

Press Contact:

Karyn Dunn
Marketing Manager
IU Auditorium
(812)-855-0640
karyndun@indiana.edu



IU AUDITORIUM 2015–2016 SEASON TO FEATURE TONY BENNETT, WYNTON MARSALIS, BROADWAY’S *ONCE*, THE MAGIC OF *THE ILLUSIONISTS*, AND MORE!

5/3/2015

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – Indiana University Auditorium announces its 2015–2016 season, including the most in-demand touring Broadway shows, classical and contemporary musical performances, holiday traditions, and more, scheduled to run from September through April in conjunction with the celebration of the facility’s 75th anniversary.

Event selections represent a wide range of genres that reflect the diverse performances throughout the Auditorium’s history. Performances include the colorful and soulful Soweto Gospel Choir, celebrated operatic soprano Angela Gheorghiu, Straight No Chaser’s 20th anniversary performance, several family friendly events, such as Broadway’s *Annie*, *STOMP*, and a special 7:00 p.m. performance of *The Illusionists*, plus many more.

“IU Auditorium first opened its doors in 1941 and quickly built a legacy as our community’s gathering place. Like those who came before us, we feel honored to serve as stewards of our iconic venue, and to present world-class performances for the university and community,” said IU Auditorium Director Doug Booher. “For this season, we have selected shows that not only resonate with the refined and eclectic tastes of our patrons, but also pay homage to our long history of stellar performances. We invite everyone to come celebrate with us at this year’s assortment of globally influenced, artistically significant, and culturally iconic events.”

To get the best possible seats, patrons may become subscribers by choosing five or more events between now and the end of August, and can purchase these using a variety of payment options, including payroll deduction for IU employees and bursar billing for IU students. Patrons interested in one to four events may pre-order now, before single tickets go on sale to the general public in September. For more information, visit IUauditorium.com or call (812) 855-1103.

2015–2016 IU Auditorium Season

Tony Bennett

Sunday, September 20, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$58-\$78

IU Bloomington Students: \$30-\$68

With a six-decade recording career that has seen him become one of the most celebrated performers of our time, Tony Bennett is still a master of his craft—crooning with a panache that is effortless, passionate, and lands right in the pocket.

Audiences around the globe give this living legend ovation after ovation not because Tony Bennett is simply still performing, but because he is still belting out the Great American Songbook with a verve to make even a young Sinatra turn green with envy.

Whether Bennett is dropping the mic for an impromptu “Fly Me to the Moon” unplugged or building audiences up for an unforgettable rendition of “For Once in My Life,” Bennett remains astounding, unparalleled, and supernaturally unfettered by time.

Idolized by audiences young and old, Bennett’s appeal is so wide-ranging that he’s had his pick of pop stars to collaborate with, including Amy Winehouse, Christina Aguilera, and Lady Gaga. What is astounding, however, is no matter what the situation, Bennett continues to surprise audiences and defy expectation—both in the trajectory of his career and his masterful musical interpretation.

Angela Gheorghiu

Wednesday, September 23, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$38-\$62

IU Bloomington Students: \$20-\$41

Romanian-born Angela Gheorghiu, one of the most celebrated and gifted opera singers of our time, burst onto the classical music scene in 1992 with debuts at three of the world’s most illustrious stages: the Royal Opera House in London, The Metropolitan Opera in New York, and the Vienna State Opera. Since then, she has graced the stages of opera houses and concert halls across the globe, and today—looking and sounding as glamorous as ever—she is recognized by critics and opera lovers as one of the great sopranos of all time.

Throughout her illustrious career, Angela Gheorghiu has collaborated with the world’s most prestigious opera directors, conductors, and vocalists. In addition, as an exclusive artist with EMI Classics, she has recorded numerous audio releases—for which she has been awarded accolades including the Gramophone Award, Diapason d’Or Award, USA Critics’ Award, and Female Artist of the Year from the Classical Brit Awards.

“It’s hard to imagine anyone bettering Angela Gheorghiu... her voice, feather-light and creamy yet with a core of steel,” commented *The Observer*. “...simply unforgettable.”

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

Sunday, October 4, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$29-\$45

IU Bloomington Students: \$17-\$38

Living jazz legend Wynton Marsalis is an internationally acclaimed musician, composer, bandleader, educator, and a leading advocate of American culture. He is the world's first jazz artist to perform and compose across the full jazz spectrum—from its New Orleans roots to bebop to modern jazz—and has transcended cultural boundaries to make the art of jazz accessible to and loved by audiences across the broad American demographic.

