



Elena Olivo

23|24 SEASON

 UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

presents

THE DOO WOP PROJECT

SAT, FEB 17, 7:30 pm

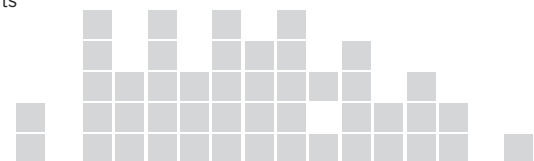
Hodgson Concert Hall

Program to be announced from the stage.

Supported by
THE DIXEN FOUNDATION

Please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices. Photography, video and audio recording, and texting are prohibited during the performance.

#ugapresents



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

THE DOO WOP PROJECT



Dominic Nolfi (Vocalist)

Dominic Nolfi most recently performed on Broadway in Chazz Palminteri's *A Bronx Tale: The Musical*, directed by Robert DeNiro and Jerry Zaks. As an Original Cast member of *A Bronx Tale: The Musical*, *Motown: The Musical* (Grammy nominated), and *Jersey Boys* (Grammy Award for Best Cast Album), he can be heard on all three soundtracks. Dominic also performed in the World Premiere productions of *A Bronx Tale* and *Jersey Boys* at the Paper Mill Playhouse and the La Jolla Playhouse. Dom was born and raised in San Francisco where he studied youth acting at the acclaimed American Conservatory Theatre. He studied voice at the San Francisco Conservatory and attended the Boston Conservatory on

scholarship where he graduated with a BFA in theater. Upon graduation Dominic joined the European production of *Grease*. It was there that he met his future wife Sonia Iannetti; they have a daughter, Vivienne. Dominic is a founding member of The Doo Wop Project and is unbelievably proud of his association with the other men who helped create the group.



Charl Brown (Vocalist)

Charl was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Musical for his role as "Smokey Robinson" in *Motown The Musical*; he reprised this role opening London's West End production in 2015. He is also featured on the Grammy-nominated original Broadway cast recording. In 2014 Charl was honored to work with Stephen Schwartz playing the role of Adam/Noah in *Children of Eden* in concert at the Kennedy Center. And last year returned to Kennedy Center in *The Who's Tommy*. Other credits include; *Jersey Boys* on Broadway and Las Vegas (Hal Miller) *Sister Act* Broadway (Officer Eddie Souther, TJ, Pablo U/S, Ensemble), *Hair* (Hud) European Tour, *The Who's Tommy* (Captain

Walker) Denver Center, *Ever After* (Captain Laurent) Papermill Playhouse, *Johnny Baseball* (Tim Wyatt) ART, *Dreamgirls* (Curtis Taylor Jr.) SDMT, *Ragtime* (Coalhouse) Performance Riverside, *Six Degrees of Separation* (Paul) Long Beach Playhouse, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Judas) Music at Westwood Theater, *A Chorus Line* (Richie) Starlight Theater, *Star Wars Trilogy in 30 Minutes* (Lando Calrissian)

Edinburgh Fringe Festival. TV: *Evil*; *Madam Secretary*; *America's Got Talent* (US & UK); *Macy's 85th & 87th Thanksgiving Day Parade*, *The 63rd Annual Tony Awards*, *A Capitol 4th 2013*. Charl is a proud Graduate of the University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts, where he currently sits on the advisory board for the inaugural BFA in musical theater class.



Dwayne Cooper (Vocalist)

Dwayne (The Bass) is from Florence, SC and currently lives in New York City. He first began singing with a Christian a cappella group called "The Cunningham Singers." Often referred to as a modern day Sammy Davis Jr. meets Barry White, he is what the industry calls a "triple threat" and has performed in the Broadway casts of *Motown: The Musical* and *Hairspray*, the Off Broadway revival of *Smokey Joe's Café*, and several national tours including *Showboat*. As a songwriter and producer, his songs have appeared on the Billboard's Top Ten Dance chart. Dwayne's film and television credits include *Law and Order*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Difficult People*, and *RuPaul's Drag Race*.



Russell Fischer (Vocalist)

Russell was cast in the Broadway company of *Jersey Boys* on his 22nd birthday, marking his Broadway debut. Fischer starred in the second national tour of *Big: The Musical*. His latest NYC credit was in *Baby Fat, Act 1: A Rock Opera* at LaMama Experimental Theater Club. Regional credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Music Man* at Chautauqua Opera, the American premiere of *Children of Eden* at Papermill Playhouse and most recently, the Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival premiere of *The Collins Boy*. Fischer was a featured vocalist on *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver* and in the HBO documentary *The Bronx, USA*. He has appeared on the live broadcasts of the 2015 *Belmont*

Stakes, the 2009 *Tony Awards*, and several spots for TV Land's *60 Second Sitcoms*. He enjoys sharing doo-wop music with audiences around the world.



