There is something for everyone in Segerstrom Center for the Arts’ 2016 – 2017 Season

COSTA MESA, CA – Segerstrom Center for the Arts will celebrate two milestones during the 2016 – 2017 Season: the 30th Anniversary of Segerstrom Center for the Arts and the 10th Anniversary of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall and Samueli Theater, both in September 2016. This momentous season will celebrate the many performances, artists and projects of the past and continue to add new, innovative and community-inspired programming. The Center invites the entire community to join in this season of celebration. From ballet to Broadway and from family-friendly fare to music from of all genres, each series offers unique opportunities – something for everyone.

Broadway & Curtain Call
Beautiful – The Carole King Musical
Elf The Musical
Matilda The Musical
Finding Neverland
An American in Paris
The Bodyguard
A Gentleman’s Guide to Love & Murder
Fun Home
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
Mamma Mia! – “The Farewell Tour”
Rent – The 20th Anniversary Tour

International Dance Series
Mikhailovsky Ballet
American Ballet Theatre
Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg
Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company
Tour de Force III
ABT’s The Nutcracker
Batsheva Dance Company

Chamber Music Series
Auryn Quartet
Takács Quartet
Marc-André Hamelin & Pacific Quartet
Emerson String Quartet
Philip Setzer, David Finckel, and Wu Han

Family Series
Pop Up Garden
Where the Wild Things Are
Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters
The Little Prince
Goodnight Moon
Walking the Tightrope
Elf the Musical

Special Events
The Godfather Live in Concert
Shanghai Acrobats
Lily Tomlin
Klezmetics
Fiesta Navidad
Taj Express

Spotlight
Alan Menken
Johnny Mathis

Information for renewing season tickets for the 2016 – 2017 Season is being sent to current subscribers, with priority orders for new season tickets available soon. Single tickets will go on sale approximately eight weeks prior to individual engagements. Visit the Center’s website, www.SCFTA.org for more information about both the current season and the 2016 – 2017 Season. For inquiries about group ticket discounts, call the Group Services office at (714) 755-0236.
Segerstrom Center for the Arts applauds Kia, Official Automotive Partner of the Center, and United Airlines, Official Airline of the Center.

**2016 – 2017 INTERNATIONAL DANCE SEASON**

**Mikhailovsky Ballet • American Ballet Theatre • Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg • Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company • Tour de Force • Batsheva Dance Company**

The 2016 – 2017 International Dance Series is unprecedented in Center history for the diversity of the companies and programs. Two of Russia’s finest companies return: **Mikhailovsky Ballet** with a spectacular production of *Le Corsaire* and **Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg** with its riveting masterpiece, *Red Giselle*. The Center presented the **Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company** in its Southern California debut in 2001. For this visit, the company will dance the American premiere of La Scala Ballet Artistic Director and choreographer Mauro Bigonzetti’s *Cinderella* with a cast headed by Polina Semionova and Roberto Bolle. Israel’s **Batsheva Dance Company** makes its Center debut with a program that will demonstrate why this company is on the cutting-edge of contemporary dance. **American Ballet Theatre** with a special program to celebrate the Center’s 30th anniversary and the company’s 25th engagement here. **ABT’s *The Nutcracker***, will be back as the Center’s holiday centerpiece. And **Tour de Force III**, the Center’s third star-studded dance gala featuring Natalia Osipova, Diana Vishneva, Joaquin de Luz, Marcelo Gomes, Denis Matvienko, Friedemann Vogel, Edward Watson and many others.

As always, free Preview Talks prior to each performance will offer insight, information and context. The Center has specially priced season packages that are available for students and seniors.

**MIKHAILOVSKY BALLET**

November 18 – 20, 2016

*Le Corsaire*

Choreography by Marius Petipa and Konstantin Sergeyev revised by Mikhail Messerer

Music by Adolphe Adam, Cesare Pugni, Léo Delibes, Ludwig Minkus, Riccardo Drigo, Pyotr Oldenburgsky, Nikita Trubetskoy, Antoine Simon

Libretto by Jules-Henri Vernoy de Saint-Georges, revised by Mikhail Messerer

Performed with the Novat Orchestra

“… the Mikhailovsky dancers address it with joyous precision.” – The Guardian

Returning to the Center following his dazzling performances in the Mikhailovsky Ballet’s *The Flames of Paris* in 2014, Ivan Vasiliev opens the Center’s 2016 – 2017 International Dance Series in the company’s “stunning” (express.com) *Le Corsaire*. Last seen at the Center in 1999, *Le Corsaire* is a cornerstone of the classical ballet repertory. An exotic fable of a dashing pirate whose love for a beautiful harem girl takes him on an adventure that includes abduction and suspense, slaves and sultans, and a happy ending. *Le Corsaire* epitomizes all that great dance can be: spectacular choreography, virtuosic dancing and opulent sets and costumes designed to take the audience’s breath away.

**AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE**

Kevin McKenzie, Artistic Director
March 14 – 19, 2017
Program to be announced

To celebrate the Center and American Ballet Theatre’s 30 years of collaboration and the Company’s 25th visit to the Center, ABT will dance a program never before performed by the Company or seen at the Center. Throughout the years, the Center and ABT have commissioned works, presented important premieres and debuts and, in 2015, expanded their relationship by establishing the American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. Since 1940, America’s National Ballet Company® has created a tradition of passion, innovation and athleticism that transcends cultural boundaries and touches the souls of ballet lovers of all ages. This special anniversary engagement will celebrate both companies and their shared dedication to dance.

**EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR**
Boris Eifman, Artistic Director
June 16 – 18, 2017
*Red Giselle*
Choreography and staging by Boris Eifman
Music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Alfred Schnittke, Georges Bizet

“Boris Eifman's Red Giselle is one of the great dramatic ballets of the 20th century.” – San Francisco Chronicle

There is no middle ground with Boris Eifman. His characters live on the edge. Audiences respond passionately. Whatever he does, Eifman requires his dancers and audience to follow him as he explores complex characters in equally complex situations. *Red Giselle* is based on the tragic, real life story of Russian ballerina Olga Spessivtseva who was considered one of the supreme interpreters of Giselle. Set in an era of worldwide revolution, expatriation and personal tragedies, Eifman uses his ballerina as a tool in this powerful psychodrama. His works appeal to the dance fan as well as those who crave powerful and provocative theater. *The New York Times* said, “It is a highly dramatic and theatrical (the two are not the same) work, a perfected form of narrative ballet for which others in the West have strived.”

**TEATRO ALLA SCALA BALLET COMPANY**
Mauro Bigonzetti. Artistic Director
July 28 – 30, 2017
*Cinderella | AMERICAN PREMIERE*
Choreography by Mauro Bigonzetti
Music by Serge Prokofiev
Performed with the Novat Orchestra

One of the world’s most romantic tales will come to life as Polina Semionova returns in the title role of *Cinderella*. She is currently a principal dancer with ABT, Staatsballett Berlin and a guest artist with La Scala. Dancetabs.com says, “Besides her impeccable technique, Semionova’s chief characteristic is a winning sweetness ….” She will share the stage with the incomparable Roberto Bolle, who dances on the Segerstrom Hall stage for the first time. Following the opening night of this new production in Milan, gramilano.com reported that “[Bolle] is in blazing form and he shows off in a very Prince-like/Bolle-ish way ….” With La Scala’s extravagant sets and costumes, this *Cinderella* will charm audiences in a fresh new way, leaving Cinderella, her Prince and Center audiences happily-ever-after.

Four-show season ticket prices for the International Dance Series start at $99.

**DANCE BONUS ENGAGEMENTS**
Tour de Force III ● American Ballet Theatre - The Nutcracker ● Batsheva Dance Company

TOUR DE FORCE III
August 27, 2016

Segerstrom Center for the Arts in collaboration with Ardani Artists presents Tour de Force III to honor the Center’s 30 years of presenting the greatest ballet companies and the world’s most celebrated dancers. The program includes four works being performed at the Center for the first time: Clay by Vladimir Varnava, Zeigis by Alastair Marriott, Tristesse by Marcelo Gomes and Le Divertissement du Roi by Maxim Petrov. The casts include: Natalia Osipova, Diana Vishneva, Zlata Yalinich, Joaquin de Luz, Marcelo Gomes, Denis Matvienko, Alexey Nedviga, Vladimir Shklyarov, Friedemann Vogel, Edward Watson and soloists of the National Ballet of Canada, the Royal Ballet of London and the Mariinsky Theatre.

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE
Kevin McKenzie, Artistic Director
December 9 – 18, 2016
The Nutcracker
Choreography: Alexei Ratmansky
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

“...ravishing and clever enough to inspire multiple viewings.” – Los Angeles Times

American Ballet Theatre’s sumptuous production returns as Orange County’s must-see Nutcracker, quickly becoming a holiday tradition. Once again, audiences will be thrilled by ABT’s incomparable casts and delighted with Alexei Ratmansky’s “cinematic creation” (Orange County Register) as the ballet unfolds to Tchaikovsky’s beloved score.

BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY | CENTER DEBUT
Ohad Naharin, Artistic Director
February 8, 2017 – Segerstrom Hall
Decadance 2017

“Naharin’s dances—full of sensuality, humor, absurdity and darkness— are in a class of their own.” – Time Out NY

Center audiences first was Ohad Naharin’s work in 2014 when he created MERCY for Natalia Osipova and Ivan Vasiliev in the special dance program, Solo for Two. Now, Naharin brings his own company, the Israel-based Batsheva Dance Company, for its Center debut. The Batsheva is acclaimed as one of the foremost contemporary dance companies in the world. With his adventurous curatorial vision and distinctive choreographic voice, Naharin created Gaga, an innovative movement language that has enriched his extraordinary movement innovations and emerged as a growing international force in the larger field of movement practices for both dancers and non-dancers. For its Center debut, the company will perform Decadance 2017, a repertory program of Batsheva’s celebrated works. The San Francisco Chronicle wrote, “Ohad Naharin...is a spellbinder, a choreographer who pushes his dancers to the point of exhaustion and into the neighborhood of sublimity.”

