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[casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com](mailto:casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com)**Mesa Arts Center announces second half of Performing Live season**

**Dec. 9, 2019 (Mesa, AZ)** – Mesa Arts Center today announced new shows added to the 2020 Performing Live lineup, expanding upon the more than thirty already-announced performances in the second half of the season. Shows added include: **5 Soldiers**, an evening-length dance work by choreographer Rosie Kay (March 11-14); **Airmen of Note**, a free performance by the premiere jazz ensemble of the United States Air Force (April 16); the **9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Jazz Day Festival**, a free jazz event (April 26); and **Amor Eterno: Mother's Day Mariachi** presented in partnership with the East Valley Chamber of Commerce (May 9). Tickets for the aforementioned shows will be available to Mesa Arts Center Members beginning Dec. 11 and on sale to the general public Dec. 13. Tickets available at the Mesa Arts Center Box Office, at [mesaartscenter.com](http://mesaartscenter.com) or by calling 480-644-6500.

Highlights for the second half of the Performing Live season include **A Bowie Celebration**, which features key alumni musicians from David Bowie's bands across the decades and special guest vocalists Living Colour's Corey Glover and *Westworld's* Even Rachel Wood; **The Bachelor Live**, hosted by former contestants Ben Higgins and Becca Kufrin; a special Valentine's Day engagement with vocalist **Renée Fleming**; An Evening with violinist **Itzhak Perlman** in celebration of his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday; and **Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical**, with a script written by Mo Willems, creator of the best-selling book with the same title.

The full schedule, including the **National Geographic Live** speaker series which delivers stories of life-changing explorations from behind the camera, is listed below and available at [MesaArtsCenter.com](http://MesaArtsCenter.com).

**PERFORMING LIVE SCHEDULE, CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER****Mandy Patinkin in Concert: Diaries****With Adam Ben-David On Piano**

Jan. 15 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$45-\$85

Pre-Show Dinner Available

DIARIES is a powerful Marriage of many of Mandy's favorite Broadway and classic American tunes, along with selections from his newest recordings. From Randy Newman to Stephen Sondheim, from Harry Chapin to Rufus Wainwright, Mandy Patinkin takes you on a dazzling musical journey you'll never forget.

**Stanley Clarke Band**

Jan. 17 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$50

Grammy® Award winner Stanley Clarke has attained “living legend” status during his over 40-year career as a bass virtuoso. He is the first bassist to double on acoustic and electric bass with equal ferocity and the first jazz-fusion bassist to headline tours, selling out shows worldwide. He was *Rolling Stone’s* first Jazzman of the Year and was honored with *Bass Player Magazine’s* Lifetime Achievement Award.

### **Ballet Folclórico Nacional de México De Silvia Lozano**

Jan. 19 | 3:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$25-\$45

Ballet Folclórico Nacional de México de Silvia Lozano is an institution tasked with the dissemination, preservation and promotion of the Culture of Mexico, both at home and abroad. With an artistic career spanning over 56 years, the BFNM reflects the work of Mexico’s leading researchers and practitioners of folklore, dance, music, and costumes.

### ***National Geographic Live!***

#### **Shannon Wild: Pursuit of The Black Panther**

Jan. 22 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

In 15 years as a wildlife photographer and cinematographer, Shannon Wild has been bitten in the face by a dog, charged by an elephant, and mauled by a cheetah. Get a behind-the-scenes look at the challenges and dangers of her most difficult assignment to date: documenting a rare and elusive black panther in the dense forest in southern India.

*Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona.*

### **Catalyst Quartet**

Jan. 23 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

Hailed by the New York Times as “invariably energetic and finely burnished...playing with earthy vigor,” Catalyst Quartet is comprised of top Laureates and alumni of the Sphinx Competition. Known for “rhythmic energy, polyphonic clarity and tight ensemble-playing,” they combine a commitment to diversity and education with a passion for contemporary works.

Classical Music Inside Out supported by Bill Passey & Maria Silva, Gloria Miner Charitable Foundation. *Catalyst Quartet is supported by Arizona Commission on the Arts, the Western Arts Federation and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

### **The Fab Four**

Jan. 24 | 8:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater

\$29.50-\$62.50 (DAY OF SHOW \$5.00 INCREASE)

The Fab Four is elevated far above every other Beatles Tribute due to their precise attention to detail. With uncanny, note-for-note live renditions of Beatles songs, you’ll think you are watching the real thing. This show represents every era of the Beatles ever-changing career. Hear such classics as “Can’t Buy Me Love,” “Yesterday,” “Here Comes the Sun,” and “Hey Jude.”

