

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPA PRESENTS
THE SWELL SEASON
2008 ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS FOR BEST SONG
AND STARS OF THE MOVIE *ONCE*

Tickets on sale Saturday, May 10

“Rich and completely satisfying.” – *The Los Angeles Times*

“Gorgeous odes to troubled hearts.” – *Entertainment Weekly*

In 2005, singer/songwriters Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova co-wrote and recorded an album entitled *The Swell Season*. While in development, it was enlisted as the soundtrack for the romantic independent film *Once*, with Hansard and Irglova playing the lead roles. 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. Of the 23 current tour dates from May through September, 11 venues have sold out, including Radio City Music Hall in New York City and three nights at the 3,600-seat Chicago Theatre. They are also booked for several prominent festivals including the Coachella Festival, Bonnaroo Music Festival, and Telluride Bluegrass Festival.

Since August 2007, The Swell Season has also performed on “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno,” “Late Show with David Letterman,” “Jimmy Kimmel Live,” and “Good Morning America.”

CAPA presents **The Swell Season** at the **Palace Theatre** (34 W. Broad St.) on **Monday, September 22**, at **8 pm**. **Tickets go on sale to the general public on Saturday, May 10**, and are \$37.50, \$35 and \$25 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. The Palace Theatre Ticket Office will open two hours prior to the performance.

Irish-born Glen Hansard is the vocalist and guitarist for Irish rock band The Frames. Born to a working-class family, Hansard quit school at age 13 and began

busking on local Dublin streets. By his late teens, Hansard had recorded his first demo which landed him a record contract. He quickly gathered a group of fellow buskers and formed The Frames.

Hansard first came into the public eye as guitar player “Outspan Foster” in the Alan Parker Oscar-nominated film *The Commitments*. Although it produced many opportunities for Hansard, he turned down most of them to focus solely on The Frames. However, the group was dropped from their label after the debut grunge-influenced release, *Another Love Song*.

With a newfound focus and desire to keep the music alive, Hansard wrote the guitar-blazing anthem “Revelate” and “Say It to Me Now,” both of which eventually landed on The Frames’ proper debut album, *Fitzcarraldo*, in 1996. Their subsequent album, *Dance the Devil* (1999), helped solidify a new level of recognition for The Frames in Ireland and the US. However, their label fell on tough times and the band was again let go.

As another chapter closed, so began the renaissance that would bring The Frames their greatest success. The band traveled to Chicago and recorded their best-selling record to date, *For the Birds* (2001). The album was issued on the band’s own label in Ireland, and indie label Overcoat everywhere else. The band then moved on to notably larger indie label Anti Records and released *Burn the Maps* (2005) and *The Cost* (2007), cementing their place in the American musical landscape.

During a break between tours in 2005, Hansard retreated to the Czech Republic for some down time, and began recording a chilling and intimate album with classically trained Czech vocalist and pianist Marketa Irglova entitled *The Swell Season*, also featuring Marja Tuhkanen on violin and Bertrand Galen on cello. The project takes its name from Josef Skvorecky’s book, *The Swell Season*, about one man’s love of music and his pursuit of unattainable women in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia.

Around this time, old friend and former Frames bandmate John Carney asked Hansard and Irglova to star in his low-budget indie film *Once*. In this modern musical, Hansard plays a Dublin busker, and Irglova shines as an immigrant street vendor who strikes up a friendship with him and helps him fully unleash his musical passion. Hansard and Irglova’s album, *The Swell Season*, was adopted as the film’s soundtrack.

Once made its American premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in 2007 and received the World Cinema Audience Award at the closing ceremony. To round off this success story, Hansard and Irglova were awarded the 2008 Academy Award in the Best Original Song category for “Falling Slowly.” The pair is now touring extensively as The Swell Season, appearing on a number of high profile TV shows and festivals.

www.myspace.com/theswellseason

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 **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.

CALENDAR LISTING

CAPA presents THE SWELL SEASON

Monday, September 22, 8 pm

Palace Theatre (34 W. Broad St.)

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