John Michael Dias (Vocalist) —————

John Michael Dias recently appeared on Broadway as Neil Sedaka in the Tony and Grammy Award-winning hit *Beautiful: The Carol King Musical*. He originated same the role for the *Beautiful* first national tour. Dias gained a nationwide following starring as Frankie Valli of the Four Seasons in the smash hit *Jersey Boys*, playing the role on Broadway, as well as in the first national tour, Vegas, and Chicago companies. Concerts: *Breaking Up Is Hard to Do: Neil Sedaka's Greatest Hits!* He can also be seen singing special appearances with the vocal group The Doo-Wop Project. Dias' solo album, *Write This Way*, which features intimate takes on Broadway and pop favorites like "Can't Take

My Eyes off of You" and "New York State of Mind," is available on iTunes. Dias earned a BFA in musical theatre from Boston Conservatory.



Sonny Paladino (Music Director, Piano) —————

Most recently served as Music Director, vocal/ dance and incidental music arranger and orchestrator for the Broadway musical *Gettin' The Band Back Together*, and for the off-Broadway revival of *Smokey Joe's Café*. Other recent credits: music supervisor for the Broadway musical *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*. Arrangements and orchestrations for The Indianapolis, Baltimore, Vancouver, Detroit and Jacksonville symphony orchestras and The Philly Pops. Associate conductor for *The Last Ship* (written by 16-time Grammy award winner Sting), and the Tony-winning best revival, *Pippin*. Other Broadway credits as a musician: *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *Billy Elliot*; *Grease*; *Priscilla*,

Queen of the Desert; *Guys and Dolls*; *Mama Mia*; *Promises, Promises*; *Addams Family*; *Women on the Verge*. Music Supervisor for *Disney's High School Musical* (Milan/Italy tour). First national tours: *Disney's High School Musical*; *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Grease*. As a composer: *The Return of the Blue Cat* (with poet F.D. Reeve). TV: *Disney's Encore!*, *The X-Factor* (Australia), *The Next Big Thing*. Sonny holds a B.F.A. in Jazz Piano from CUNY City College.



Upcoming Performances

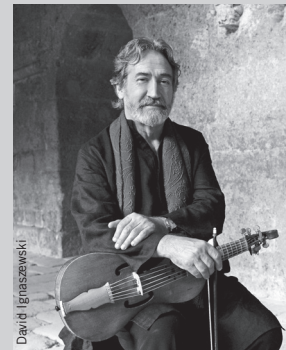


GENEVA LEWIS, violin
NATHAN LEWIS, piano

Mar 18, 2024 | 7:30 pm
Ramsey Concert Hall

"Intensely passionate and lively with moments of most painful sweetness and longing." —*Cultural Voice of North Carolina*

New Zealand-born violinist Geneva Lewis has forged a reputation as a musician of consummate artistry whose performances speak from, and to, the heart. Hailed as "clearly one to watch" (*Musical America*), she is the recipient of a 2021 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the Grand Prize winner of the 2020 Concert Artists Guild Competition.



JORDI SAVALL and **HESPÈRION XXI**

Apr 9, 2024 | 7:30 pm
Hodgson Concert Hall

"Here, finally, was a man worth celebrating. Savall is not only a performer of genius but also a conductor, a scholar, a teacher." —*The New Yorker*

Le Nuove Musiche: The Baroque Revolution in Europe (1560-1660)

For more than 50 years, Jordi Savall, one of the most versatile musical personalities of his generation, has rescued musical gems from obscurity for all to enjoy. A tireless early music researcher, he interprets the repertory both as a viola da gamba virtuoso and a conductor. Joined by his ensemble, Hespèrion XXI, he makes a highly anticipated Athens debut with a program of music from long ago, full of emotion and beauty.



JAKUB JÓZEF ORLIŃSKI, countertenor
IL POMO D'ORO

Apr 21, 2024 | 3:00 pm
Hodgson Concert Hall

"Surely Orliński has the most compelling, most otherworldly beautiful voice on the planet." —*ArtsATL*

Polish countertenor, breakdancer and model Jakub Józef Orliński is one of the world's leading singers. The ensemble Il Pomo d'Oro is characterized by authentic interpretations of Baroque and Classical music. These dynamic musicians join forces to showcase rarely performed works from the 16th and 17th centuries by Monteverdi, Caccini, Frescobaldi and others.

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