



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Philharmonic Announces 2016 Cabaret Series

Dec. 17, 2015 (Columbus, Ind.) – The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic welcomes a dynamic range of captivating performers in a uniquely intimate and sophisticated setting at its 2016 Winter/Spring *Cabaret at The Commons* series. The Philharmonic released the names of the highly anticipated five Cabaret artists to an eager crowd before its two *Christmas!* concerts on December 13. All scheduled for Thursday evenings at 7:30, the following artists, each with a rehearsed show theme, will perform in the series: young jazz pianist and baritone **Spencer Day, January 28**; mesmerizing soprano **Paula Dione Ingram, February 4**; Broadway’s theatrical chameleon **Ramin Karimloo, March 3**; Tony winner and Broadway’s fearlessly saucy entertainer **Annaleigh Ashford, April 7**; stage veteran and three-time Tony nominee **Marin Mazzie, May 5**.

New this series, First Class Catering will offer a full dinner option in addition to a lighter hors d’oeuvres menu. Meal reservations are \$15 per person and must be made in advance by calling the Philharmonic office at 812-376-2638, x1. Patrons can choose from one of three entrées, including a vegetarian option. Meals include a dinner salad and dessert.

Cabaret at The Commons is Columbus’ premier nightlife destination, featuring artists from coast to coast in an up close and personal musical experience. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.; Cabaret-goers are encouraged to arrive early to socialize with friends and enjoy cocktails and lite appetizers before dinner. Dinner will be served 6:30-7:15 p.m. A full cash bar will be provided by Joe Willy’s, including an option to purchase a bottle of wine for your table.

Ticket prices are categorized into three affordable options: V.I.P. (\$50), Preferred (\$30) and General Admission (\$15). Table reservations are available in the V.I.P. and Preferred sections, and V.I.P tables come with a complimentary bottle of wine. Those planning to attend multiple shows are encouraged to purchase a package; purchase all five shows, get 15% off, purchase three or more, get 10% off. Tickets may be purchased online at www.theCIP.org or by calling the box office at 812-376-2638, x1.

“The Philharmonic is so grateful that the cabarets continue to present this new, uncharted genre in our community. Pair this top-notch venue with the nightclub aura and world-class talent and your Thursday night is booked!”

**Peter C. King
Board President**



January 28: Spencer Day

With his supple vocal chops and nonchalant charisma, Spencer Day’s romantic, jazz-influenced style has placed him squarely in the Michael Bubl  pop-jazz camp. Already well known in jazz circles, this 30-something crooner shares stylistic traits with artists like Jamie Cullum, Curtis Stigers, Harry Connick, Jr., Norah Jones, and Jack Johnson. Widely regarded for his original songs that blend compelling melodies, smart lyrics and lush arrangements, the Utah native makes his Columbus debut Thursday, January 28 at The Commons in a show infusing elements of cabaret, storytelling, and comedy woven together with his refreshingly unique lyrics that have cemented his reputation as a balladeer for the new century. Sponsor: Joe and Sher Cunningham.



February 4: Paula Dione Ingram

Classically trained soprano, Paula Dione Ingram, will captivate your emotion and your heart with her exquisite and mesmerizing vocals for her cabaret show, “Dark Legacy: Bright Lights of Broadway.” Her Columbus debut on the Cabaret stage will delight your emotions and your musical senses as she pays tribute to some of Broadway’s leading black composers and performers to recognize Black History Month. From her lyrical poetic phrasing to moving biblical texts and rhythms, Ingram’s vocal finesse will charm your heart. Backed by New York musical director Alex Rybec, the St. Louis-born actress and performance coach earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and a Master of Music degree from the famed Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Co-sponsors: The African American Fund and Taylor Brothers Construction.



March 3: Ramin Karimloo

Ramin Karimloo, an Iranian-born Canadian Tony-nominee with a decade’s worth of West End (London) accolades, made his Broadway debut as buff and gruff Jean Valjean in the 2014 Broadway revival of *Les Mis rables* alongside Caissie Levy (*Hairspray*, *Wicked*) and Will Swenson (*Hair*, *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert*). Cast as the Phantom in the 25th Anniversary production of *The Phantom of the Opera* in 2011, Karimloo’s crystalline tenor voice was “vengeful and deadly, yet soft and vulnerable.” His cabaret show, “From Broadway to Bluegrass,” highlights his love for country, rock ‘n roll and musical theatre resulting in his own genre: Broadgrass. Sponsor: Toyota Material Handling; Piano Sponsor: Shepherd Insurance.



[April 7: Annaleigh Ashford](#)

Star of *Kinky Boots* (Tony nominated), *Wicked*, *Rent*, and *Legally Blonde*, Annaleigh Ashford brings an eclectic evening of sequins and song from the disco days of Donna Summer to the haunting melodies of Kurt Weill and Stephen Sondheim to an Alanis Morissette sing-along. In her cabaret show, "Lost in the Stars," Ashford is described as "a glittery comedic showgirl" by the New York Times. The Colorado native currently stars in the title role on Broadway in *Sylvia* alongside Matthew Broderick, a production closing on January 24, 2016. Post-*Sylvia*, Ashford will begin filming Showtime's fourth season of *Masters of Sex* where she is spitfire lesbian hooker turned secretary Betty DiMello, who dates Sarah Silverman's character, Helen. Ashford's Tony Award, Drama Desk Award, and Outer Critics Circle Award followed her portrayal of Essie Carmichael in *You Can't Take It With You*, described as "constantly en pointe" and the actress a "sly comic genius." Sponsor: Columbus Regional Health; Piano Sponsor: Mill Race Players.



[May 5: Marin Mazzie](#)

Critically acclaimed actress and singer Marin Mazzie has been heard in many major symphony halls, cabaret and concert venues and in memorable musicals on the Broadway stage and London's West End, including the revival of *Carrie* as Margaret White and the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Next to Normal*. The Illinois-born actress was also Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*; Tony-nominated Clara in *Passion*; Mother in *Ragtime*, also earning her a Tony nomination; Tony-nominated Lilli/Katharine in *Kiss Me, Kate*; The Lady of the Lake in Monty Python's *Spamalot*; and Helen Sinclair in *Bullets Over Broadway*. Mazzie will share an evening of music in her cabaret show titled "Yes! It's Today." Co-Sponsor: Lohmeyer Plumbing; Piano Sponsor: Shepherd Insurance.

The Cabaret at The Commons series is sponsored by The Republic and the City of Columbus. Sponsorships are available for individual cabaret shows. For more information, call Executive Director Margaret Powers at 812-376-2638, x2 or email at margaretp@thecip.org.

ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC

The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is proud to partner with The Cabaret at the Columbia Club to further its mission to advocate a life-long interest and involvement in music. The Cabaret at the Columbia Club is the only arts organization in Indianapolis dedicated to the art of professional cabaret performance, thus a valuable resource in recruiting world-traveled, top-notch performers to the Cabaret at The Commons stage. With a full complement of concerts and music education programs, the Philharmonic is honored to be one of the arts organizations that contribute to the rich quality of life enjoyed by residents of Columbus and surrounding communities.

The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is a public, not-for-profit corporation supported by private donations, the Columbus Area Arts Council, the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.