

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 2, 2008

**CAPA PRESENTS THE SOULFUL JAZZ AND R&B FUSION OF  
KEM  
FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY AT THE PALACE**

**"Serves up contemporary soul, sleek and subdued...fluid sensual singing that's a welcome alternative to the flashy wannabes..." – USA Today**

Moving from homelessness and drug rehab to gold records and chart-topping success, KEM's story is one of grit, inspiration, and personal triumph. While waiting tables and working as a wedding singer, he independently produced and released his debut album, *Kemistry*. The single "Love Calls" attracted the attention of music lovers, critics, and Universal Motown honchos, who backed 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.

CAPA presents **KEM** at the **Palace Theatre** (34 W. Broad St.) on **Thursday, September 25, at 8 pm. Tickets** are \$47.50, \$42.50, \$37.50, and \$27.50 at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office (39 E. State St.), all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). To purchase tickets by phone, please call (614) 431-3600 or (614) 469-0939. The Palace Theatre Ticket Office will open two hours prior to the performance. Students between the ages of 13-19 may purchase \$5 High Five tickets while available. This Spectrum Series performance is made possible through the generous support of **David and Mo Meuse**.

A self-taught musician, KEM was born in Nashville and raised in Detroit. Several years after high school, his life took a downward turn and he found himself in and out of drug rehab and homeless shelters. He plunged himself into his music at that time, but eventually hit rock bottom when he awoke outdoors one night after being forced to leave for breaking shelter rules. He became determined to clean up his act.

While waiting tables and singing at any gig in town (including weddings), KEM continued to write and record his music. In March 2002, he independently released his debut CD, *KEMISTRY (Album I)*, and sold more than 10,000 copies which piqued the interest of Universal Motown. With the new label on board, the album sold more than 500,000 copies.

KEM's first single from *KEMISTRY (Album I)*, "Love Calls," garnered over 50,000 spins on Urban Adult Radio stations which positioned it as the second most played record in 2003 and the most played record of 2004.

KEM's sophomore release, *KEM ALBUM II*, was certified gold only two weeks after its release in May 2005 and debuted at #5 on the Pop Albums charts. The single "I Can't Stop Loving You" was named the #1 Adult R&B Record of 2005 by both *Radio & Records* and *Billboard*. *Radio & Records* also named KEM the #2 R&B Artist for 2005. His consecutive four week streak at #1 for urban radio made him one of the highest charted artists of that year.

Universal Motown re-released the CD as a dual disc with a DVD featuring KEM's video and second hit single, "Find Your Way (Back in My Life)." He also received two NAACP Image Award nominations for Outstanding Male Artist and Outstanding Song for "I Can't Stop Loving You."

KEM's musical talent has also been solicited by many artists and filmmakers. He wrote and performed "Tonight" for the soundtrack of the Tyler Perry movie *Madea's Family Reunion*, and remade Nat King Cole's "Fascination" for the film *Take the Lead* starring Antonio Banderas.

As fans await his third release, hit singles from both albums continue to receive regular airplay, and fuel KEM's belief that dreams can be achieved.

[www.kemmusic.com](http://www.kemmusic.com)

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](http://www.capa.com).

## **CALENDAR LISTING**

### **CAPA presents KEM**

**Thursday, September 25, 8 pm**

**Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)**

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