*Presented in partnership with Emporium Presents and Live Nation.*

### **Lisa Lampanelli’s Losin’ It!**

Jan. 24 | 7:30 p.m. · Jan. 25 | 3:00 & 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$50

In a departure from the insult comedy she was once known for, LISA LAMPANELLI’S LOSIN’ IT

is a heartfelt, funny theatrical evening focusing on issues of weight, body image, and “losin’ it!” Lisa has lost and gained more than 372 pounds over the course of her life. Lisa and friends charm theatergoers with hilarious anecdotes about their own struggles, spiked with Lisa’s cutting-edge humor.

### **Mystery Science Theater 3000 Live: The Great Cheesy Movie Circus Tour**

Jan. 29 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$37.50-\$78.00 VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE \$128 -\$328  
The hilarious Peabody Award-winning hit TV comedy is coming to Mesa with an all-new Mystery Science Theater 3000 Live: The Great Cheesy Movie Circus Tour! Join creator and original host, Joel Hodgson, in his final tour and the world’s greatest movie-riffing robots, Tom Servo, Crow, and Gypsy, as they take you on a roller coaster ride through some of the cheesiest films ever made.

*Presented in partnership with Tobin Entertainment.*

### **The Moth Mainstage**

Feb. 5 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$33-\$48

The Moth is dedicated to the art of storytelling, and has presented more than 3,000 stories, told live and without notes, by people from all walks of life to standing room only crowds worldwide. Each Moth Mainstage features simple, old-fashioned storytelling by five wildly divergent raconteurs who develop shape for their stories with The Moth’s directors.

### **The Bachelor Live on Stage**

Feb. 13 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$40-\$80 | VIP: \$ 150

Pre-Show Cocktail Hour Available

The most successful reality romance series in the history of television is coming to Mesa. Hosted by Bachelor Nation favorites Ben Higgins and Becca Kufrin, the live event guarantees all the drama of your favorite TV show in one evening. One eligible hometown Bachelor will be introduced to local ladies from the audience for a chance at love. Come to enjoy the show or come to fall in love!

### **Renée Fleming in Recital with Gerald Martin Moore, Piano**

Feb. 14 | 8:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$55-\$ 110

Four-time Grammy® Award-winner Renée Fleming is one of the most acclaimed singers of our time. The only classical artist ever to sing the National Anthem at the Super Bowl, she is known for bringing new audiences to opera and classical music, with a voice *The Times* of London called, “...as warm and rich as a fine single malt.”

### ***National Geographic Live!***

#### **Kakani Katija: Designed by Nature**

Feb. 19 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

Bioengineer and research diver Kakani Katija takes you deep into the midwaters of the ocean—one of the least explored ecosystems on our planet—and shares how its inhabitants could lead to breakthroughs in bio-inspired design, like energy efficient jellyfish-inspired robotics. Now, she studies little-known sea creatures that have the potential to make a big impact.

*Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona. Supported by Wells Fargo.*

### **Simply Three**

Feb. 21 | 8:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$38

The electrifying trio has been captivating audiences with high-octane performances since 2010. A classical crossover, they perform a range of genres that span Adele, Gershwin, Ed Sheeran and more. With every-growing online popularity, they are creating renewed excitement for instrumental music through inventive music videos that have captured the hearts of millions on YouTube.

### **Travis Tritt Solo Acoustic**

Feb. 23 | 7:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$36-\$66

Enjoy a special evening with CMA and Grammy® award-winning country artist Travis Tritt in an intimate solo-acoustic setting where his powerful voice and his guitar are in the spotlight. Hear personal stories and anecdotes about his life and musical influences and enjoy hits such as “T-R-O-U-B-L-E,” “It’s A Great Day to Be Alive” and “Best of Intentions.”

