

Media Contact: Ryan Smith
(919) 744-8556; rsmith@visitraleigh.com

RALEIGH'S 2008 CULTURAL PERFORMANCES DAZZLE

RALEIGH, N.C. (March 2008) – The stage is set for Raleigh, North Carolina, to host a wealth of live cultural performances. The four halls of the 4,747-seat Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts will showcase world-renowned musicians along with an assortment of Broadway shows and original dance, orchestral and vocal performances.

NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY

Celebrating its 76th season in 2008, the North Carolina Symphony, a full-time, professional orchestra with 62 members, performs approximately 185 times each year. For guests interested in attending a performance, the world-class design, near-perfect acoustics and intimate atmosphere of the Meymandi Concert Hall redefines the concert experience. Tickets range from \$36 to \$62. For tickets, call (919) 733-2750. www.ncsymphony.org

Pop Series

North Carolina Symphony Showstoppers Grant Llewellyn, Music Director David Hartman, narrator	May 9-11, 2008
Abbamania!	September 26-28, 2008
Holiday Pops	November 28-30, 2008
Bugs Bunny on Broadway	January 23-25, 2009
The Pointer Sisters	February 20-22, 2009
I Got Rhythm! Mickey and Judy's Hollywood	April 17-19, 2009

Classical Raleigh Series

Michael Collins, basset clarinet Grant Llewellyn, Music Director	April 11-12, 2008
Ilya Gringolts, violin / Beethoven Symphony No. 9 Grant Llewellyn, Music Director	May 2-3, 2008
Nicole Cabell, soprano	September 12-13, 2008
Los Angeles Guitar Quartet	October 3-4, 2008
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano James Gaffigan, Guest Conductor	October 24-25, 2008
Yevgeny Sudbin, piano	November 7-8, 2008
Daniel Müller-Schott, cello	November 21-22, 2008
Midori, violin	January 16-17, 2009
Raleigh Community Gospel Chorus	January 30-31, 2009
Horacio Gutierrez, piano	February 13-14, 2009
Robert Levin, piano	February 27-28, 2009
Marc-André Hamelin, piano	March 20-21, 2009
Colin Currie, percussion	April 3-4, 2009

Friday Favorites Series

Beethoven's Sixth Symphony William Henry Curry, Resident Conductor	May 16, 2008
Friday Favorites: Grant Llewellyn	January 09, 2009

Special Events

The Song Remains the Same- Music of Led Zeppelin	May 22, 2008
Yo-Yo Ma, cello	September 18, 2008
Bach: Christmas Oratorio	December 05, 2008
New Year's Eve: Music Inspired by Dance	December 31, 2008

Young People's Series

Halloween Spooktacular

Joan Landry, Assistant Conductor

November 8, 2008

A World of Music

March 14, 2009

Koka Booth Amphitheatre: Summerfest Series

Feel the Beat with Evelyn Glennie

William Henry Curry, Resident Conductor
Evelyn Glennie, percussion

June 07, 2008

Classical Storytellers

Joan Landry, Assistant Conductor

June 14, 2008

Forbidden Broadway

Joan Landry, Assistant Conductor

June 21, 2008

Northern Lights

William Henry Curry, Resident Conductor

June 28, 2008

Independence Day Concert & Fireworks

July 04, 2008

- Celebrate our nation's Independence Day with patriotic music and fireworks in this free outdoor concert. A great event for the whole family!

Salute to the Greatest Generation

Concert Singers of Cary

July 05, 2008

- Salute to the Greatest Generation, a tribute to the men and women who made America great during World War II.

