

Michael Feinstein is bringing his Judy Garland show to Lehigh



The crooner Michael Feinstein is bringing his Judy Garland show to the Zoellner Arts Center at Lehigh University at 7:30 p.m. on November 5.

This son of Eastern European Jews whose surprisingly melodic boyhood poking on a neighbor's piano in New York City's Lower East Side inspired his parents to buy a cheap upright and splurge on lessons has made a career of keeping alive songs from the golden age of American pop music.

Previous Feinstein shows have focused on the tunes of George and Ira Gershwin and on songwriters of Tin Pan Alley, most of whom shared Jewish heritage and roots in working-class New York with Feinstein and the Gershwins. Famous Tin Pan Alley names include Irving Berlin, Oscar Hammerstein II, Jerome Kern and Richard Rodgers.

Titled "Get Happy: Michael Feinstein Celebrates the Judy Garland Centennial," the show coming to the Zoellner center's 1,000 seat Baker Hall was created for what would have been "The Wizard of Oz" star's 100th birthday this year. Feinstein will lead the audience through the life of the singer and actress, from vaudeville and the silver screen to the concert hall and television.

Liza Minnelli, daughter of Garland and a close friend of Feinstein, is executive producer of the production and provided personal stories for it. Also featured will be some recently discovered, previously unperformed musical arrangements.

For further information on the event and to buy tickets, visit the Zoellner Arts Center website at zoellner.cas.lehigh.edu.