

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2008

CAPA ANNOUNCES 2008-09 SEASON

Highlights Include the World-Renowned Kodo Drummers of Japan and a Fantastical, Multi-Lingual, Indian Production of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream

In keeping with the mission of bringing the best performing artists from all over the world to Columbus, CAPA announces the 2008-09 season. Extraordinary talent from all over the globe in every genre of entertainment is lined up to entertain downtown audiences on the stages of the Ohio, Palace, Southern, and Riffe Center Theatres. Whether it's musical theatre, ballet, Shakespeare, children's programming, tango, comedy, Celtic, folk, jazz, salsa, or world music, this season's assembly of artists offers something for everyone.

Tickets for most shows on the CAPA 2008-09 season go on sale to the public on Monday, September 8 (unless otherwise noted), at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and www.ticketmaster.com. To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 431-3600 or (614) 469-0939.

Tickets for *An Evening with Great Big Sea*, *The Swell Season*, *KEM*, the *Cardinals*, and *Playhouse Disney Live!* are on sale now. Tickets for *The Backyardigans Live!* will go on sale to the public Thursday, November 6, and tickets for *Annie* will go on sale to the public Thursday, December 4.

CAPA 2008-09 Season

An Evening with Great Big Sea

Wednesday, September 17, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$40, \$35, \$30

Great Big Sea has been described as "Celtic rock" or even "aggressive folk," but their distinctive brand of pop was founded on the folk music tradition of the band members' native home, the island province of Newfoundland, Canada. Winners of an unprecedented 18 East Coast Music Awards, Great Big Sea hits the road in support of their ninth studio recording, *Fortune's Favor*.

ON SALE NOW

The Swell Season

ON SALE NOW

**featuring the music and stars from the film *Once*,
Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova**

Monday, September 22, 8 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$37.50, \$35, \$25

In 2005, singer/songwriters Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova co-wrote and recorded an album entitled *The Swell Season*. While in development, Hansard and Irglova were enlisted to play the lead roles in romantic independent film *Once* with their album as its soundtrack. The film went on to win the World Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, and the album's "Falling Slowly" won the 2008 Academy Award for "Best Original Song." The duo is now touring as The Swell Season, and selling out venues nationwide. **Special guest for the evening will be Bill Callahan.**

KEM

ON SALE NOW

Thursday, September 25, 8 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$47.50, \$42.50, \$37.50, \$27.50

Moving from homelessness and drug rehab to gold records and chart-topping success, KEM's personal story is one of grit, inspiration, and triumph. While waiting tables and working as a wedding singer, he independently produced and released his debut album, *Kemistry*. *USA Today* applauded his fluid, sensual singing and hailed the song "Love Calls" a Motown classic. Attracting the attention of music lovers, critics, and Universal Motown honchos, KEM released his second recording, *KEM Album II*, featuring the hits "Find Your Way (Back in My Life)" and "I Can't Stop Loving You." As fans await his third release, KEM continues to receive regular airplay, proving himself an artist for the ages. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse.**

Cardinals

ON SALE NOW

**featuring Ryan Adams, Neal Casal,
Chris Feinstein, Jon Graboff, and Brad Pemberton**

Monday, September 29, 8:30 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$35, \$25

Although growing up on classic country, Ryan Adams discovered punk rock and began playing electric guitar as a teenager, and has been creating pop-rock songs with a country twist ever since. In 1994, Adams formed the alternative country band Whiskeytown whose large cult following helped launch the success of his first solo album, *Heartbreaker* (2000). Subsequent work has solidified Adams as an uncompromising and inventive songwriter. Now touring with the Cardinals in support of his 2007 release and ninth studio album, *Easy Tiger*, Adams is still demonstrating his signature touch, combining scorching rock 'n' roll with tender folk ballads.

Down by the Riverside

featuring the Blind Boys of Alabama and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band

Wednesday, October 8, 8 pm
Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)
Tickets: \$42.50, \$37.50, \$32.50, \$22.50

Sharing the stage for the first time ever, two of America's great cultural ambassadors bring together the joy of gospel with the soul of New Orleans, promising an unforgettable evening. Winners of four consecutive Grammy Awards and recent inductees into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame, **The Blind Boys of Alabama** remain at the top of the gospel charts, proving themselves an indisputable musical treasure. Recent recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts National Medal of Arts, **The Preservation Hall Jazz Band** performs traditional New Orleans jazz, embodying the joyful, timeless spirit of a true American art form. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse**.

Playhouse Disney Live!

