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**IU AUDITORIUM 2016–2017 SEASON TO FEATURE *INTO THE WOODS*, *STRAIGHT NO CHASER*, THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR OF *RENT*, AND MORE.****EMBARGOED UNTIL MAY 1**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – Indiana University Auditorium announces its 2016–2017 season, with selections from a wide range of performance genres—including touring Broadway shows, classical and contemporary musical performances, dance, holiday traditions, and more—scheduled to run from September 2016 through April 2017.

IU vocal superstars Straight No Chaser return for their 20th anniversary “*I’ll Have Another... World Tour*,” from across the world, the Shaolin Warriors defy human expectation with their Kung Fu mastery; and performing their Bloomington debuts are the Tony-winning Broadway revival production of *PIPPIN* and the celebrated Fiasco Theatre production of *Into The Woods*. The 2016–2017 season also includes Dance Theatre of Harlem, Chris Botti, David Sedaris, *Dennis James Hosts Halloween*, *Chimes of Christmas*, Straight No Chaser, and The Cleveland Orchestra, plus Broadway favorites *White Christmas*, the farewell tour of *MAMMA MIA!*, and the 20th anniversary production of *RENT*.

“Our 2016–2017 season is a celebration of the performing arts, and we could are proud to present such a variety of world-class events,” said Doug Booher, Director of IU Auditorium. “This year, we are excited to host both *White Christmas* and *RENT* as they debut their national tours here in Bloomington, and it is an honor to highlight great artists that began their careers right here at IU—like renowned trumpeter Chris Botti and the talented members of Straight No Chaser. We will bring the world’s top performers and artists to the stage with the Shaolin Warriors, The Cleveland Orchestra, Stephen Sondheim’s *Into the Woods* and David Sedaris. This season will continue the Auditorium’s grand tradition of presenting the highest quality performances for our region.”

To get the best possible seats, patrons may become subscribers by choosing five or more events between now and July 29, 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 26, 2016. For more information visit IUauditorium.com or call (812) 855-1103.

2016–2017 IU Auditorium Season**RENT**

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
September 12, 13, and 14

8 p.m.
Mature Audiences

Jonathan Larson's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning musical returns to Bloomington. A re-imagining of Puccini's *La Bohème*, *RENT* follows a year in the lives of seven friends living in New York's East Village who learn to follow their dreams without selling out. This 20th anniversary production, directed by Tony Award nominee Michael Greif, features a dynamite new cast revisiting the iconic characters and story that turned *RENT* into a phenomenon.

With its inspiring message of joy and hope in the face of fear, this timeless celebration of friendship and creativity reminds us to measure our lives with the only thing that truly matters—love.

IU Auditorium was the first venue in Indiana to welcome this piece of musical theatre history—at a time when others feared the controversy of presenting such a revolutionary work of art. The Auditorium is proud to open the 2016–2017 season with this incredible show and be the launch-site of *RENT*'s 20th anniversary production. IU Auditorium will be hosting the company not only for three incredible performances, but also during rehearsals in the week leading up to their touring debut on September 13.

Chris Botti
Saturday
October 15
8 p.m.

Since the release of his 2004 critically acclaimed CD *When I Fall In Love*, Chris Botti—renowned trumpeter and former IU student of the great jazz instructors David Baker and Bill Adam—has become the largest-selling American instrumental artist. His success has crossed over to audiences usually reserved for pop music, and his ongoing association with PBS has led to four #1 jazz albums, as well as multiple gold, platinum, and Grammy Award-winning releases.

Over the past three decades, Botti has recorded and performed with the best in music—including Sting, Barbra Streisand, Tony Bennett, Lady Gaga, Yo-Yo Ma, Michael Bublé, John Mayer, Frank Sinatra, and many more. His latest Grammy-winning release, *Impressions*, has firmly established Botti as a clear voice in the American music scene—innovating and elevating contemporary music.

Performing worldwide and selling more than four million albums, Botti has found a form of creative expression that begins in jazz and expands beyond the limits of any single genre. Listen and be transported by this exquisite and unexpected musical performance.

Vocalosity
Thursday
October 20
7:30 p.m.
Family Friendly

Vocalosity is the all-new live concert event from the creative mind of artistic producer Deke Sharon (*Pitch Perfect*, *The Sing-Off*) that takes a cappella to a whole new level.

This fast-paced production features an all-star ensemble of diverse young vocalists singing some of today's chart-topping hits in brand-new arrangements that set a new standard for 12-part harmony. No genre of music is off limits in the world of a cappella and *Vocalosity* covers them all—from tenth century Gregorian chant and classical choral, to barber shop quartet and bouncing doo-wop, all the way to the exploration of the modern a cappella sound with music spanning from The Beatles to Bruno Mars and beyond.

Combined with direction and choreography from Sean Curran (from the original cast of *STOMP*), *Vocalosity* gives audiences a thrilling evening of song unlike anything ever seen or heard live on stage.