*Presented in partnership with Chandler Center for the Arts.*

### **The Doo Wop Project**

Feb. 27 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$35-\$45

The Doo Wop Project traces the evolution of Doo Wop from the classic sound of five guys singing tight harmonies to the biggest hits on the radio today. DWP takes audiences on a journey from foundational tunes of groups like the Crests, Belmonts and Flamingos all the way to DooWopified versions of modern musicians like Michael Jackson, Jason Mraz and Maroon 5.

### **An Evening with Itzhak Perlman**

**Accompanied by Rohan De Silva, Piano**

#### **75th Birthday Celebration**

Feb. 29 | 8:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$55-\$110

Pre-Show Dinner Available

Join us for a special 75th Birthday Celebration of Perlman, whose career has become legendary since making his world-premiere on the Ed Sullivan show over 60 years ago. The evening will be a multi-media experience with Perlman sharing stories of his life, family and career.

### **Il Volo: The Best Of 10 Years**

March 1 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$65-\$ 95 VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Celebrating their 10-year anniversary, Il Volo returns with their new album, *10 Years - The Best of*, which offers all the best of Il Volo’s repertoire from “O Sole Mio” to “My Way” to “Grande Amore.” The three young artists have performed over 620 concerts in cities around the world!

*Presented in partnership with Live Nation Entertainment.*

### **A Bowie Celebration: Bowie Alumni Play Diamond Dogs & Ziggy Stardust**

March 4 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$27-\$52 VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Join key alumni musicians of David Bowie’s bands as they play *Diamond Dogs* and *Ziggy*

*Stardust* albums in their entirety. Anchored by Mike Garson the show will feature Bowie band alumni Gerry Leonard, Carmine Rojas, Kevin Armstrong and Alan Childs. Special guests include Living Colour vocalist Corey Glover and Westworld's Evan Rachel Wood.

### **The Finest Hour: Davina And the Vagabonds and Hot Club Of Cowtown**

March 5 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$37

The Finest Hour is a celebration of the fleeting, platinum age in American popular music following World War II, when European jazz, western swing, blues and pop shared the airwaves. See Davina and The Vagabonds and Hot Club of Cowtown performing a range of music from Billie Holiday to Gene Autry, Lester Young to Doris Day and Bing Crosby.

### **5 Soldiers**

March 11-14 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$35

Choreographer Rosie Kay's 5 SOLDIERS is a thrilling and humane portrait of army life telling the stories of men and women serving on the front line. Kay joined the 4th Battalion The Rifles, to watch and participate in full battle exercises, and visited the National Defense Medical Rehabilitation Centre. What came of these observations is the award-winning, five-star dance work 5 SOLDIERS.

*Supported by The Boeing Company*

### **Live from Laurel Canyon**

#### **Songs and Stories of American Folk Rock**

March 15 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$42

Live from Laurel Canyon is a retrospective of music and stories of some of the most influential artists who lived in Laurel Canyon between '65 and '75. Like other legendary rock and roll neighborhoods (Haight Ashbury) Laurel Canyon was a community of artists like The Mamas and The Papas, the Byrds, Doors, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, James Taylor, the Eagles and more.

### **Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!**

March 16 | 7:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$18

It's not easy being The Pigeon – you never get to do ANYTHING! But when the Bus Driver has a crisis that threatens to make her passengers (gasp!) late, maybe that wily bird CAN do something. With a script written by Mo Willems, creator of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling book, this comedic musical production is more fun than staying up late and having a hot dog party!

### **Robert Dubac's Book of Moron**

March 17-20, 7:30p.m. | March 21, 3p.m. & 7:30p.m.

March 22, 2p.m. & 6p.m. | Nesbitt- Elliott Playhouse Theater | \$55

Robert Dubac's Off-Broadway hit has been described as one of the most hilarious and intelligent satirical attacks on idiocracy since Mark Twain. *The New York Times* raves, "Riding shotgun with intelligence and absurdity, BOOK OF MORON crashes headfirst into the barriers of sex, race, religion, politics and the media. It may be offensive to some but there's laughter for

all!”

***National Geographic Live!***

**Andy Mann: From Summit to Sea**

March 18 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$44

Filmmaker and photographer Andy Mann uses his work to bridge the gap between science and policy. From his early days as a rock climber to his current passion documenting the critically endangered oceanic whitetip shark, his stunning images tell the story of our rapidly changing planet.

*Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona*

**Blackbird, Fly**

**Marc Bamuthi Joseph & Daniel Bernard Roumain**

March 20 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$32

Steeped in hip-hop aesthetic, this intimate duet between two preeminent sons of Haitian immigrants—composer/violinist Roumain, and arts activist & spoken word artist BAMUTHI— weaves together a tapestry of movement, narrative, music and Haitian folklore.

*Supported by AZ Commission on the Arts, WESTAF and National Endowment for the Arts.*

**Mark & Maggie O’ Connor: American Classics**

March 26 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

American Classics identifies the cornerstones of repertoire, style and wonderful diversity of New American School of String Playing. The program offers a broad and interconnecting collection of American music through violin/fiddle solos and duos, with additional music by Mr. O’Connor on guitar.

*Classical Music Inside Out supported by Bill Passey & Mar.ia Silva, Gloria Miner Charitable Foundation.*

**The Office! A Musical Parody**

March 27-29 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$45

Singing! Dancing! Paper! It’s a typical morning at Scranton’s third largest paper company until, for no logical reason, a documentary crew begins filming the lives of the employees of Dunder Mifflin. Don’t miss this hilarious, unauthorized parody of the hit TV show, *The Office*, featuring songs such as “Welcome to Scranton (The Electric City),” “That’s What She Said,” and more!

**Fly Higher: Charlie Parker @ 100**

March 31 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$ 45

Parker’s centennial year will be honored by showcasing “Bird’s” musical joy, humor, and beauty. Co-musical directors Rudresh Mahanthappa (alto-saxophone) and Terri Lyne Carrington (drums) celebrate one of the most influential artists in modern musical history, joined by Charenée Wade (vocals), Adam O’Farrill (trumpet), Kris Davis (piano), Larry Grenadier (bass) and Kassa Overall (DJ).

**Dorrance Dance**

April 1 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$30-\$60

Dorrance Dance is an award-winning tap dance company that aims to honor tap's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; by pushing it – rhythmically, technically and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap."

### **Drum Tao 2020**

April 4 | 8:00 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | \$19-\$39

TAO's modern, high-energy performances showcasing the ancient art of Japanese drumming have transfixed audiences worldwide. Combining highly physical, large-scale drumming with contemporary costumes, precise choreography, and innovative visuals, the performers of DRUM TAO 2020 create an energetic and unforgettable production. Don't miss this vibrantly modern twist on a traditional art form!

### **Wordplay Café Story Slam**

April 4 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$15

The WordPlay Café open mic series culminates in an exciting stage show featuring storytellers, spoken word artists and musicians. Judged by professional storytellers and members of the audience, the Story Slam is a platform for celebrating one of humanity's oldest art forms, while also using competition to challenge storytellers to take new risks.

### **Natasha Paremski, Piano**

April 9 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$38-\$46

With her consistently striking and dynamic performances, pianist Natasha Paremski reveals astounding virtuosity and voracious interpretive abilities. She continues to generate excitement from all corners of the world as she wins over audiences with her musical sensibility and powerful, flawless technique.

*Classical Music Inside Out supported by Bill Passey & Maria Silva, Gloria Miner Charitable Foundation.*

### **Airmen of Note**

April 16 | 7:30 p.m. | Ikeda Theater | FREE

The Airmen of Note is the premier jazz ensemble of the U.S. Air Force. Presenting its own brand of big band jazz along with more contemporary forms, the band consists of 18 active duty Airmen musicians and one vocalist. The Airmen of Note honors those who have served and connects with the global community on behalf of the U.S. Air Force and the United States.

### **Jazzmeia Horn**

April 21 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$ 36

Horn's debut album, *A Social Call*, was released to overwhelming acclaim, earning her first GRAMMY® Award nomination for Best Jazz Vocal Album. Filled with great storytelling, an inspired message, fluid vocals, scat-singing, and more, the album serves as a clarion call, proudly announcing the arrival of a confident musical talent with a bright future ahead of her.

### **9th Annual International Jazz Day Festival**

April 26 | 4:00 p.m. | Alliance Pavilion | Free

Mesa Arts Center and the Jazz Day AZ Foundation celebrate International Jazz Day with a stellar lineup of musicians. Headliner Bernard Wright, keyboard artist and son of American singer Roberta Flack, is joined by Jessica Kotu (singer/songwriter), Neamen Lyles (recording artist), Ted Belledin (keyboard/saxophone player), Mar.io Abney (jazz trumpet) and Eloni Yawn (vocalist).