2016 – 2017 BROADWAY SERIES
Beautiful – The Carole King Musical • Elf The Musical • Matilda The Musical • Finding Neverland • An American in Paris • The Bodyguard

Nine shows are coming to Segerstrom Hall for the first time along with two mega hits back by popular demand. Box office hits, Tony®, Grammy® and Olivier Award winners and audience and critics favorites – the Center’s 2016 – 2017 Broadway and Curtain Call Series are all that and more. The Center will continue its popular pre-show activities for most shows. Fun and informative Talk Backs with the artists will follow each Thursday evening performance. One Saturday matinee performance of each show will be Open Captioned, Audio Described and ASL interpreted.

Segerstrom Center is also pleased to announce that the National Tour of Hamilton, will be part of the 2017-2018 Broadway season. New or renewing subscribers to the 2016-2017 Broadway series will be guaranteed their seats to the Center premiere engagement of Hamilton. More information is available at (714) 556-2787.

BEAUTIFUL – THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL | CENTER PREMIERE
October 4 – 16, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

“It’s some kind of wonderful!” – NY1

Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical BEAUTIFUL – The Carole King Musical tells the inspiring true story of King’s remarkable rise to stardom, from being part of a hit songwriting team with her husband Gerry Goffin to her relationship with fellow writers and best friends Cynthia Weil and Barry Mann, to becoming one of the most successful solo acts in popular music history. Along the way, she made more than beautiful music, she wrote the soundtrack to a generation. Featuring a stunning array of beloved songs written by Gerry Goffin/Carole King and Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil, including “I Feel The Earth Move,” “One Fine Day,” “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman,” “You’ve Got A Friend” and the title song.

ELF The Musical | CENTER PREMIERE
December 20, 2016 – January 1, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“Splashy, peppy, sugar-sprinkled holiday entertainment!” – The New York Times

ELF The Musical is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly crawls into Santa’s bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy’s enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa’s permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. This modern day Christmas classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner ELF. Based on the beloved 2003 New Line Cinema hit, ELF features songs by Tony Award nominees Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin (The Wedding Singer), with a book by Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan (Annie, The Producers, Hairspray) and Bob Martin (The Drowsy Chaperone).

MATILDA THE MUSICAL | CENTER PREMIERE
January 17 – 29, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“The best family musical in years” – Chicago Tribune

TIME Magazine’s #1 Show of the Year! Winner of 50 international awards, including four Tony Awards, MATILDA THE MUSICAL is the story of an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny. Based on the beloved novel by Roald Dahl, MATILDA THE MUSICAL continues to thrill sold-out audiences of all ages on Broadway and in London’s West End. The Wall Street Journal says, “The makers of MATILDA have done the impossible – triumphantly! It is smart, sweet, zany and stupendous fun.”

FINDING NEVERLAND | CENTER PREMIERE
March 21 – April 2, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“It’s a must-see you’ll remember for years to come!” – Vogue

FINDING NEVERLAND is “far and away the best musical of the year!” (NPR). Broadway’s biggest new hit and the winner of Broadway.com’s Audience Choice Award for Best Musical, this breathtaking smash “captures the kid-at-heart,” says TIME Magazine. Vogue cheers, “It’s a must-see you’ll remember for years to come!” Directed by visionary Tony®-winner Diane Paulus and based on the critically-acclaimed Academy Award®-nominated film starring Johnny Depp, FINDING NEVERLAND tells the incredible story behind one of the world’s most beloved characters: Peter Pan. Playwright J.M. Barrie struggles to find inspiration until he meets four young brothers and their beautiful widowed mother. Spellbound by the boys’ enchanting make-believe adventures, he sets out to write a play that will astound London theatergoers. With a little bit of pixie dust and a lot of faith, Barrie takes this monumental leap, leaving his old world behind for Neverland, where nothing is impossible and the wonder of childhood lasts forever. The magic of Barrie’s classic tale springs spectacularly to life in this heartwarming theatrical event. FINDING NEVERLAND is “far and away the best musical of the year!” (NPR).

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS | CENTER PREMIERE
April 25 – May 7, 2017
Segerstrom Hall


An American in Paris in the new Tony Award-winning musical about an American soldier, a mysterious French girl and an indomitable European city, each yearning for a new beginning in the aftermath of war. Acclaimed director/choreographer and 2015 Tony Award winner Christopher Wheeldon brings the magic and romance of Paris into the perfect harmony with unforgettable songs from George and Ira Gershwin in the show that earned more awards than any other musical in the 2014-2015 season! The New York Times raves, “An American in Paris is a triumph! Pure joy!” and the Wall Street Journal declares, “Once you’ve seen it, you’ll find it hard to settle for less ever again.”

THE BODYGUARD | CENTER PREMIERE
May 30 – June 11, 2017

600 Town Center Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626 T (714) 556-2121 F (714) 556-8984 SCFTA.org
Segerstrom Hall

“Exciting, thrilling, uplifting, moving – The Bodyguard is a truly exceptional show!” – Southern Daily Echo

The award-winning musical based on the smash hit film, stars Grammy Award nominee and R&B superstar Deborah Cox. Former Secret Service agent turned bodyguard, Frank Farmer is hired to protect superstar Rachel Marron from an unknown stalker. Each expects to be in charge; what they don’t expect is to fall in love. A breathtakingly romantic thriller, The Bodyguard features a host of irresistible classics including “Queen of the Night,” “So Emotional,” “One Moment in Time,” “Saving All My Love,” “Run to You,” “I Have Nothing,” “I Wanna Dance with Somebody” and one of the biggest selling songs of all time – “I Will Always Love You.” Based on Lawrence Kasdan’s Oscar-nominated Warner Bros. film and adapted by Academy Award winner (Birdman) Alexander Dinelaris, The Bodyguard had its world premiere in London’s West End where it was nominated for four Laurence Olivier Awards including Best New Musical and won Best New Musical at the Whatsonstage Awards.

