

# McCarter THEATRE CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November 29, 2018

## **SWEET SOUNDS AT McCARTER THIS DECEMBER WITH THE HOT SARDINES AND THE KING'S SINGERS**

### **THE HOT SARDINES**

Friday and Saturday, December 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. in the Berlind Theatre



The Hot Sardines. Photo by Joseph Cultice.

The Hot Sardines are back at McCarter Theatre Center for two nights of “hot” songs this holiday season. The unique “Sardine sound” remains a blustery brass lineup, layered with a rhythm section led by a stride-piano and tied together by a front-woman with a voice from another era.

### **About The Hot Sardines**

In the talented hands of the New York-based ensemble, music first made famous decades ago comes alive through their brassy horn arrangements, rollicking piano melodies, and vocals from a chanteuse who transports listeners to a different era with the mere lilt of her voice.

Bandleader Evan Palazzo and lead singer Elizabeth Bougerol met in 2007 after they both answered a Craigslist ad about a jazz jam session above a Manhattan noodle shop. The unlikely pair — she was a London School of Economics-educated travel writer who grew up in France, Canada and the Ivory Coast, he was a New York City born and raised actor who studied theater at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia—bonded over their love for Fats Waller. Influenced also by such greats as Dinah Washington, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday, they began playing open mic nights and small gigs and by 2011, they headlined Midsummer Night Swing at New York’s Lincoln Center.

The Hot Sardines played more than 100 shows last year, taking their act from their familiar confines of New York across the country. And, to no one’s surprise but their own, they were greeted by music lovers everywhere. “It never really occurred to me that anyone was listening to us outside of New York City. To show up in a town and have people say, ‘I love this song. I love this video’ is mind-blowing to me,” says Elizabeth, who adds she remembers the towns by the food, seeking out “whatever that region does really well — we’re constantly in the tour van, researching mom-and-pop places in the next town.”

### **Ticket information**

The Hot Sardines will appear on the Berlind Stage on Friday and Saturday, December 14 and 15 at 8 p.m., tickets range from \$80 - \$90 and can be purchased online at [mccarter.org](http://mccarter.org), by phone at (609) 258-2787, or in person at the McCarter Ticket Office.

# THE KING'S SINGERS

Wednesday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Richardson Auditorium



The King's Singers. Photo by Andy Staples.

with:

Patrick Dunachie, Countertenor

Timothy Wayne-Wright, Countertenor

Julian Gregory, Tenor

Christopher Bruerton, Baritone

Christopher Gabbitas, Baritone

Jonathan Howard, Bass

The Grammy Award-winning all-male a cappella sextet **The King's Singers** return to the McCarter Theatre Center this December on their 2018 North American Christmas tour. The concert is **Wednesday, December 19 at 7:30pm**. The program, *GOLD* Christmas, celebrates The King's Singers 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, with music that has defined the group's first half century as well as new commissions from their three-disc anniversary album, *GOLD*. Of course, popular Christmas carols have a prominent place on the program, sung with The King's Singers' trademark purity of tone, blend, and British wit.

## The King's Singers GOLD Christmas

<b>WHAT CHEER</b>	John David arr. Peter Knight (adapted Philip Lawson)	Born on a new day
<b>ANCIENT ORIGINS</b>	Trad. arr. Philip Lawson Trad. arr. Brian Kay	Veni, veni Emmanuel Gaudete
<b>A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE</b>	Adrian Willaert	Ave virgo sposa Dei – Inviolata est
<b>CAROLS FROM KING'S</b>	Bob Chilcott Mykola Leontovych arr. Keith Roberts	The Shepherd's Carol Carol of the bells
<b>A STAR IS BORN</b>	Toby Hession	Master of Music*
<b>CHRISTMAS FOR A CENTURY</b>	Arvo Pärt Peter Warlock John Rutter	Bogoróditse Djévo Bethlehem Down There is a flower
<b>JOY TO THE WHOLE WORLD</b>	Bob Chilcott	We are*
<i>Intermission</i>		
<b>THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING</b>	A celebration of ancient and modern Christmas music from across The King's Singers repertoire	

\* = New anniversary commission

### About The King Singers

The King's Singers were established in May 1968, formed by six recently-graduated choral scholars from King's College, Cambridge. Their vocal line-up was (by chance) two countertenors, a tenor, two baritones and a bass, and the group has never wavered from this formation since.

What really distinguished the group in its early years was its musical diversity. The King's Singers were a weekly fixture on prime-time television, celebrating popular music never usually touched by choral ensembles, and their unique British charm, combined with their musical craft, captured audiences' hearts the world over. The group has consistently been welcomed on the world's great stages throughout its history – from London's *Royal Albert Hall* to the Opera House in Sydney or New York's *Carnegie Hall* – as well as being ambassadors for musical excellence across the globe. Two Grammy® Awards, an Emmy® Award, and a place

in *Gramophone* magazine's inaugural Hall of Fame sit among the numerous accolades bestowed upon the group.

This love of diversity has always fuelled The King's Singers' commitment to creating new music. A panoply of commissioned works by many of the greatest composers of our times – including Luciano Berio, György Ligeti, Nico Muhly, John Rutter, Toru Takemitsu, Sir John Tavener and Eric Whitacre – sits alongside countless bespoke arrangements in the group's extensive repertoire.

The world may have changed a lot in the fifty years since the original King's Singers came together, but today's group is still charged by the same lifeblood – one that wants to radiate the joy singing brings every day, and that wants to give life to audiences with their virtuosity and vision for an exciting musical future.

### **Ticket information**

The King's Singers will perform in Richardson Auditorium Stage on Wednesday, December 19. tickets range from \$25-\$65 and can be purchased online at [mccarter.org](http://mccarter.org), by phone at (609) 258-2787, or in person at the McCarter Ticket Office.

### **About McCarter Theatre Center**

McCarter Theatre Center's mission is to create world-class theater and present the finest performing artists for the engagement, education, and entertainment to the community. Under the artistic leadership of award-winning playwright and director Emily Mann and Managing Director Michael S. Rosenberg, McCarter produces a vibrant six-play Theater Series each season. Winner of the 1994 Tony Award® for Outstanding Regional Theatre, world premieres include Christopher Durang's *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (2013 Tony® - Best Play); Tarell Alvin McCraney's *The Brother/Sister Plays*; Emily Mann's *Having Our Say*; and Danai Gurira's *The Convert*. Other works which later moved to Broadway include Brian Friel's *Translations*, Nilo Cruz's *Anna in the Tropics* (Pulitzer Prize), and Frank McGuinness' translation of *Electra*. Through the leadership of Special Programming Director William W. Lockwood, McCarter brings the best artists from around the world to Princeton, New Jersey, including upcoming visits from Dianne Reeves, Esperanza Spalding, Andy Borowitz, and many more. Education and outreach efforts serve tens of thousands through student matinees, in-school residencies, and adult education classes. McCarter is supported by contributions from Princeton University, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, corporations, foundations, and from over 2,000 individuals. More at [mccarter.org](http://mccarter.org).

The 2018-2019 Signature Series at McCarter is sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

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