

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Broadway Rising Star Draws Crowd for Cabaret

Feb. 12, 2016 (Columbus, Ind.) – Attracting fans from all over the United States, the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic welcomes actor and singer Ramin Karimloo to The Commons' stage **Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.** Citing influences as diverse as The Tragically Hip, Johnny Cash, Mumford & Sons, and The Avett Brothers, the Iranian-born, Canadian-raised rising Broadway star will perform his cabaret act, *From Broadway to Bluegrass*, featuring a wide-range of music from musical show tunes to rock and country. Sponsored by Toyota Material Handling U.S.A., Karimloo is the third performer in the Winter/Spring 2016 *Cabaret at The Commons* series.

Who: Ramin Karimloo
What: Cabaret at The Commons
Show: From Broadway to Bluegrass
Where: The Commons
300 Washington Street
Columbus, IN 47201
When: Thursday, March 3, 2016
Lobby Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Dinner served 6:45 to 7:15 p.m. (RSVP required)
Cabaret begins at 7:30 p.m.



In the world of theatrical performers, Ramin Karimloo is known as one of the most challenged talents in the industry. Heralded for his portrayal of leading roles Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables* and the Phantom in *Phantom of the Opera*, Karimloo is a musical force unlike any other. Karimloo's unbridled reputation began on London's West End Theatre stage. He has played leading male roles in both of the West End's longest running musicals: Phantom and Raoul Victome de Chagny in *The Phantom of the Opera*, and Jean Valjean, Enjolras and Marius in *Les Misérables*. He also originated the role of the Phantom in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Love Never Dies*, a sequel to *The Phantom of the Opera*. He made his Broadway debut as Jean Valjean in the 2014 revival production of *Les Misérables*, for which he received a Tony Award nomination for Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical.

“...Karimloo oozes charisma and holds the audience in the palm of his hand as he effortlessly moves between Broadway classics, original tunes and bluegrass.”

Josh Ferri
Broadway.com

In 2012, Karimloo released a solo album, *Ramin* (later renamed *Human Heart* in the U.S.), by Sony Music Entertainment. A year later, Karimloo's "broadgrass" cabaret show debuted in New York. One critic said a highlight of the evening was the audience participatory "Do You Hear The People Sing?," a *Les Misérables* favorite. Karimloo keeps the show tunes recognizable enough for the theater fans, but interesting and unique enough for fans of any kind of music.

In December 2015, Karimloo announced his upcoming role as Archibald Craven in the concert production of the Tony Award-winning musical *The Secret Garden*, celebrating its 25th Anniversary year.

Ramin Karimloo's fans are traveling to Columbus from across the country – California, Nevada, Texas, Pennsylvania, and several states in between. The Philharmonic is partnering with the Columbus Area Visitors Center to ensure a welcoming experience for travelers. A representative will actively market the uniqueness and advantages of the Columbus and Bartholomew County community while engaging and educating out-of-town guests at the Cabaret.

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 may choose from one of four entrées, including a vegetarian option. Meals include a dinner salad and dessert.

Cabaret at The Commons is Columbus' premier nightlife destination, featuring a dynamic range of captivating artists in an up close and personal musical experience. A full bar is provided by Joe Willy's Burger Bar. Supporting sponsors of the *Cabaret at The Commons* series include The Republic, City of Columbus, and piano sponsor Shepherd Insurance.

Ticket prices are categorized into three affordable options: ~~V.I.P. (\$50)~~ **SOLD OUT**, Preferred (\$30) and General Admission (\$15). Tickets may be purchased online at www.theCIP.org or by calling the box office at 812-376-2638.

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.