David Sedaris

Thursday
October 27
8 p.m.
Mature Audiences

The king of self-deprecating comedy, David Sedaris returns to IU Auditorium for a hilarious evening of brand-new, unpublished works.

With sardonic wit and incisive social critiques, David Sedaris has become one of America's most celebrated humor writers. He skillfully slices through cultural euphemisms and political correctness—solidifying him as the modern era's satirical master and one of the most observant writers addressing the human condition today.

The best-selling author of titles such as *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *Naked*, and *Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls*, Sedaris continues to tap into the pulse of American humor. *Entertainment Weekly* calls Sedaris "The preeminent humorist of his generation," and *Publishers Weekly* writes, "Sedaris' sparkling essays always shimmer more brightly when read aloud by the author...his expert timing, mimicry, and droll asides are never more polished than during live performances in front of an audience."

Dennis James Hosts Halloween 2016

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

The kitsch of silent film combines with a cacophony of spooky sounds from the world's greatest cinematic organist. Dennis James returns to his alma mater with an exhilarating performance accompanying the classic silent film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

The Hunchback of Notre Dame portrays a tragic yet enchanting tale of deaf and half-blind Quasimodo, the titular hunchback and resident bell-ringer of the Parisian cathedral. Based on the Victor Hugo novel, Quasimodo's adventures follow his attempts to protect the beautiful gypsy Esmeralda from ruthless men, sinister plots, and fates worse than death.

With his virtuosic organ artistry, James has built a reputation as the most acclaimed film accompanist. Silly, smart, and playfully spooky, this family-friendly, one-of-a-kind Bloomington tradition is sure to entertain audiences of all ages.

Irving Berlin's White Christmas

Saturday & Sunday
November 12 & 13
7:30 p.m.
Family Friendly

This holiday season, discover the perfect gift everyone can enjoy! Start with a timeless tale of joy and goodwill, fill it with classic Irving Berlin songs, top it off with glorious dancing and lots of snow, and you

have Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*—the must-see classic story wrapped into a lavish new musical that *The New York Times* says to “put on your wish list.”

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* tells the story of two showbiz buddies putting on a show in a picturesque Vermont inn, finding their perfect mates in the bargain. Full of dancing, romance, laughter, and some of the greatest songs ever written (including “Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep,” “Happy Holiday,” “Sisters,” “Blue Skies,” and the unforgettable title song), Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* promises to be a sparkling experience for the entire family.

Chimes of Christmas

Saturday

December 3

2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Family Friendly

Bloomington's favorite annual musical extravaganza, *Chimes of Christmas*, returns to IU Auditorium to help audiences celebrate the holidays in style.

Each year, audiences gather to appreciate this uplifting, energetic holiday hallmark event—featuring magical performances from favorite Jacobs School of Music ensembles and led by IU's own Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble, the Singing Hoosiers. Now directed by renowned vocalist Ly Wilder, Chimes continues to broaden its musical landscape while staying true to its beginnings—displaying incredible musical renditions of seasonal favorites from a wide range of eras and cultures.

“*Chimes of Christmas* is known every year as the most cheerful and family-friendly event among all of the Bloomington public,” a Bloomington resident said in the *Indiana Daily Student*. “I love attending it every year in time for the Christmas season, and I will continue going as long as they have it. It really is that spectacular.”

Straight No Chaser

Wednesday

December 14

8 p.m.

Straight No Chaser is a master of reinventing a cappella on the modern pop landscape. Originally formed in 1996 at Indiana University, the group has reassembled and reemerged as a phenomenon, now embarking on their 20th anniversary “*I’ll Have Another...World Tour*.”

Tight vocals and loose humor have catapulted these IU-born musical masterminds from local legends to international superstars, leaving in their wake a slew of chart-topping albums including 2008's *Holiday Spirits*, 2009's *Christmas Cheers*, 2010's *With a Twist*, and last year's *Under the Influence*—which featured the breakaway holiday hit “Text Me Merry Christmas” and peaked at #28 on the Billboard 200.

Year after year, Straight No Chaser keeps getting better at what they do best: captivating audiences with their tight, clever harmonies, and winning them over with their tongue-in-cheek charm. Their wildly-entertaining a cappella concerts prompted *The Trades* to write, “Straight No Chaser endeared themselves to fans with ‘we-don’t-take-ourselves-as-seriously-as-we-do-our-music’ antics, good humor, and heartfelt moments of self-admission.”

The Cleveland Orchestra

Wednesday

January 18

8 p.m.

Bold, innovative, and supremely sophisticated, The Cleveland Orchestra is one of the most sought-after performing ensembles in the world. Under the leadership of music director Franz Welser-Möst, this revered ensemble gives concerts spanning the breadth of the classical catalogue year round—on tours within the United States and across the globe.