The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, comprising 15 of the finest jazz soloists and ensemble players today, has been the Jazz at Lincoln Center resident orchestra since 1988. This remarkably versatile ensemble performs and leads educational events in New York, across the U.S., and around the globe—in concert halls, jazz clubs, and public parks; and with symphony orchestras, local students, and an ever-expanding roster of guest artists.

With their debut performance together in Bloomington, the Orchestra and Wynton will be using their immense talents to enrich the musical education of IU students in a series of residency activities, and enrich the cultural landscape of our community with a breathtaking performance at IU Auditorium.

The Illusionists

Tuesday, October 6, 7p.m. and 10 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

Children (7 p.m. only) and IU Bloomington Students: \$21-\$44

Family Friendly 7 p.m. performance

This mind-blowing spectacular showcases the jaw-dropping talents of seven of the most incredible illusionists on earth. *THE ILLUSIONISTS – Witness the Impossible* has shattered box office records across the globe and dazzles audiences of all ages with a powerful mix of the most outrageous and astonishing acts ever to be seen on stage. This non-stop show is packed with thrilling and sophisticated magic of unprecedented proportions.

Audiences will witness stunning acts of grand illusion, levitation, mind-reading, disappearance, and for the first time ever in history, a full-view water torture escape—performed by the acclaimed escapologist Andrew Basso who will hold his breath for over four minutes while attempting to escape from his underwater cell. This group of world-class performers takes their cue from the showmanship of the great illusionists of the past and pairs it with a new and updated contemporary aesthetic—whose set and costume design lend the genre a theatricality and artistry that has rarely been seen before. Collectively, these performers have been seen by millions of people around the world, and this production showcases their incredible talents together on stage for the very first time.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Tuesday-Wednesday, October 13-14, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$21-\$44

Family Friendly

One of the most enduring shows of all time, Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* is the irresistible family musical about the trials and triumphs of Joseph, Israel's favorite son.

Retelling the Biblical story of Joseph, his 11 brothers, and the coat of many colors, the endearing *Joseph* has become one of the most produced musicals in history with over 40,000 stock and amateur productions since the show was written and first performed in 1968.

This energetic new production takes the show audiences know and love to a whole new level of audio and visual spectacle—full of incredible performances and unforgettable songs including “Those Canaan Days,” “Any Dream Will Do,” and “Close Every Door.”

Twyla Tharp

Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$22-\$40

IU Bloomington Students: \$12-\$35

IU Auditorium is proud to welcome Indiana native Twyla Tharp and her spectacular company of dancers to Bloomington for the celebration of 50 years as a leading presence in the world of dance.

A flourish of trumpets heralds the double bill of premieres that celebrates Twyla Tharp's 50th anniversary. John Zorn provides the show's vibrant introductory *Fanfare*, followed by *Preludes and Fugues*. Radiating with Tharp's generous spirit and humanity, the first dance is set to J.S. Bach's *Well-Tempered Clavier*. Next, the wild and raucous humor that Tharp locates in the jazz of famed New Orleans pianist Henry Butler and trumpeter Steve Bernstein runs rampant through *Yowzie*, the second new dance. With its immaculate technique and joy, her fierce band of dancers brings the choreography to life. In each premiere, Tharp turns her decades of experience—choreography for Hollywood films, television, and the Broadway stage, in addition to ballets and modern works—into living proof that time is her partner as she continues to deepen and expand the singular imagination which makes her one of the century's most treasured artists.

Dennis James Hosts Halloween

Friday, October 30, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$16-\$21

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$8-\$16

Family Friendly

The world's greatest cinema organist is coming back to his alma mater to perform the masterpiece that started his illustrious career! Make your Halloween come alive with one of the most unique theatrical events at IU Auditorium as Dennis James provides live accompaniment to the playfully spooky 1925 silent film *The Phantom of the Opera*.

With his virtuosic organ and theremin artistry, James has built his reputation as the most acclaimed film accompanist, using musical instruments and electronic sound effects to enhance the thrill of silent films. *The Phantom of the Opera* shadows a tragic love story that will enchant and haunt the heart. The film takes place in a Paris opera house, where a mysterious phantom terrorizes its occupants. Fueled by his lust for the young Christine Daaé, he forces the prima donna Carlotta out of the limelight and launches the stardom of his new affliction—wreaking havoc in hopes of winning Christine's affection.

Dennis James started his film accompaniment at IU Auditorium with his very first presentation of *Phantom* while a student in the 70s—playing on the Auditorium's historic Roosevelt Pipe Organ.

