



PRESS RELEASE

The Grand 1894 Opera House
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THE GRAND 1894 OPERA HOUSE ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 SEASON

"The Best of Times" awaits you at Galveston's Grand 1894 Opera House this fall as the 2010-2011 Performing Arts Season unfolds. Opening with *Sinatra Sings Sinatra*, a sparkling tribute to Frank Sinatra starring Frank Sinatra, Jr.; the star power continues throughout the season with appearances by John Lithgow, Sinbad, Sir James and Lady Jeanne Galway and Gladys Knight, along with spectacular Broadway productions of *The Color Purple*, and *Spamalot*. Experience the passion and drama of ballroom dance through the sizzling steps of Burn the Floor, and the athleticism of Pilobolus Dance Company. Back for encore performances will be Steve Tyrell, Jerry Jeff Walker, The Oak Ridge Boys, The Rob Landes Trio, and the highly anticipated return of *A Tuna Christmas* – booked for two weeks this season. With a wide range of performances, The Grand will transport you to "The Best of Times" in entertainment.

September 25 – "Sinatra Sings Sinatra" starring Frank Sinatra, Jr.

The smooth vocals and swinging style of the legendary "Chairman of the Board" continues to captivate new fans with the music and the memories more than two decades after his passing.

The Grand kicks off its new season with a sparkling tribute to Frank, featuring superb original big-band arrangements and the songs that remind you of the best of times, sung as only Frank Sinatra Jr. can!

October 2 – John Lithgow – "Stories By Heart"

A touching and humorous theatrical tour-de-force, John Lithgow in “Stories By Heart” invokes memories of three generations of family history while tracing his own life as an actor and storyteller.

October 9 – “Girls Night: The Musical!”

A feel-good, 'tell-it-like-it-is' look at the lives of a group of female friends, who go from heartbreak to happiness during a wild night of karaoke. Prepare to laugh, cry, and dance in the aisles with your friends, sisters, and co-workers to hits like “Lady Marmalade,” “It’s Raining Men,” “Girls Just Want to Have Fun,” “I Will Survive,” and many more!

October 12 – “Giggle, Giggle, Quack”– *Dallas Children's Theatre*

The hilarious sequel to “Click, Clack Moo: Cows That Type” comes to life on stage, enchanting young audiences and the young at heart.

October 16 – “My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm Still in Therapy”

In this new prequel to his show *My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm in Therapy*, Steve Solomon explores the wacky side of the human condition with the latest chapter of his family saga. Hilarious fun!

October 17 – Jackie Mason- “The World According to Me”

Jackie Mason is more popular than ever, as he combines lethal political satire with his own unique observations about everyday life. This is Jackie Mason’s first one-man Broadway show, which earned him a special Tony award for outstanding theatrical achievement in 1989.

October 22-23 – “Defending the Caveman”

Written by Rob Becker, this hilariously insightful one-man show about the ongoing misunderstandings between men and exposes the perils and pleasures of contemporary feminism, masculine sensitivity, and our outrageous abilities to fight with, laugh at, and love the opposite sex! Be prepared to laugh out loud!

October 29-30 – “Burn the Floor”

If you like *Dancing with the Stars*, you'll love the nonstop dance of *Burn the Floor!*

Twenty award-winning international dancers show off moves from the Samba, Foxtrot, Charleston, Cha-Cha, Rumba, Jive, Swing and the Tango, just to name a few!

November 10 – "Pigeon Party"- *Kids' Entertainment*

Mo Willem's Pigeon is back and ready to party! This lively show squeezes all the fun of the first three Pigeon books into one raucous production!

November 12 – "Wired"- *Green Thumb Theatre*

In a time of constantly being "wired in", this new play examines the alarming rise of cyber-bullying.

November 13 – Rex Reed's “The Man That Got Away: Ira Without George”

Mr. Reed’s exuberant storytelling and a strong pop-jazz quintet featuring Tom Wolpat, Kurt Reichenback, Linda Purl and Sally Mayes with special guest Polly Bergen, combine to celebrate the songs of Ira Gershwin. The evening follows the life of lyricist Ira Gershwin, George's older brother — from childhood through his first song-writing projects, the tragic death of George, and the following decades of phenomenal lyric output.

November 20 – “Sinbad, Where U Been?”

Stand-up comedian, movie and TV star Sinbad brings his tickle your funny bone" talent to The Grand with comedy that is profound without being profane.

December 14-19, 2010 and January 4-9, 2011 – “A Tuna Christmas”

Our favorite friends from Tuna, Texas return to The Grand for not one, but two weeks of laughter with original stars Joe Sears and Jaston Williams!