Season ticket prices for the Broadway Series start at $115.

2016 – 2017 CURTAIN CALL SERIES

A Gentleman’s Guide to Love & Murder • Fun Home • Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

A GENTLEMAN’S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER | CENTER PREMIERE
February 28 – March 5, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“I’ve never laughed so hard at a Broadway musical!” – NPR

Getting away with murder can be so much fun… and there’s no better proof than A GENTLEMAN’S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER, the knock’em-dead hit show that’s earned unanimous raves and won the 2014 Tony Award for BEST MUSICAL. A GENTLEMAN’S GUIDE tells the story of Monty, an heir to a family fortune who sets out to jump the line of succession by -- you guessed it -- eliminating the eight relatives (all played by one fearless man) who stand in his way. All the while, Monty has to juggle his mistress, his fiancée and the constant threat of landing behind bars! Of course, it will all be worth it if he can slay his way to his inheritance… and be done in time for tea. The Hollywood Reporter raves, “GENTLEMAN’S GUIDE RESTORES OUR FAITH IN MUSICAL COMEDY.”

FUN HOME | CENTER PREMIERE
August 1 – 6, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“A landmark production that will forever change what is possible in musical theatre.” – The Huffington Post

Every once in a while a Broadway musical comes along that surprises, moves and excites audiences in ways only a truly landmark musical can. The “groundbreaking” “life-affirming” and “exquisite” new musical FUN HOME was the event of the Broadway season, receiving raves from critics and audiences alike, winning five 2015 Tony Awards, including BEST MUSICAL, and making history along the way. Based on Alison Bechdel’s best-selling graphic memoir, FUN HOME introduces us to Alison at three different ages, as she explores and unravels the many mysteries of her childhood. A refreshingly honest musical about
seeing your parents through grown-up eyes, “FUN HOME is extraordinary, a rare beauty that pumps fresh air into Broadway.” (The New York Times)

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME | CENTER PREMIERE
September 12 – 17, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

“Eye-opening, life-affirming, and unmissable.” – TIME Magazine

Winner of five 2015 Tony Awards, including Best Play! Hailed as “One of the most fully immersive works ever to wallop Broadway” by The New York Times, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is a “dazzling” (Associated Press), adaptation of the Tony Award-winning new play by Simon Stephens, adapted from Mark Haddon’s best-selling novel and directed by Tony winner Marianne Elliott. Fifteen-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain; he is exceptionally intelligent but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor’s dog, he sets out to identify the true culprit, which leads to an earth-shattering discovery and a journey that will change his life forever. “Eye-opening, life-affirming, and unmissable.” – TIME Magazine

Season ticket prices for the Curtain Call Series start at $85.

SPECIAL BROADWAY BONUS EVENTS
Mamma Mia! - The Farewell Tour • Rent – The 20th Anniversary Tour

MAMMA MIA! - “THE FAREWELL TOUR”
November 22 – 27, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

“Quite simply, a phenomenon.” – Associated Press

A mother. A daughter. 3 possible dads. And a trip down the aisle you’ll never forget! MAMMA MIA! is the ultimate feel-good show that has audiences coming back again and again to relive the thrill. Now it’s your turn 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. Whether it’s your first visit or your fourteenth, see the show that has the whole world coming back for more, because every time feels like the first time at MAMMA MIA!

RENT – THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
January 6 – 8, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

Winner of the 1996 Tony Award for Best Musical, and Pulitzer Prize for Drama

In 1996, an original rock musical by a little-known composer opened on Broadway... and forever changed the landscape of American theatre. Two decades later, Jonathan Larson’s RENT continues to speak loudly and defiantly to audiences across generations and all over the world. And now, this Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning masterpiece returns to the stage in a vibrant 20th anniversary touring production. A re-imagining of Puccini's La Bohème, RENT follows an unforgettable year in the lives of seven artists struggling to follow their dreams without selling out. 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.
What would a celebration be without plenty of music? The Center’s four music series -- Cabaret, Spotlight, Chamber and Jazz & Blues Weekends - offer a panoramic musical experience. The Cabaret Series is back by popular demand. All performances will be in Samueli Theater, where the club-style setting brings audiences and artists together for evenings of great music and perfect company. Icons and legends of the music world are presented in the Spotlight Series, and the list will grow throughout the year as concerts and special events are added. The Chamber Series offers a vantage point for watching the ‘classical’ music world as it has and is evolving while listening to it performed by the most accomplished musicians of our time. The series includes works from as early as the 18th century to today, with the world premiere of a work by Marc-André Hamelin performed by the composer with Pacific Quartet and the West Coast premiere by Mark-Anthony Turnage. Jazz and Blues will always have a home at the Center, and special weekend events will be announced later in the season.

