

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

2023 **2024**

PLAYBILL





Photo By John Kish IV

DEAR FRIENDS,

This season, I am thinking about our future makers and ways to make art together. The stories on our stages, both inside and beyond the building, offer an opportunity to hear new voices and diverse perspectives from world-class artists and talented Lehigh students.

Sphinx Virtuosi opens the Presenting Series with an exciting program highlighting the excellence of Black and Latinx performers and

composers. The San Diego Symphony graces our stage to premiere a new work by Carlos Simon, the Kennedy Center's composer-in-residence, the night before they debut it in Carnegie Hall.

The imaginative Momix celebrates its 40th anniversary with a fantastical version of *Alice in Wonderland*. The Vienna Boys Choir rings in the holidays with traditional songs in Packer Memorial Church. Mermaid Theater's *The Rainbow Fish* is a delight for audiences of all ages. Lehigh Music Department Chair Paul Salerni conducts a live orchestra for Nimbus Dance's contemporary interpretation of Copland's *Appalachian Spring*.

The university's music and theatre departments continue to amplify students' talents with the artistic vision of our esteemed faculty. See the future makers share their creativity this season.

We understand the importance of building our future audiences. Our Family Series partnership with the Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital ensures engagement continues with our second annual fun-filled Family Day.

Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble joins us for a year-long residency, building dialogue and collaboration in the community beyond our building. The ensemble activates spaces with art by listening to individuals and turning their stories into a devised play that will be seen throughout Bethlehem's South Side neighborhood, weaving the campus and community together with a beautiful performance.

How excited I am that Zoellner Arts Center's 2023-2024 season adds to the vibrant arts scene in the Lehigh Valley and is a conduit to bring the area's rural, suburban and urban communities together. Thank you for your continued support. Arts have an impact in our community because of you.

Mark Fitzgerald Wilson

Executive Director

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FAMILY SERIES

ARTRAGEOUS + STORYFACES



**ZOELLNER
ARTS CENTER**
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY



2023.2024
SEASON

Zoellner Arts Center receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

 **pennsylvania**
COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

ABOUT THE ARTRAGEOUS SHOW

Artrageous is a troupe of multi-talented Live performance artists, world-class singers, and recording artists, highly trained dancers, and audience motivators, and veteran musicians hailing from the high desert of New Mexico. Their high energy performance is a combination of ALL ARTS on ONE STAGE, combined with humor and interaction in a frenzy of movement and color.

Artrageous has a passion for all things art and community and they bring their message of the arts being an integral and valuable part of human existence to the stage, leaving their audience of all ages singing, dancing, and clapping along.

Artrageous has been fortunate to perform for theatre-goers and celebrities alike and their artworks are in private and public galleries around the world.

ENTER THE WORLD OF ARTRAGEOUS

Costumed Artrageous troupe members greet patrons in the theatre encouraging them to choose a souvenir finger light ring and participate in fun art activities where they win prizes and create their own original works of art on a troupe member. Artrageous actors teach members of the audience dance moves they will use later and pick brave volunteers to join the troupe on stage for special numbers in the show.

Our custom Artrageous soundtrack plays while creative art quotes and Artrageous facts are displayed on the video screen leaving the audience intrigued as to what will happen next.

“Each scene or musical number includes some sort of audience participation.”

The audience is immersed in the world of Artrageous and become participants in the show, not merely watchers. For the brave audience members, they are invited to join the troupe on stage for special numbers featuring their creativity. For the more mild audience members, the Artrageous vocalists will instruct vocal parts as they sing along and use their souvenir finger lights to create a light show.

There is something for everyone, whether you are a performer at heart or just want to be thoroughly entertained.

EXPANDING THE PALETTE

Never before have so many live arts been presented on one stage. Artists, using hands, brushes, and other objects, create visual art pieces making lines and shapes on giant canvas' while the audience is intrigued to guess what each painting will become. Lines and brush strokes become portraits of famous icons in a matter of moments. All the while, live musicians are performing popular musical styles from pop to country to Artrageous original music with Artrageous' powerful vocalists creating smooth harmonies.

Our Artrageous dancers incorporate dance moves that the audience learned before the show and the audience can't help but dance in the aisles and at their seats. The troupe incorporates their street theatre roots and introduces the ancient art of life-size puppetry as their puppet Howard takes the audience on an imaginative dream through a world of blacklight where masterpiece paintings are created by a team of artists as the painting seems to appear out of thin air. The audience is in awe as they see floating people and paintings appear in Howard's blacklight world.

The grand finale integrates live music, vocalists, and a trio of art creations leaving the audience on their feet dancing, singing, and clapping along.