Soweto Gospel Choir

Friday, November 6, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$22-\$40

IU Bloomington Students: \$12-\$35

The Soweto Gospel Choir has become known as the epitome of South African gospel ensembles, cultivating some of the most evocative sounds on earth.

Soweto's performances are filled with earthy rhythms, rich harmonies, all accompanied by an exciting four-piece band and percussion section. This young dynamic choir, with its impressive 52 members performing in six of South Africa's 11 official languages, is charting a meteoric rise to international fame—having performed alongside the likes of Bono and Queen; and for notable guests such as Nelson Mandela, Oprah Winfrey, Kofi Annan, Sidney Poitier, and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

Yo-Yo Ma: The BRIC Project

Wednesday, November 11, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$38-\$62

IU Bloomington Students: \$20-\$41

Yo-Yo Ma is beloved for his unparalleled artistry and for collaborating with many of the world's top artists. With The BRIC Project, Yo-Yo Ma brings together long-time collaborators and friends, with whom he has explored international musical and cultural traditions, in a program including works from BRIC countries: Brazil, Russia, India, and China.

In economics, BRIC refers to the "Big Four" countries which are all deemed to be at a similar stage of newly advanced economic development. These nations find themselves at a distinct cross section of ancient tradition and modern civilization. With The Bric Project, Mr. Ma and his collaborators seek to celebrate and explore this beautiful and complex integration of cultures through musical expression.

Yo-Yo Ma joins pianist Kathryn Stott, Brazilian guitarists Sérgio and Odair Assad, violinist and composer Johnny Gandelsman, sheng player Wu Tong, and tabla virtuoso Sandeep Das to bring a 21st century perspective to these diverse cultural traditions.

Chimes of Christmas

Saturday, December 5, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$17-\$22

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$12-\$17

Family Friendly

For generations, audiences have delighted in this uplifting holiday spectacular—featuring magical performances by some of our favorite Jacobs School of Music ensembles, and led by IU's Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble, the Singing Hoosiers. Over the past few seasons, *Chimes of Christmas* has been catapulted into the 21st century with a fresh new look, innovative repertoire, and oodles of energy.

A family-friendly event with special discounts for children, *Chimes* is the perfect way to start the season's celebrations. Plus, with the addition of a matinee performance, it's easy for all to enjoy the enthusiastically performed holiday carols and surprise appearance of a jovial Santa.

"[*Chimes of Christmas*] is known every year as the most cheerful and family-friendly event among all of the Bloomington public," Bloomington resident June Quivers said in the *Indiana Daily Student*. "I love attending it every year in time for the Christmas season, and I will continue going as long as they have it. It really is that spectacular."

Straight No Chaser

Thursday, December 17, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$37-\$57

IU Bloomington Students: \$20-\$52

These international superstars are returning to their alma mater for a night of festive holiday favorites, surprising pop arrangements, and vocals that will knock your socks off.

Tight vocals and loose humor have catapulted these IU-born musical masterminds from local legends to international superstars, leaving in their wake a slew of chart-topping albums including 2008's *Holiday Spirits*, 2009's *Christmas Cheers*, 2010's *With a Twist*, and last year's *Under the Influence*—which featured the breakaway holiday hit "Text Me Merry Christmas" and peaked at #28 on *Billboard 200*.

Year after year, SNC keeps getting better at what they do best: captivating audiences with their tight, clever harmonies, and winning them over with their tongue-in-cheek charm. Their wildly entertaining a cappella concerts prompted *The Trades* to write, "Straight No Chaser endeared themselves to fans with 'we-don't-take-ourselves-as-seriously-as-we-do-our-music' antics, good humor, and heartfelt moments of self-admission."

STOMP

Tuesday-Wednesday, February 9-10, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$49-\$62

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$21-\$42

Family Friendly

Matchboxes, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters, and more fill the stage with energizing beats at STOMP, the inventive and invigorating stage show that's dance, music, and theatrical performance blended together in one electrifying rhythm.

This unique musical experience of choreographed percussion, movement, and physical comedy has been inspiring world audiences for 20 years—proving that, with a little creativity, rhythm and music can be born out of almost anything.

Loved by audiences and critics alike, STOMP won the Olivier Award for Best Choreography in 1994, produced and premiered an HBO miniseries, *Stomp Out Loud*, which received four Emmy nominations, and made it to *Entertainment Weekly's* list of "New Classics: The 50 Best Plays and Musicals from 1983 to 2008."