### **Amor Eterno: A Mother's Day Mariachi Concert Celebration**

May 9 | 7:00 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$38

Give the gift of music this Mother's Day! Enjoy an unforgettable evening of Mariachi music and folklorico performances with your favorite madrecita (mom) on Saturday, May 9.

*Presented in partnership with East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.*

### **Brian Culbertson: The XX Tour**

May 19-20 | 7:30 p.m. | Piper Theater | \$42.50-\$62.50 VIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Brian Culbertson, an award-winning multi-instrumentalist, songwriter and producer known for his distinct brand of genre-crossing contemporary jazz, R & B and funk, is setting out with his on The XX Tour, playing the new album and other songs from his hit-filled songbook. An exuberant band performer, Culbertson has amassed 30 Billboard No. 1 singles and a deep catalogue.

Jan. 15, 2020 MANDY PATINKIN IN CONCERT: DIARIES

Jan. 17, 2020 STANLEY CLARKE BAND

Jan. 19, 2020 BALLET FOLCLÓRICO NACIONAL DE MÉXICO DE SILVIA LOZANO

Jan. 22, 2020 NGL: PURSUIT OF THE BLACK PANTHER WITH SHANNON WILD

Jan. 23, 2020 CATALYST QUARTET

Jan. 24, 2020 THE FAB FOUR

Jan. 24-25, 2020 LISA LAMPANELLI'S LOSIN' IT

Jan. 29, 2020 MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000 LIVE

Feb. 5, 2020 THE MOTH MAINSTAGE

Feb. 13, 2020 THE BACHELOR LIVE ON STAGE

Feb. 14, 2020 RENÉE FLEMING

Feb. 19, 2020 NGL: DESIGNED BY NATURE WITH KAKANI KATIJA

Feb. 21, 2020 SIMPLY THREE

Feb. 23, 2020 TRAVIS TRITT SOLO ACOUSTIC

Feb. 27, 2020 THE DOO WOP PROJECT

Feb. 29, 2020 AN EVENING WITH ITZHAK PERLMAN

March 1, 2020 IL VOLO: THE BEST OF 10 YEARS

March 4, 2020 A BOWIE CELEBRATION: BOWIE ALUMNI PLAY DIAMOND DOGS & ZIGGY STARDUST

March 5, 2020 THE FINEST HOUR: DAVINA AND THE VAGABONDS AND HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN

March 11-14, 2020 5 SOLDIERS

March 15, 2020 LIVE FROM LAUREL CANYON

March 16, 2020 DON'T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE BUS! THE MUSICAL!  
March 17-22, 2020 ROBERT DUBAC'S BOOK OF MORON  
March 18, 2020 NGL: FROM SUMMIT TO SEA WITH ANDY MANN  
March 20, 2020 BLACKBIRD, FLY  
March 26, 2020 MARK & MAGGIE O'CONNOR  
March 27-29, 2020 THE OFFICE! A MUSICAL PARODY  
March 31, 2020 FLY HIGHER: CHARLIE PARKER @ 100  
April 1, 2020 DORRANCE DANCE  
April 4, 2020 WORDPLAY CAFÉ STORY SLAM  
April 4, 2020 DRUM TAO 2020  
April 9, 2020 NATASHA PAREMSKI, PIANO  
April 16, 2020 AIRMEN OF NOTE  
April 21, 2020 JAZZMEIA HORN  
April 26, 2020 9TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ DAY FESTIVAL  
May 9, 2020 MOTHER'S DAY MARIACHI CONCERT CELEBRATION  
May 19-20, 2020 BRIAN CULBERTSON

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street, Mesa, AZ, 85201.

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### **About Mesa Arts Center**

The Mesa Arts Center, owned and operated by the City of Mesa, is a unique, architecturally stunning facility located in the heart of downtown Mesa. Arizona's largest arts center is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios. Guests, patrons, and students come to Mesa Arts Center to enjoy the finest live entertainment and performances, world-class visual art exhibitions, and outstanding arts education classes. The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](https://www.mesaartscenter.com).

**Editor's Note:** High res images available immediately upon request.