January 1– Jerry Jeff Walker

"Mr. Bojangles" returns to The Grand for his annual New Year's concert.

January 22 – “Spamalot”

A new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," *Spamalot* has been hailed as a "no-holds-barred smash hit" (The New Yorker).

January 29-30 – The Oak Ridge Boys

This great quartet returns to The Grand with their sweet four-part harmony!

February 5 – “The Color Purple”- The Musical about Love

From the classic Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker, and the moving film by Steven Spielberg, comes a soul-stirring new musical and journey of survival and triumph!

February 13 – The Rob Landes Trio- "Love in the Afternoon"

A favorite tradition at The Grand – spend a Sunday afternoon with music by The Rob Landes Trio. Performing just before Valentine’s day, “Love Songs” will fill The Grand!

February 19 – Roger Llewellyn: “Sherlock Holmes – The Death and Life”

In this wryly humorous tale of murder, mystery & the occult... The World's Greatest Detective refuses to leave the stage!

February 20 – Gladys Knight in Concert

One of the most instantly recognizable and loved voices in popular music, Gladys Knight makes her first appearance at The Grand, celebrating her latest CD, *Before Me* — a heart-felt salute to the great performers who greatly influenced her career.

March 8 – "Room on the Broom"- *Tall Stories Theatre Co.*

The witch and her cat, find a helpful dog, bird and frog as all hop on the broom for a ride. Will there ever be room on the broom for everyone? Adapted from the book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

March 18 – Montana Rep's “Bus Stop”

William Inge's charming classic explores the perils of modern romance. "An uproarious comedy" with the message that "we're all in this together".

March 19 – Sir James Galway and Lady Jeanne Galway

“The Man with the Golden Flute,” Sir James Galway returns for an encore performance accompanied by Lady Jeanne Galway, flute and Michael McHale, piano.

March 22 – "Madeline and the Bad Hat"- *Artspower*

An original musical based up on the much-loved book, this performance traces the adventures of Madeline who- despite starting off on the wrong foot with a new neighbor- eventually learns that first impressions aren't everything.

March 31 – "The Ugly Duckling"- *Bits 'N' Pieces Puppet Theatre*

The story of Pinky, a perky, hot pink Florida flamingo, hatched by a couple of very proper Polar Penguin parents! Pinky Flamingo learns that it's hard to be different, but you must be yourself to find true happiness.

April 2 – 16th Anniversary of The Grand Kids Festival

With three stages, a storytelling tent, over a dozen “hands-on” activity areas, and forty plus activity booths spanning over three blocks along Postoffice Street in downtown Galveston, it is no wonder that over 4,000 people attend this fun-filled festival each year!

April 6 – "Ferdinand the Bull"- *ChildsPlay Theatre*

Adapted from the Munro Leaf classic "The Story of Ferdinand," this Spanish-infused gem celebrates individuality as Ferdinand refuses to go along with the crowd.

April 10 – Pilobolus Dance Company

Renowned the world over for its imaginative and athletic exploration of creative collaboration, Pilobolus is dance at its innovative best! “Sliding, intertwining and climbing all over each other into moving shapes, their virtually indescribable sculptural tableaux forged a new dance genre.” -

- *Philadelphia Daily News*

May 4 – "Swimmy, Frederick and Inch By Inch"- *Kids' Entertainment*

A fragile fish that learns to ward off danger. A poetic mouse who strives to make each day an artful experience. A loveable inch worm who shares his ability to measure absolutely *anything*. These inspiring characters were immortalized in Leo Lionni's award-winning fables *Swimmy*, *Frederick and Inch by Inch*.

May 6-7 – Steve Tyrell in Concert

Grammy winning Texan Steve Tyrell returns to The Grand with his signature sounds!

May 9 – "There's an Alligator Under My Bed", "A Nightmare in My Closet" and "Something in My Attic" - *Omaha Children's Theatre*

Three classic tales by Mercer Meyer come to life on stage!

Discounts for groups and senior citizens may be available for select performances. Subscriptions are on sale now – choose four or more shows and create your own performance package. Additional subscription benefits include priority seating and the opportunity to exchange tickets up to 48 hours in advance of a selected performance. Single tickets (if available) go on sale August 23, 2010 at 9am. The Grand 1894 Opera House is located at 2020 Postoffice Street in historic downtown Galveston. All major credit cards accepted. Performance schedule is subject to change without notice.

Visit The Grand's website at www.thegrand.com or call (409) 765-1894 or (800) 821-1894 for additional information.