42nd Street

Tuesday-Wednesday, March 1-2, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

IU Bloomington Students: \$21-\$44

The quintessential backstage musical comedy classic *42nd Street* is the song and dance fable of Broadway with an American Dream story that includes some of the greatest songs ever written, such as "We're In The Money," "Lullaby of Broadway," "Shuffle Off To Buffalo," "Dames," "I Only Have Eyes For You," and of course "42nd Street."

Based on a novel by Bradford Ropes and Busby Berkeley's 1933 movie, *42nd Street* tells the story of a starry-eyed young dancer named Peggy Sawyer who leaves her Allentown home and comes to New York to audition for the new Broadway musical *Pretty Lady*. When the star breaks her ankle, Peggy takes over and becomes a star. With a book by Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble, music by Harry Warren and lyrics by Al Dubin, this sparkling new production will be directed by co-author Mark Bramble and choreographed by Randy Skinner, the team who staged the 2001 Tony Award-winning Best Musical Revival.

The Chieftains

Tuesday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$40-\$55

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$19-\$40

Family Friendly

Known as the best Irish band in the world today, The Chieftains' range and repertoire has captured a broad public for more than 50 years. The Chieftains, comprised of founder Paddy Moloney, fiddle player and renowned solo artist Seán Keane, lead vocalist Kevin Conneff, and flutist Matt Molloy, are known for breaking many musical boundaries, sharing their traditional Irish compositions in collaborations and performances with some of the biggest names in popular music, such as The Rolling Stones and Madonna.

Daring, inventive, yet utterly eloquent, The Chieftains is a band unlike any other. As *The New York Times* puts it, "The Chieftains and its leader, Paddy Moloney, have the rare ability to find connections between singers and songs and between Irish and other folk traditions that aren't always obvious."

Annie

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 5-6, 7:30 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

IU Bloomington Students and Children: \$21-\$44

Family Friendly

Leapin' Lizards! Everyone's favorite redhead returns to IU Auditorium with all the laughter, all the joy, and all the heartfelt sentimentality that has inspired generations of readers, movie fans, and theatregoers to fall in love with this timeless, rags-to-riches tale!

This season, the world's best-loved musical returns in time-honored form. Directed by original lyricist and director Martin Charnin and choreographed by IU alum Liza Gennaro, this production of *Annie* will be a brand-new incarnation of the iconic original.

Featuring book and score by Tony Award winners Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse, and Martin Charnin, *Annie* includes such unforgettable songs as "It's the Hard Knock Life," "Easy Street," "I Don't Need Anything But You," plus the eternal anthem of optimism, "Tomorrow."

Once

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 19-20, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

IU Bloomington Students: \$21-\$44

This unique and inspiring musical theatre event, based on the 2007 Academy Award-winning film, is propelled by its stunning ensemble of actor/musicians who perform their own instruments live on stage.

Lauded for redefining what it means to be a Broadway musical, *Once* tells the story of a street musician about give up on his dreams when a beautiful young woman takes a sudden interest in his haunting love songs. As the chemistry between them grows, his music soars to powerful new heights, but their unlikely connection turns out to be deeper and more complex than your everyday romance.

Bullets Over Broadway

Monday-Tuesday, May 2-3, 8 p.m.

General Public: \$39-\$65

IU Bloomington Students: \$21-\$44

Based on the screenplay of the acclaimed 1994 film by Woody Allen and Douglas McGrath, *Bullets Over Broadway* brings the talents of Woody Allen and Tony-winning director Susan Stroman together for the first time.

Hailed by *Time Magazine* as “musical theatre gold!” *Bullets Over Broadway* is the story of a young playwright who, in desperate need of financial backing for his next show, accepts an offer he can't refuse from a mobster looking to please his showgirl girlfriend.

Don't miss what *The New Yorker* exclaims as, “a fun machine from start to finish!” Loaded with big laughs, colorful characters, and the songs that made the 20s roar, *Bullets Over Broadway* is bringing musical comedy back with a bang.

The IU Auditorium 2015–2016 season is presented by Curry Auto Center, B97, the *Herald-Times*, and The Cook Family of Companies (Cook Medical–CFC Properties–French Lick Resort).

To see the complete list of shows for the 2015–2016 season, visit IUauditorium.com. The website features video clips and a selection of songs from next season's performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook Fan Page, Twitter page, and email club, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year. Tickets are available online at IUauditorium.com or by visiting the IU Auditorium box office, open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.