Saturday, October 25, 12:30 pm & 3:30 pm
Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)
Tickets: \$57.50, \$44.50, \$30.50, \$26.50, \$20.50 ON SALE NOW

Celebrate with your Playhouse Disney pals when *Playhouse Disney Live!* returns to Columbus! In this live show, you're invited to the Mickey Mouse Clubhouse as Mickey plans a spectacular music party for all his friends. The Little Einsteins set off on a musical mission around the world to find a song for the party—with the help of Rocket, of course! Pooh, Tigger, and Darby spring into action to search for music in the Hundred Acre Wood, and Handy Manny and his team of tools find the perfect party beat. Laugh, sing and play along, because your favorite Playhouse Disney pals are live on stage, and you're invited to join the party! This Family Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **AEP**.

Joe Jackson

Monday, October 27, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$42.50, \$35

English musician and singer-songwriter Joe Jackson is a unique and critically acclaimed recording artist with five Grammy nominations spanning 1979 to 2001. Best-known for his hit songs "Is She Really Going Out with Him?," "Steppin' Out," and "You Can't Get What You Want (Till You Know What You Want)," Joe is now touring in support of his 2008 release "Rain" which features 10 new songs with plenty of humor, swing, sophistication, barbed social commentary, and even some punk-like rocking out.

Special guest for the evening will be Thea Gilmore.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

November 19-23
Wednesday, November 19, 7 pm
Thursday, November 20, 11 am
Friday, November 21, 8 pm
Saturday, November 22, 8 pm
Sunday, November 23, 2 pm

Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$57.50, \$47.50, \$37.50, \$27.50, \$11.50 (Thurs. show only)

A theatrical event like no other, Tim Supple's triumphant production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* combines the astonishing skills of actors, dancers, martial arts experts, musicians, and street acrobats from across India and Sri Lanka. Spoken in English, Tamil, Malayalam, Sinhalese, Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, and even Sanskrit, this once-in-a-lifetime production is a passionate, energetic, thrilling and beautiful re-interpretation of the play which casts aside familiar traditions of performing Shakespeare and replaces them with an epic, sensual, and emotional power which has captivated audiences worldwide. **Co-presented with CATCO.**

Tango Fire

Sunday, November 23, 7 pm

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

Tickets: \$27.50, \$25, \$20, \$15

Featuring 10 fiery dancers, a quintet of brilliant young musicians, and two remarkable singers, Tango Fire offers a journey through the history of one of the world's most sensual and alluring dances. From its origins in the steamy red light district of Buenos Aires to the glamorous Roaring Twenties, tango has survived and thrived, moving seamlessly from bordello to ballroom. It has even reached living rooms the world-over on such television programs as "Dancing with the Stars," whose celebrity contestants can only dream of being this hot! This Caliente Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar** and series sponsors **David and Mo Meuse**.

A Christmas Carol

Thanksgiving Weekend!

November 28-30

Friday, November 28, 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 29, 2 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, November 30, 2 pm & 7:30 pm

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

Tickets: \$32, \$27, \$22

A Columbus tradition for 30 years, the Nebraska Theatre Caravan returns with the national touring production of *A Christmas Carol*. Capturing every detail of the Dickens classic, from the spine-chilling ghosts and gorgeous renditions of traditional British carols to crotchety Scrooge and lovable Tiny Tim, audiences have come to love Charles Dickens' enchanting story and this treasured Columbus holiday event. This Family Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **AEP**, **Bob Evans**, and **Grange**.

Dave Koz and Friends—A Smooth Jazz Christmas 2008

Friday, December 5, 8 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$62.50, \$47.50, \$37.50, \$27.50

In a career spanning nearly two decades, Dave Koz has established himself as a platinum-selling artist, humanitarian, entrepreneur, radio host, and instrumental music

advocate. This six-time Grammy nominee returns to Columbus with his holiday tour, performing his smooth jazz hits and holiday favorites, with Grammy-nominated singer/guitarist **Jonathan Butler**, soul-jazz improviser **Jeff Golub**, and smooth jazz/new age keyboardist **Keiko Matsui**. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar**.

Cherish the Ladies' Celtic Christmas

Friday, December 19, 8 pm

Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$32, \$27

Cherish the Ladies have grown from a one-time concert concept to a traditional Irish music sensation, making them literally the most successful and sought-after Irish-American group in Celtic music. Blending virtuosic instrumental skill, beautiful vocals, and captivating arrangements, this powerhouse group embodies all the facets of traditional Irish culture and presents it in an immensely humorous and entertaining package. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **Ozone Studios**.

Magic Tree House: The Musical

January 16-17

Friday, January 16, 7 pm

Saturday, January 17, 11 am & 2 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$52.50, \$32.50, \$25, \$15

Based on Mary Pope Osborne's beloved series of children's books, *Magic Tree House: The Musical* is a theatrical event for the entire family. To restore joy and magic to King Arthur's kingdom, Jack and Annie must travel to Camelot's dreaded Otherworld and return with water from the mythical Cauldron of Memory and Imagination. An enchanting blend of song, story, and stagecraft, *Magic Tree House: The Musical* is a breathtaking spectacle that will keep both kids and grownups on the edge of their seats! This Family Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **Wendy's**.