**Cabaret Series**: Betty Buckley • Jerry Herman Songbook • Charles Busch • Steve Tyrell

The Center’s Cabaret Series is back, and it opens with Broadway’s celebrated Tony Award winner Betty Buckley. She’s followed by a tribute to Jerry Herman, composer of many of Broadway’s greatest shows, including *Hello Dolly!* and *Mame*. Actor, play and screenwriter, novelist, director and drag legend Charles Busch makes his Center debut in the 2016 – 2017 Cabaret Series. And the music will continue with master interpreter of the Great American Songbook, Steve Tyrell.

**BETTY BUCKLEY**
October 27 - 29, 2016
Samueli Theater

“…we watched the gift of the talent and the magic spell that she cast over the audience, making us all laugh and cry.” – Broadwayworld.com

Dubbed “The Voice of Broadway,” Betty Buckley is one of a kind – the best kind. In an award-winning career that has encompassed TV, film, stage and concert work around the globe, she is probably best known as the quintessential musical theatre actress. She is a 2012 Theater Hall of Fame inductee equally at home on television, film and in concert halls around the world. *Daily Variety* notes, “With a range that glides from a heartbreaking warble to an unabashed belt, Buckley stands comfortably as one of the most versatile, original vocalists on Broadway or anywhere else.”

**JERRY HERMAN SONGBOOK** | CENTER PREMIERE
January 19 - 21, 2017
Samueli Theater

 “[The Jerry Herman Song Book] radiates the joy in song that most musicals share, which made the art form the Broadway mainstay that it will probably forever remain.” – Variety
A two-time Tony-award winner and five time nominee, Jerry Herman is a Kennedy Center Honors award recipient and was recently awarded an additional Tony for lifetime achievement. It seems as if every song Jerry Herman wrote was a show-stopper. This will be a plesure cruise throught Mame, Hello, Dolly!, La Cage aux Folles, Mack and Mable, Milk and Honey and Dear World will be performed by Broadway and musical theater veterans Klea Blackhurst, Debbie Gravitte, John Boswell, Scott Coulter, Jason Graae and Ron Raines. Hearing each song again, with their heartfelt lyrics with gorgeous melodies, is like meeting an old and beloved friend.

CHARLES BUSCH: THE LADY AT THE MIC | CENTER DEBUT
Accompanied on the piano by Tom Judson
March 9 – 11, 2017
Samueli Theater

“If you need a good laugh … you can always count on Charles Busch. In or out of drag, he’s a movie-obsessed queen of comedy ....” – Huffington Post.

Experience the giddy enchantment of Charles Busch’s world in this intimate evening of song and stories. A two-time MAC Award winner, Tony nominee, and recipient of a Drama Desk Lifetime Achievement Award, the actor, playwright (Vampire Lesbians of Sodom, The Tale of the Allergist’s Wife), novelist, screenwriter, director, and drag legend has happily added “vaudevillian” to the list over the past years. This brand new show created for Lincoln Center’s American Songbook series has Busch, along with his invaluable longtime musical director Tom Judson, paying tribute through song and personal reminiscence to five extraordinary and much-missed women: Elaine Stritch, Polly Bergen, Mary Cleere, Haran, Julie Wilson and Joan Rivers. This show is the perfect next chapter in a career that has made Busch one of the most sought after cabaret acts in the city, producing evenings filled with “pleasures to be savored” (The New York Times).

STEVE TYRELL
April 27 – 29, 2017
Samueli Theater

Tyrell reinvented and re-popularized classic pop standards for a modern-day audience. A renaissance man, Tyrell has achieved great success as a Grammy-winning singer/songwriter and producer. For this return engagement, Tyrell will perform tunes from his Back to Bacharach album, a deeply personal collection of songs from the piano of Burt Bacharach and the pen of Hal David. The Los Angeles Times noted Tyrell sings songs with “love and respect – to the composers and to his audience.”

Season ticket prices for the Cabaret Series are $284.

Spotlight Series: Alan Menken • Johnny Mathis

The masters. Names that say it all, no explanation is necessary. They are simply the best. The Center’s Spotlight Series presents the most respected and beloved of these creative artists and entertainers. Thus season, the Center’s Spotlight Series begins with the world premiere of Alan Menken’s one-man-show and music world legend Johnny Mathis, with other artists to be welcomed throughout the season.

A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF ALAN MENKEN | WORLD PREMIERE
September 30, 2016
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall
For the first time anywhere, eight-time Oscar winner Alan Menken will take the stage and perform his own music and share behind-the-scenes stories in this exciting new one-man-show, *A Whole New World of Alan Menken*. He has garnered 18 Academy Award nominations, 10 Grammy Awards seven Golden Globes and a Tony Award. He has been credited with introducing a whole new generation to musicals through such box office hits as *Beauty and the Beast, The Little Mermaid, Aladdin, Pocahontas, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Enchanted and Tangled* as well as such Broadway shows as *Little Shop of Horrors, Sister Act* and *Newsies* and television’s *Galavant.*

**JOHNNY MATHIS 60TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT SHOW**

December 4, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

A dual celebration: Johnny Mathis’ 60th year in the music industry and the holidays. A sublime vocalist whose approach to pop music eclipses passing fads and trends, Mathis has performed songs in an incredible variety of styles and categories – from music composed for stage and film to golden era jazz standards, contemporary pop hits, and holiday music, all of which has assured his reputation as one of the most enduring vocalists in music history. From his first Christmas album in 1958 to the present, Johnny has been the Voice of Christmas.