Blues in the Night

William Henry Curry, Resident Conductor
Cephas & Wiggins, Piedmont blues duo

July 12, 2008

Take It To the Limit - The Music of The Eagles

July 19, 2008

BROADWAY SERIES SOUTH

The very best of touring Broadway shows are on the Memorial Auditorium marquee for 2008 - 2009. Admission varies from \$21 to \$81. For tickets, call (919) 834-4000.

www.broadwayseriesouth.com

GIRLS NIGHT: THE MUSICAL
MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT
RIVERDANCE
AVENUE Q

April 1-6, 2008
April 15-20, 2008
April 29- May 4, 2008
May 6-11, 2008

NORTH CAROLINA THEATRE

Celebrating its 25th Anniversary Season on Broadway, the North Carolina Theatre is the state's only professional not-for-profit theatre that specializes in the production of large-scale Broadway musicals. Admission varies from \$26-\$76. For tickets, call (919) 831-6950.

www.nctheatre.com

PETER PAN	July 12-20, 2008
WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND-	September 13-21, 2008
KIDS ON BROADWAY ANNUAL PRODUCTION	
YESTON AND KOPIT'S PHANTOM	October 18-26, 2008

RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE

Opened in 1936, Raleigh Little Theatre is one of the oldest continuously operating community theatres in the country. It offers entertainment, education and community programs year-round. RLT showcases 11 productions each year, with more than 150 performances. No other theatre in North Carolina produces as many shows. Tickets range from \$8 to \$18. For ticket, call (919) 821-3111. www.raleighlittletheatre.org

PETER PAN	April 11-27, 2008
2008 DIVAS!	May 3, 2008
ZANY UMBRELLA CIRCUS: THE ENCHANTED TOY BOX	May 9-11, 2008
RLT GARDEN TOUR 2008	May 10-11, 2008
RADIO GALS	May 30- June 22, 2008

THEATRE IN THE PARK

Theatre in the Park, the largest community theatre in North Carolina, entertains more than 40,000 people annually. Best known for its annual original production of *A Christmas Carol*, starring Ira David Wood III as "Scrooge," this indoor theatre showcases plays throughout the year, from contemporary to classic, from comedy to drama. Ticket prices range from \$13-\$26. Tickets for annual productions may vary. For tickets, call (919) 831-6058.

www.theatreinthepark.com

ANGELS IN AMERICA	April 11-27, 2008
DEARLY BELOVED	June 6-28, 2008
DEARLY DEPARTED	June 13-29, 2008

ANNUAL PRODUCTIONS

BRIARPATCH	September 19-October 5, 2008
A CHRISTMAS CAROL	December 9-17, 2008
A CHRISTMAS MEMORY	December 19-21, 2008

BURNING COAL THEATRE COMPANY

Burning Coal Theatre Company, a professional equity theatre company, produces riveting reexaminations of overlooked classic and modern plays, as well as new plays, whose themes and issues are of immediate concern to the audience. Race and gender non-specific casting are an integral component of their perspective, as is international viewpoint. Regular tickets are \$18. Students, military and seniors (65+) pay \$14. On Thursday nights, tickets are \$10. For tickets, call (919) 834-4001. www.burningcoal.org

CROWNS

April 10-27, 08

CAROLINA BALLET

This company presents a full range of ballet from the finest classics to fresh, contemporary works, infused with new energy and excitement. Ticket prices vary from \$17 - \$59 (excluding Nutcracker). For tickets, call (919) 719-0900. www.carolinaballet.com

WALTZES OF OLD VIENNA

April 10-13, 2008

SLEEPING BEAUTY

May 15-18, 2008

CAROLINA JAMBOREE

June 5-8, 2008

RALEIGH ENSEMBLE PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

Celebrating its 25th Anniversary Season, Raleigh Ensemble Players has employed local actors and technicians to premiere contemporary off-Broadway productions annually at Artspace Gallery II in downtown Raleigh's City Market. Admission ranges from \$10-\$15. Call (919) 832-9607 for tickets and information. www.realtheatre.org

BENT

April 17 - May 3, 2008

THE OPERA COMPANY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Through its foundation in artistic excellence, The Opera Company of North Carolina continues to bring fresh, dynamic, world class opera to North Carolina. Price ranges from \$25-\$75. www.operanc.com

VA, PENSIERO- FAVORITE ITALIAN OPERAS

April 5, 2008

THE OPERA BALL

May 2, 2008

The Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau, as the official destination marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business. For a free visitor's guide or more promotional information, call toll-free (800) 849-8499 visit www.visitraleigh.com, or e-mail visit@visitraleigh.com. That's "City Life, Carolina Style."

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