The Backyardigans Live!

On sale Thursday, November 6

January 24-25

Saturday, January 24, 11 am, 2 pm & 5 pm

Sunday, January 25, 11 am & 2 pm

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

Tickets: \$36.50, \$28.50, \$26.50, \$18.50

Join knights Uniqua and Tyrone as they embark on a quest to protect King Pablo's unpredictable egg. Along the way, Grabbing Goblin Austin and Flighty Fairy Tasha join the medieval mayhem as the runaway egg hatches feet and makes an unexpected dash all the way up to Dragon Mountain! The Backyardigans will need your help to face a mighty dragon and return the egg to the king. *The Backyardigans Live!* will have the entire family singing, dancing, and laughing along to songs of courage, friendship, and the power of imagination! This Family Series performance is made possible through the

generous support of **AEP**. **Co-presented with Fifth Third Bank Broadway Across America—Columbus.**

Ailey II

Tuesday, January 27, 8 pm
Capitol Theatre (77 S. High St.)
Tickets: \$35, \$25, \$20

Ailey II's exceptional modern ballet dance company merges the spirit and energy of the country's best young talent with the passion and creative vision of today's most outstanding choreographers. The dancers are the most gifted of their generation, translating strength, agility and grace of body and soul into stirring, powerful performances. Ailey II will perform an exhilarating and diverse repertoire that includes Alvin Ailey's timeless classics as well as new works by both dance veterans and celebrated emerging choreographers. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse**.

Ballet Hispanico

Saturday, January 31, 8 pm
Capitol Theatre (77 S. High St.)
Tickets: \$34, \$29, \$19.50

For nearly 40 years, Ballet Hispanico has thrilled audiences worldwide with its magnetic energy and vivacious choreography. Boasting 13 stunning dancers who are true ambassadors for the rich cultural heritage of America's Hispanic population, Ballet Hispanico offers an inspired program of duets and trios showcasing Cuban, Spanish, Brazilian, and Argentinean choreographic and musical styles—a perfect introduction to a wide array of Latino dance and culture. This Caliente Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar** and series sponsors **David and Mo Meuse**.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Tuesday, February 24, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$32.50, \$27.50

In a career that has spanned nearly 30 years, Ladysmith Black Mambazo has recorded 40 albums and sold over six million records. First brought to the attention of an international audience through Paul Simon's *Graceland* recording, their first US album, *Shaka Zulu*, won the Grammy Award for Best Traditional Folk Album. Since then, Ladysmith has been nominated eight times, earning a second Grammy in 2005 for Best Traditional World Music with their *Raise Your Spirit Higher* release. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse**.

Second City on Tour

Friday, March 6, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$30, \$25

The Second City returns to Columbus to perform some of the best sketches, songs, and improvisations from the company's more than 45-year history. See up-and-coming comedy stars in the making with absolutely hilarious satire and cutting-edge improvisation. No topic or subject matter is off limits. If your parents asked you not to speak about it at the dinner table, chances are it will be made fun of in an evening with The Second City. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar**.

Duncan Sheik

Saturday, March 7, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$34.50, \$29.50

With the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Spring Awakening*, composer Duncan Sheik has successfully accomplished what few other pop or rock artists before him have done—create original music that seems right at home on Broadway yet feels very much his own. Those efforts earned him a Grammy for Best Musical Show Album. The 1996 hit single, “Barely Breathing,” from his self-titled, Grammy-nominated debut album spent 55 weeks on Billboard’s Hot 100. Only three other singles in the history of the chart have ever topped that run.

Eileen Ivers

Sunday, March 8, 7 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$38.50, \$33.50

Fiddler Eileen Ivers has established herself as the world’s pre-eminent example of the Irish fiddle. Being the nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion, original music star of *Riverdance*, founding member of Cherish the Ladies, and featured guest artist with The Chieftains, Afro-Celts, Hall & Oates, Patti Smith, Paula Cole, Al DiMeola, and over 30 symphony orchestras worldwide, Eileen Ivers and her band, **Immigrant Soul**, will change the way you think about the fiddle.

The Reduced Shakespeare Company in *Completely Hollywood (abridged)*

Wednesday, March 11, 8 pm
Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)
Tickets: \$35, \$27.50

Since its origins as a pass-the-hat act in California, the Reduced Shakespeare Company has created six world-renowned stage shows, four TV programs, and numerous radio pieces – all of which have been performed, seen, and heard the world over. The company returns to Columbus with their newest creation, *Completely Hollywood (abridged)*, a three-actor, 90-minute rollercoaster ride through the glorious quagmire of Tinseltown history.