**Chamber Music Series:** Auryn Quartet • Takács Quartet • Marc-André Hamelin + Pacific Quartet • Emerson String Quartet • Philip Setzer, David Finckel, Wu Han

The *Chamber Series* has been a mainstay of the Center’s music programming since 1989, always presenting the world’s most esteemed ensembles and soloists. This year, the series welcomes back favorites and introduces new artists to the Center’s classical music audience. The series also includes world and West Coast premieres, the first by Mark-Anthony Turnage and the second by Marc-André Hamelin. All performances will be in the intimate and acoustically ideal Samueli Theater.

**AURYN QUARTET | CENTER DEBUT**

October 10, 2016
Samueli Theater

“… the Auryn are irrepresahable – the sound is lean, transparent, sparing in its use of vibrato, the phrasing unfailingly musical.” – The Guardian

The Center will welcome the Auryn Quartet for the first time in the 2016 – 2017 Chamber Series. They have recorded all 68 Haydn String Quartets, for which they received the 2009 Echo Klassik Prize, and Beethoven Quartets. Of the Haydn, classicstoday.com wrote: “The Auryn Quartet plays this music with a sort of joyous gusto and richness of tone that seems the very epitome of stylish quartet playing.” For Orange County, the Auryn will display its virtuosity, performing works by Haydn, Bartók, Stravinsky and Mozart.

| Haydn: String Quartet Op. 77 No. 1 in G Major |
| Bartók: String Quartet No. 2 |
| Stravinsky: Three Pieces |
| Mozart: String Quartet, K 465 “Dissonance” |

**TAKÁCS QUARTET**

December 10, 2016
Samueli Theater
“This was an account of rare insight and passion, red-blooded but never reckless…”
– The New York Times

Recognized as one of the world’s great ensembles, the Takács Quartet plays with a unique blend of drama, warmth and humor, combining four distinct musical personalities to bring fresh insights to the string quartet repertoire. The Takács became the first string quartet to win the Wigmore Hall Medal in May, 2014. In 2012, Gramophone announced that the Takács was the only string quartet to be inducted into its first Hall of Fame, along with such legendary artists as Jascha Heifetz and Leonard Bernstein.

Beethoven:  String Quartet Op. 18, No. 5
Beethoven:  String Quartet Op. 95
Beethoven:  String Quartet Op. 127

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN + PACIFICA QUARTET | WORLD PREMIERE
February 2, 2017
Samueli Theater

“At this concert, everything was triumphant, from the opening note to the last.” – San Francisco Classical Voice
“[Marc-André Hamelin’s] enjoyment was transmitted to the audience who were stunned by Hamelin’s performance”— Seen and Heard International

Pianist Marc-André Hamelin and the Pacifica Quartet return to the Center in the type of occasion that becomes part music history: the world premiere of a work performed by the composer himself. It will be the first of two premieres in the 2016 – 2017 Chamber Series commissioned by Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting for the Center. When Hamelin and the Pacifica performed in Samueli Theater last, The Orange County Register critic wrote, “The piano part, especially, is musculously virtuosic and Hamelin had a field day with it. Soaring in melody and digging into sinews, the Pacifica Quartet matched his momentousness ….” This will be an artistic milestone for Hamelin, the Pacifica, the Center’s 30th anniversary – and music.

Mozart:  String Quartet in D minor, K. 421
Hamelin:  Piano Quintet, WORLD PREMIERE*
Schumann:  Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 44
*Commissioned by Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting for Segerstrom Center for the Arts

EMERSON STRING QUARTET | WEST COAST PREMIERE
March 28, 2017
Samueli Theater

“The group remains one of our best chamber ensembles, not merely precise but expressive and intelligent to the last ounce.” – The Orange County Register

“The Emerson” has performed at the Center nearly every year since the 1990 – 1991 Season. For this special Center anniversary and the group’s 40th, The Emerson will perform the West Coast premiere of a new work by British composer Mark-Anthony Turnage commissioned for the Center by Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting. Turnage has composed numerous orchestral and chamber works and three full-length operas. One opera, Anna-Nicole, relates the rise and fall of the Playboy model and media celebrity and received its world premiere at the Royal Opera House, London.

Ravel:  String Quartet in F Major
Mark-Anthony Turnage:  Shroud, WEST COAST PREMIERE*
Tchaikovsky: Quartet No. 3 in E-flat minor, Op 30
*Commissioned by Elizabeth and Justus Schlichting for Segerstrom Center for the Arts

PHILIP SETZER, DAVID FINCKEL, WU HAN
April 8, 2016
Samueli Theater

“The players produced a robust sound and with all that volume and forcefulness, the music fairly jumped off the page. Everyone’s technique was razor sharp.” – Schenectady Gazette

The authoritative configuration of David Finckel, Wu Han and Philip Setzer for any program anticipates performances that will be lyrical, virtuosic and unforgettable. Performing all of the Beethoven piano trios in chronological order allows the audience to follow Beethoven’s musical journey from his first published work to the final trio composed at the height of his creative power. The generous intermission allows patrons to pause and savor the memory of the first three works over dinner.

