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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Jazz crooner offers fresh spin on jazz favorites with tribute concert to piano men

August 17, 2017 (Columbus, Ind.) – On Saturday, September 16, the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic welcomes contemporary jazz pianist Tony DeSare in concert for the orchestra’s 2017-2018 season titled “LISTEN - Great. Live. Music.” The dynamic pianist is charged to charm with classics, originals and current pop hits by Billy Joel, Elton John, Journey, The Bee Gees, and many more! This concert features the Philharmonic’s Shigeru Kawai Concert Grand Piano, gifted to the organization by Enkei America in early 2016.



The performance is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at Columbus East Robbins Auditorium. Named this season’s Johnson Distinguished Guest Artist, DeSare’s concert – “I Love A Piano” – is sponsored by Johnson Ventures, Inc. Tickets are priced from \$5 to \$55, and are available at thecip.org and by phone at 812-376-2638.

For further purchasing details, refer to the information section at the conclusion of this press release.

Concert Program

Saturday | September 16, 2017 | 7:30 p.m. | Columbus East Robbins Auditorium

Evolution of a Piano Overture	arr. DeSare
I Love a Piano	Irving Berlin/arr. DeSare/Firth/orch Firth
Faithfully	Jonathan Cain/arr. DeSare
New Orleans Tango	Tony DeSare/arr/Tedd Firth
Hallelujah/I Love Her So	Ray Charles/arr. Firth
She’s Always a Woman	Billy Joel/arr. DeSare & Ed Decker
Something’s Gotta Give	Johnny Mercer
Philadelphia Freedom	Elton John/Bernie Taupin/arr. Greg Prechel
Imagine	John Lennon/arr. DeSare
Day In, Day Out	Blume & Mercer
Kiss	Prince
How Deep Is Your Love	Barry, Robin & Maurice Gibb/arr. DeSare/Firth
How Will I Say I Love You	Tony DeSare/arr. DeSare/Fred Barton
Sabre Dance Boogie	Aram Khachaturian
Angel Eyes	Matt Dennis/Earl Brent
My Way	Claude Francois/Jacques Revaux

Forty-five minutes before the concert, David Bowden and Tony DeSare will share their thoughts in a *Musically Speaking* pre-concert conversation free to concert ticket-holders. This entertaining, spirited and informative discussion is a wonderful chance to become familiar with the great music of the Philharmonic and DeSare's creative take on jazz classics he'll present that evening. *Musically Speaking* will take place at Columbus East High School in Room C110 at 6:45 p.m.

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Tony DeSare is no stranger to the Columbus Philharmonic. He first performed in Columbus in March of 2015 for a solo show in the inaugural *Cabaret at The Commons* series. Since making his Columbus debut, the New York-based musician has been etching his name onto the world map. Tony DeSare has been dubbed “the next Harry Connick, Jr.” but truly has a sound and style all of his work. He dives into the keys with unique gusto whether he’s covering a classic from the Great American Songbook or jazzing up the latest Billboard pop hit. Named a Rising Star Male Vocalist in *Downbeat* magazine, Tony DeSare

has lived up to this distinction by winning critical and popular acclaim for his concert performances throughout North America and abroad. DeSare has three top ten Billboard jazz albums and has been featured on the *CBS Early Show*, NPR, *A Prairie Home Companion* and the *Today Show*, and his music has been posted by social media celebrity George Takei. He releases new recordings and videos of standards and new songs every few weeks on his YouTube channel, iTunes and Spotify. Also a successful songwriter and composer, DeSare’s tune “Chemistry” won the USA Songwriting Competition’s No. 1 jazz award and was second overall among all genres. Three of his recordings were ranked among Billboard’s top 10 jazz albums and his original songs have made their way into a number of film soundtracks.

Joining Tony DeSare on stage with the orchestra is Edward Decker, guitar and banjo; Dylan Shamat, bass; and Michael Klopp, drums. The Philharmonic will sell Tony DeSare’s albums during intermission and after the concert for Tony to sign during a brief Meet-and-Greet in the lobby outside Robbins Auditorium.

TICKET PURCHASING INFORMATION

Individual tickets for this concert can be purchased online at thecip.org, in person at the Philharmonic Box Office at 315 Franklin Street in downtown Columbus (Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), or by calling 812-376-2638, x1. Subscription packages can be purchased in person at the Philharmonic Box Office or over the phone. Patrons can submit a “Pick-A-Pack” order by choosing 3 or more concerts to attend in person or by calling 812-376-2638, x1. The Philharmonic Family Fun Pass is available for purchase (\$25 Annual Fee; \$10/Adult and \$5/Child per concert). Groups of 10 or more, call the Philharmonic Box Office. All programs, artists, dates, times, and prices subject to change.

“People always say it's hard to sing along with me because I never sing anything the same way twice. One of the keys to this genre that I love so much is being able to be very creative with the phrasing as you go.”

Tony DeSare
NPR, 2007

	A Zone	B Zone	C Zone	D Zone
Adult	\$55	\$45	\$35	\$20
Senior (65+)	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$15
Student	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$5

ABOUT THE JOHNSON DISTINGUISHED GUEST ARTIST PROGRAM

Dick Johnson began supporting the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic in 1996 with the presentation of outstanding guest artists through the Johnson Distinguished Guest Artist program. The list of presented musicians reads like a “Who’s Who?” in the musical world. The impressive list includes John Sharp, cello; Corey and Katja Cerovsek, violin and piano; Joe Robison, oboe; Phil Smith, trumpet; Angel Romero, guitar; Carol Wincenc, flute; Charles Webb, piano; Eric Ruske, horn; Jorja Fleezanis, violin; The Eroica Trio, violin, cello, piano; Susann McDonald, harp; Angela Brown, soprano; Jeffrey Biegel, piano; Sylvia McNair, soprano; Alex Kerr, violin; The Canadian Brass, quintet; Christopher Parkening, guitar; Rachel Barton Pine, violin; Time for Three, string trio; improv vocalist Ann Hampton Callaway; and Tony DeSare!

Johnson Ventures continues to support this great tradition of bringing artistic excellence to Columbus, Indiana. These artists are often available to the local schools to work with students to stimulate a greater interest in music and higher aspiration in general for young people in our community. While these artists entertain us, their example should also inspire us to focus and dedicate ourselves to higher levels of performance in our own areas of excellence.

ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC

Started in 1987 under the auspices of Columbus Pro Musica, Inc., the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic and David Bowden have received local, state, national and international recognition, winning five ASCAP awards and consistently receiving rave reviews for their performances. With a full complement of concerts and music education programs, the Philharmonic is proud 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 organization supported by private donations and the Columbus Area Arts Council. This project is made possible by the support of the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.