BEYOND THE CANVAS

At the end of the performance, the entire audience is invited on stage to interact with the exclusive, created just for them, Live Arts Installation. The audience can view the artworks created during the presentation and enjoy a completely unique view of the show. The audience has a chance to meet the troupe and take photos as they walk through the gallery of live art.

UNIQUE TO ARTRAGEOUS

A signature of Artrageous Artwork is Splatter! Take advantage of this unique to Artrageous opportunity! After the show on stage, audience members are invited to bring up one of their favorite t-shirts or hats or pair of shoes...Get creative! Step into the (Free) Artrageous Splatter Station and have one of the Artists turn your gear into a custom art piece!

ABOUT STORYFACES

The stories come to life on the faces of the audience in this innovative and exciting storytelling show for adults and family audiences, in which volunteers are brought on stage and face painted to illustrate stories as artist Christopher Agostino tells captivating folktales, and his uniquely animated original stories — ranging from the comic adventures of The Amazing Face Story to the heroic tale of Punia and the King of the Sharks and an ancient tale asking the timeless question: Is Life Fair? He is the artistic director of Transformations Facepainting, a company that has transformed thousands of people annually for the Bronx Zoo, NYC Parks Department, the NYC Housing Authority, and special events like the World Science Festival.

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Friday, March 1, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

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Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

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Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Admission: \$35 at the door
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2023-24 SEASON

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- **Christmas in Allentown + Bethlehem** ((o)) *Livestream option Sat. & Sun., December 9 & 10* at 4pm **Bach Magnificat + Christen ätzet diesen Tag, BWV 63 + Carols!**
- **Spring in Bethlehem – BACH INSPIRED** ■ Sun., March 17 at 4pm **Bach Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott, BWV 80 + Selections from our June European tour**
- + **116th Bethlehem Bach Festival** ■ May 10–11 & 17–18, 2024
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 - The immortal **Mass in B Minor** ((o)) Live-stream option May 11
- + **Our Community & Educational Programs**
 - **Bach at Noon** Free and open to the public, second Tuesdays
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PARKING IS FREE in the garage attached to the center for all Presenting Series, Lehigh University Music Dept. and Dept. of Theatre events (excluding some weekday morning events and Christmas Vespers in Packer Chapel). Please note, there may be a parking charge for rental events.

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Please silence all mobile devices upon entering the theatre.

To leave theatres during performances, use the rear doors, if you are able, to minimize disruption of performance.

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We welcome children of all ages to our Family Series shows. For performances not listed as Family Series in our brochure, we recommend that attendees be ages four and over. Everyone entering the theatre must have a ticket, and sit quietly in a seat throughout the performance. There are closed-circuit monitors in the lobby which supervised children may use to watch performances if they need a break.

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Video recording or photography may occur for this performance that might include images of audience members. Your attendance at today’s performance grants permission for further usage of such images.

ZOELLNER ARTS CENTER

2023 FALL SEASON AT A GLANCE



HELL'S KITCHEN FUNK ORCHESTRA	SEP 9
LUVME <i>Disruption and Hope</i>	SEP 23
SPHINX VIRTUOSI <i>Generations</i>	SEP 29
THE PRINCETON SINGERS <i>Inspirations</i>	OCT 1
THIS IS NOT THE PLAY	OCT 4-7
THE BACON BROTHERS	OCT 6
NEIL GAIMAN	OCT 8
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY	OCT 12
STORYFACES + ARTRAGEOUS	FAMILY DAY
 Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital FAMILY SERIES	OCT 14
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL ARTS <i>Sacred and Profane</i>	OCT 21-22
MOMIX <i>Alice</i>	OCT 28
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY JAZZ REPERTORY ORCHESTRA	OCT 29
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY FACULTY STRING QUARTET <i>Impression, Sunrise</i>	NOV 5
RAGS PARKLAND SINGS THE SONGS OF THE FUTURE	NOV 10-17
THE RODNEY MARSALIS PHILADELPHIA BIG BRASS	NOV 17
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE <i>Come Dance with Us</i>	NOV 19
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY PHILHARMONIC <i>A Dance Across Life</i>	DEC 1-2
FANCY NANCY SPLENDIFEROUS CHRISTMAS	
 Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital FAMILY SERIES	DEC 3
CHERISH THE LADIES <i>A Celtic Christmas</i>	DEC 8
POSTMODERN JUKEBOX <i>Life in the Past Lane</i>	DEC 9
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY CHORAL ARTS <i>Christmas Vespers</i>	DEC 10
VIENNA BOYS CHOIR	DEC 15
THE NUTCRACKER	DEC 16-17

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