Concert I – 4 p.m.
Beethoven: Trio in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 1
Beethoven: Trio in G Major, Op. 1, No. 2
Beethoven: Trio in C Minor, Op. 1, No. 3

Concert II – 8 p.m.
Beethoven: Trio in D Major, Op. 70, No. 1 “Ghost”
Beethoven: Trio in E-flat Major, Op. 70, no. 2
Beethoven: Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 97 “Archduke”

Season ticket prices for the Chamber Music Series are $359.

2016 – 2017 FAMILY SERIES
Compagnia TPO Pop Up Garden • Where the Wild Things Are • Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters • The Little Prince • Goodnight Moon & Runaway Bunny • Walking the Tightrope • Elf the Musical

The Family Series inspires and delights audiences of all ages. They create happy and memorable shared family experiences and inspire curiosity about live theater and the performing arts. Each performance is preceded by an hour of free family activities. Selected performances will feature sensory-friendly precautions as well as sign-language interpretation. All performances are in Segerstrom Center’s Samueli Theater.

DISCOVERY SERIES
For families and children ages 4 – 8

GOODNIGHT MOON AND THE RUNAWAY BUNNY - MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA | CENTER PREMIERE
October 30 & November 5, 2016
Samueli Theater

“This entrancingly beautiful, masterfully designed production will touch anyone who appreciates theatrical
Nova Scotia’s Mermaid Theatre, one of North America’s most respected theaters for the young, returns to the Center with another of its acclaimed productions: *Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny*. It’s is a celebration of familiar nighttime rituals, featuring endearing animal puppets, stunning scenic effects and evocative music. Adapted from Margaret Wise Brown’s classics, *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny* have delighted generations – as it will Discovery Series audiences.

**THE LITTLE PRINCE - SWAZZLE**
February 18 & 19, 2017
Samueli Theater

The story that continues to touch the hearts of readers and audiences of all ages, *The Little Prince* reminds us of the wonderment of childhood. It’s a multi-layered visual feast that will awaken the child tucked away inside all of us. The magic is brought to life by Swazzle, a Glendale-based theater company that has created puppets for Disney Theatrical, kids’ musician Riff Rocket and The Pee-Wee Herman Show on Broadway.

**MUFARO’S BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTERS - DALLAS CHILDREN’S THEATER | CENTER PREMIERE**
March 4 & 5, 2017
Samueli Theater

“… just extraordinary in every aspect…” – Brooks Center

*Time Magazine* named Dallas Children’s Theater one of the top five children’s theater companies in the United States. In the company’s *Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters*, a great African king desires a wife, and only the most perfect maidens in the land are invited to meet him. Mufaro’s daughters travel through a mystical jungle to be presented to the king. Along the way, extraordinary situations test their kindness, compassion and strength of spirit. Told with authentic African drumming, colorful staging and powerful choreography, *Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters* unmasks the true meaning of beauty and celebrates the mystery and splendor of the African continent.

**WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE - PRESENTATION HOUSE THEATRE | CENTER DEBUT**
April 22 & 23, 2017
Samueli Theater

“See sheer delight on the faces of children. Magical!” – Now Magazine

Audiences will join Max as he sails to the land of the Wild Things. This award-winning, internationally acclaimed production is an intimate “guided play” experience adapted from the beloved classic created by Maurice Sendak. The audience will engage with the actors and help to transform Max’s bedroom into a forest and become the Wild Things! Presentation House Theatre brings to the stage all kinds of shows for all kinds of people - children, youths, adults and even Wild Things!

**POP UP GARDEN – COMPAGNIA TPO | CENTER PREMIERE**
May 20 & 21, 2017
Samueli Theater

“…the company presents a spectacular example of a multisensory show indicative of an art form which is cutting edge.” – Examiner.com

Bu loves empty, abandoned spaces. He gives them a thorough cleaning and transforms them into sensitive environments. And that is what audiences will do with a lizard and other characters who will help change his empty garden into a mystical and magical oasis. Dancers, performers and audience members
interact as they explore new expressive forms that go beyond language and cultural barriers. TPO is based in Prato, Italy. Its shows are renowned for their using big visual sceneries which transform into interactive theatrical spaces.

**EXPLORER SERIES**
For families and Children 7 and older

**WALKING THE TIGHTROPE - 24TH STREET THEATRE** | CENTER PREMIERE
October 15 & 16, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

“This is theater at its best, a wonderful, tear-filled evening for all ages that should not be missed.” – Huffington Post

Written by one of England’s leading children’s authors, Walking the Tightrope is a sweet and funny story of a grandfather who, while trying to tell his five-year-old granddaughter that Grandma is gone, builds a beautiful new relationship with her. LA’s 24th Street Theatre has won three LA Drama Critics Circle Awards and three LA Weekly Awards and has been nominated for seven Ovation Awards.