African Children’s Choir

Sunday, March 15, 3 pm
Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$27.50, \$22.50, \$15, \$7.50

The African Children's Choir has been working with the most vulnerable children in Africa for 23 years, raising awareness of the plight of the orphaned and abandoned, but also showing the beauty, dignity and potential of the African child. They perform throughout the world bringing hope and joy to everyone they meet and strive to make a positive impact on society by being a voice for millions of children suffering in Africa. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse**.

Kodo Drummers of Japan

Wednesday, March 25, 8 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$40, \$30, \$20

The word "Kodo" conveys two meanings. The literal readings of the two characters that make up the name in Japanese are "drum" and "child," conveying Kodo's desire to play the "taiko" or Japanese drum purely, with the heart of a child. It is also a homonym for "heartbeat," humanity's most fundamental source of rhythm. On their "One Earth Tour," the Kodo Drummers of Japan have given over 2,600 widely-acclaimed performances in 42 countries, from war-torn Croatia to America's Carnegie Hall, transcending the barriers of language and custom to remind us all of our membership in that larger community—the world. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar**.

Spanish Harlem Orchestra

Sunday, April 5, 7 pm

Capitol Theatre (77 S. High St.)

Tickets: \$32, \$26

The Spanish Harlem Orchestra has established itself as a pillar of contemporary Latin music with a 2003 Latin *Billboard* Award for Salsa Album of the Year—Best New Group and a 2005 Grammy Award for Best Salsa Album. Directed by world-renowned pianist, arranger, and producer Oscar Hernández, the 13-member all-star ensemble has reintroduced the classic sounds of New York City salsa to music lovers worldwide. This Caliente Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar** and series sponsors **David and Mo Meuse**.

Godspell

April 16-19

Thursday, April 16, 8 pm

Friday, April 17, 11 am & 8 pm

Saturday, April 18, 2 pm & 8 pm

Sunday, April 19, 3 pm

Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$30, \$25, \$20, \$11 (Friday 11 am performance only)

Based loosely on the *Episcopal Hymnal* and *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*, *Godspell* is a whimsical blend of song, dance, mime, charades, vaudeville routines, and impersonations. This rock musical began as a workshop production of a graduate

student's master's thesis, but with a delightful and enduring Stephen Schwartz score that includes "Day By Day," "All Good Gifts," and "By My Side," it developed into one of the biggest musical theatre successes of all time. **Co-presented with The Ohio State University Department of Theatre.**

Annie

On sale Thursday, December 4

April 17-19

Friday, April 17, 7:30 pm

Saturday, April 18, 2 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, April 19, 1 pm & 6:30 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

Tickets: \$57.50, \$42.50, \$22.50

Leapin' lizards! *Annie*, America's most beloved musical, returns to Columbus to give a whole new generation the chance to experience this classic story about hope. With seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Book and Best Score, *Annie* remains one of Broadway's most successful and America's most beloved musicals. With an ever-tuneful score that includes "It's A Hard-Knock Life," "Easy Street," "N.Y.C.," and the ever-optimistic "Tomorrow," you can bet your bottom dollar that *Annie* will bring a smile to your face! This Family Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **AEP. Co-presented with Fifth Third Bank Broadway Across America—Columbus.**

iO Theater—*The Improvised Musical*

Saturday, May 2, 8 pm

Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$25

After 25 years of providing Chicago with groundbreaking, star-making, world-class improvisational comedy, the Improv Olympics Theater brings *The Improvised Musical* to Columbus. This production defies expectation and belief in that every line, note, and step is completely improvised on the spot following suggestions from the audience!

The Four Bitchin' Babes present

Hormonal Imbalance...A Mood Swinging Musical Revue!

Featuring Sally Fingerett, Debi Smith, Nancy Moran, and Deirdre Flint

Sunday, May 17, 7:30 pm

Southern Theatre (21 E. Main St.)

Tickets: \$37.50, \$27.50

After seven recordings and almost 20 years as "The Four Bitchin' Babes," these indestructible divas are hotter than ever. Literally! Spend an evening with these outrageously funny and multi-talented musicians as they examine and celebrate the lives of today's women. With sorority sister chemistry, they perform original songs and stories offering both poignant views and unbridled comedic commentary on the joys and dilemmas of everyday life. This performance is made possible through the generous support of **Univar.**

The **Ohio Arts Council** helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the support of the **Robert Bartels, Virginia Hall Beale, and Barbara Clement Memorial Funds of The Columbus Foundation**, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973.

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex (Columbus) and the Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), **CAPA** is an award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment. For more information, visit www.capa.com.

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****Images for all performances are available upon request.****

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