For their engagement at the Auditorium, the Orchestra will be performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Major, Opus 44 and Sibelius's Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Opus 43 and will feature Grammy Award-winning soloist Yefim Bronfman on piano.

The Orchestra maintains a steadfast commitment to artistic excellence and educational outreach. This passion is evident in the ensemble's bi-annual residency with the IU Jacobs School of Music—teaching and inspiring the University's top musicians in the weeks leading up to the IU Auditorium performance.

Dance Theatre of Harlem

Saturday

January 28

8 p.m.

Founded in 1969 by Arthur Mitchell and Karel Shook, Dance Theatre of Harlem is considered “one of ballet's most exciting undertakings” (*The New York Times*). This multicultural dance ensemble is known for its thrilling performances that challenge preconceived notions of traditional dance and bring new life to the art form of classical ballet.

Honoring their strong focus on education, Dance Theatre of Harlem will be providing a University-wide residency—working alongside students across multiple IU campuses.

Now in its 46th year, this internationally-acclaimed company brings unprecedented relevance to classical ballet with cutting-edge new works and beloved masterpieces performed by some of the most stunning and exceptionally-trained dancers in the field.

Into the Woods

Tuesday & Wednesday

February 7 & 8

8 p.m.

IU Auditorium invites you to venture *Into the Woods* with the Fiasco Theatre production of the Tony Award-winning musical classic by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. With only 10 actors, one piano, and boundless imagination, this witty and wildly theatrical reinvention takes these twisted fairytales to a new level of entertainment.

Including dazzling songs like “Children Will Listen” and “No One is Alone,” this stripped-down revival made *The New York Times* fall “head over heels.” As Ben Brantley exclaimed, *Into the Woods* is “Truly enchanting! These are the woods that you want to get lost in, a place you'll find buried treasures that you didn't even know existed.”

Mind the wolf, heed the witch, and honor the giant in the sky at this extraordinary musical about the power of wishes and what really happens beyond happily ever after.

MAMMA MIA!

Wednesday & Thursday

February 22 & 23
8 p.m.

Returning for its farewell tour, *MAMMA MIA!* is the ultimate feel-good show that has audiences coming back again and again to relive the thrill. It's the final chance to have the time of your life at this smash-hit musical that combines ABBA's greatest hits, including "Dancing Queen," "S.O.S.," "Super Trouper," "Take A Chance on Me," and "The Winner Takes It All," with an enchanting tale of love, laughter, and friendship.

Donna, an independent single mother, is about to celebrate the wedding of Sophie, the spirited daughter she's raised alone. But Sophie, on a quest to find the identity of her father to walk her down the aisle, has secretly invited three guests of her own.

Whether it's your first visit or your 14th, don't miss this final chance to see the show that has the whole world coming back for more, because every time feels like the first time at *MAMMA MIA!*

Shaolin Warriors

Thursday
March 23
7:30 p.m.
Family Friendly

Shaolin Warriors showcases the remarkable skill, stunning movement, and spectacular imagery of Kung Fu in a dynamic, fully choreographed theatrical production. Featuring rarely-seen Buddhist meditation alongside deadly martial-arts prowess, this breathtaking journey follows a young child's initiation into an ancient monastery to fully-fledged warrior status through diligent training and study.

The first live on-stage Kung Fu spectacular of its kind, *Shaolin Warriors* has stunned audiences around the world with awe-inspiring demonstrations of hypnotic and death-defying feats. *Shaolin Warriors* has amazed over 700,000 people worldwide with its highly-charged choreography, stunning Kung Fu skills, atmospheric music and scenery, and spectacular lighting and costumes.

From the unmatched ensemble synchronization to the disciplined use of 18 traditional weapons, *Shaolin Warriors* will impress audiences of all ages beyond the boundaries of their own belief.

PIPPIN

Wednesday & Thursday
April 12 & 13
8 p.m.

Experience *PIPPIN*, the new unforgettable Broadway performance from the composer that brought you *Wicked*, and witness one young man's journey to be extraordinary. This winner of four 2013 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Revival, has been hailed by audiences and critics alike for its eye-popping visuals and jaw-dropping circus-inspired theatrics.

This captivating new production comes straight from Broadway and is directed by Tony winner Diane Paulus (*Hair* and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*). It features sizzling Bob Fosse-inspired choreography and breathtaking acrobatics by Les 7 Doigts De La Main, the creative force behind the nationwide sensation *Traces*.

As the *Chicago Tribune* raves, *PIPPIN* is "a truly dazzling feat of theatrical alchemy. An inestimably clever blend of Broadway tradition and raw risk!"

The IU Auditorium 2016–2017 season is presented by Curry Auto Center, B97, the *Herald-Times*, IU Division of Residential Programs and Services, and the Cook Family of Companies (Cook Medical-CFC Properties-French Lick Resort).

To see the complete list of shows for the 2016–2017 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 at the IU Auditorium box office, open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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