky sounds in this Halloween-themed event. A unique and family-friendly theatrical experience, this event gives audiences the chance to see classic silent films come to life with live accompaniment by James on the Auditorium's own 4,543 pipe organ.

James will be joined on stage by a full student orchestra presenting the original organ and orchestral music for the 1925 film *The Phantom of the Opera*, the same film this now world-renowned organist played behind in his first concert on our stage in 1967.

The orchestra will be directed by special guest Hayden Denesha who currently serves as associate conductor to the Rock Hill Symphony Orchestra and as a graduate assistant conductor for the Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University.

With this year's silent film, *The Phantom of the Opera*, we once again see the "Man of a Thousand Faces" Lon Chaney, who has previously appeared on the IU Auditorium screen in the titular roles of silent films *The Monster* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. The story takes place in a Paris opera house, where a mysterious phantom terrorizes its occupants—a terror that turns into love as he falls for a beautiful chorus girl whose fear for him matches his lust for her.

Patrons are encouraged to arrive early in costume for the annual B97 Costume Contest as the lineup for participants will begin at 6:45 p.m. Prizes for best costumes include Bucceto's gift cards and tickets to *Chimes of Christmas* at IU Auditorium.

During their time in Bloomington, James and Denesha will both also participate in a panel discussion on career development with Jacobs School of Music students as part of IU Auditorium's continued educational outreach efforts. Time and location will be announced at a

later date.

“Every Halloween season, we’re delighted to host this uniquely spooky event. James’s musical mastery resonates with an audience of all ages,” Executive Director of IU Auditorium Doug Booher said. “Fifty years in and it has certainly become one of our most cherished IU Auditorium traditions.”

For more information on Dennis James Hosts Halloween and the rest of the 2018–2019 season, visit IUauditorium.com. The website features video clips and a selection of songs from this season's performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook and Twitter pages, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year.

Dennis James Hosts Halloween at IU Auditorium is presented in partnership with Bucceto’s Smiling Teeth and World Arts, Inc. Printing. IU Auditorium’s 2018–2019 season is presented by Curry Auto Center, B97, *The Herald-Times*, IU Residential Programs and Services, and Cook Group.

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