**ELF THE MUSICAL** | CENTER PREMIERE
December 23 – 25, 2016
Segerstrom Hall
$20 – Select Areas

“SPLASHY, PEPPY, SUGAR-SPRINKLED HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT!” – The New York Times

**ELF The Musical** is the hilarious tale of Buddy, a young orphan child who mistakenly crawls into Santa’s bag of gifts and is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy’s enormous size and poor toy-making abilities cause him to face the truth. With Santa’s permission, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father, discover his true identity, and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. This modern day Christmas classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner ELF. Based on the beloved 2003 New Line Cinema hit, ELF features songs by Tony Award nominees Matthew Sklar and Chad Beguelin (The Wedding Singer), with a book by Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan (Annie, The Producers, Hairspray) and Bob Martin (The Drowsy Chaperone).

**2016 – 2017 SPECIAL EVENTS**

**The Godfather Live In Concert • Shanghai Acrobats • Lily Tomlin • Klezmatics • Fiesta Navidad • Taj Express**

**THE GODFATHER LIVE IN CONCERT** | CENTER PREMIERE
October 1, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

The Godfather Live in Concert brings Francis Ford Coppola’s masterpiece film to Segerstrom Center for the first time. Winner of three Academy Awards & countless other honors, The Godfather remains one of the greatest films in the history of cinema. Nino Rota’s iconic score accompanied by the film’s traditional Italian folk music and jazz comes to life on stage, performed live by a symphony orchestra while the film is simultaneously shown in high definition on the big screen. For music lovers, film goers, and anyone
looking for an exciting and unique concert experience. *Audience Advisory: Strong Violence, themes and coarse language.*

**SHANGHAI ACROBATS | CENTER DEBUT**
October 1, 2016
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

A vibrant display of jaw-dropping stunts and including pole climbers, hoop-diving, contortionists and so much more. Families will be enchanted by the colorful, authentic costumes and the bravery and expertise of this amazing company. State-of-the-art lighting, sound, stunning backdrops and thrilling musical accompaniments energize every acrobatic performance.

**LILY TOMLIN**
October 22, 2016
Segerstrom Hall

Any evening with Lily Tomlin is an experience. The award-winning comedian and one of the world’s most beloved entertainers returns to share more of her insightful and funny stand-up along with excerpts that feature some of her beloved classic characters. Immediately following her performance, she will open a brief Question & Answer period with the audience.

**KLEZMATIC | CENTER DEBUT**
December 22, 2016
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

The Klezmatics performs their *Brother Moses Smote the Waters* for their Center debut. They’re a world-renowned and Grammy-winning superstars of the klezmer music world. They erupted out of New York City’s East Village in 1986 and revitalized klezmer for the new century. Their music is steeped in Jewish tradition and Eastern European spirituality incorporated with eclectic musical influences, including gospel, punk and jazz improvisation and Arab, African and Balkan rhythms.

**FIESTA NAVIDAD**
December 23, 2016
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

The Center welcomes the return of the world renowned, Grammy-winning Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano for a celebratory evening of Mexican and American holiday songs, inspired choreography performed by Folklor Pasión Mexicana as well as audience sing-alongs. It’s a joyful concert also features the Latin Christmas tradition of La Posada, the reenactment of Joseph and Mary’s pilgrimage to Bethlehem.

**TAJ EXPRES | CENTER PREMIERE**
April 21 & 22, 2017
Segerstrom Hall

Taj Express explodes with the sounds of India and Bollywood, capturing the vibrant, expressive spirit of the world of Bollywood movies that have been entertaining billions of people in India for generations. Through a fusion of film, dance, and music, this dazzling international sensation takes audiences on a live cinematic journey through modern Indian culture and society. The production is a high energy celebration of new India’s pop music, Bollywood culture, and deep traditions featuring colorful costumes, joyful dance and thrilling live music.
Segerstrom Center for the Arts is an acclaimed arts institution and as well as a beautiful multi-disciplinary cultural campus. It is committed to supporting artistic excellence on all of its stages, offering unsurpassed experiences, and to engaging the entire community in new and exciting ways through the unique power of live performance and a diverse array of inspiring programs.

Previously called the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Segerstrom Center is Orange County’s largest non-profit arts organization. In addition to its six performance venues, Segerstrom Center is also home to the American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School, where students ages 3 – 14 are taught by acclaimed teachers utilizing the renowned ABT National Training Curriculum in studios utilized by the world’s greatest dancers and choreographers.

The Center presents a broad range of programming for audiences of all ages, including international ballet and dance, national tours of top Broadway shows, intimate performances of jazz and cabaret, contemporary artists, classical music performed by renowned chamber orchestras and ensembles, family-friendly programming, free performances open to the public from outdoor movie screenings to dancing on the plaza and many other special events.

The Center’s arts-in-education programs are designed to inspire young people through the arts and reach hundreds of thousands of students each year. In addition to the presenting and producing institution Segerstrom Center for the Arts, the 14-acre campus also embraces the facilities of two independent acclaimed organizations: Tony Award®-winning South Coast Repertory and a site designated as the future home of the Orange County Museum of Art.

Segerstrom Center for the Arts is also proud to serve as the artistic home to three of the region’s major performing arts organizations: Pacific Symphony, the Philharmonic Society of Orange County and the Pacific Chorale, who contribute greatly to the artistic life of the region with annual seasons at Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

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