

February 23, 2017 Media Contact: Savannah Whaley Pierson Grant Public Relations 954/776-1999 ext. 225 Jeff Kiltie, Aventura Arts & Cultural Center 305/466-8006

TONY WINNER LINDA LAVIN HEADLINES A STELLAR MONTH OF ENTERTAINEMENT THIS MARCH AT AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

AVENTURA, Fla. – Tony and Golden Globe winner Linda Lavin headlines the month of March at Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, where entertainment offerings include rock and roll, nostalgic musical tributes, classical piano, electrifying illusion, dramatic film and breathtaking dance.

This month begins with **Presley, Perkins, Lewis & Cash** on **Friday, March 3 at 8 p.m.**, a tribute to four of music's giants: Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis and Johnny Cash. This rock and roll royalty jam session begins with "Perkins" and "Lewis" together on stage, followed by "Cash" and "Presley" performing all the hits including "Blue Suede Shoes," "Hound Dog," "Great Balls of Fire" and "I Walk the Line." Tickets are \$40 and \$45.

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida's *Chipollino* will be staged in two shows, on Saturday, March 4 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 5 at 3 p.m. Choreographed by Ballet Master Vladimir Issaev to the music of Russian composer K. Katchaturian, the charming twoact ballet is based on Gianni Rodari's tale about the adventures of vegetable and fruit characters that live in the town of Limonia, centering on a naughty "green onion" by the name of Chipollino. Through music and dance, *Chipollino* not only tells the story of a fanciful folk tale, but also expresses a much deeper political statement. Not recommended for children under 3 years of age. Latecomers will not be seated until intermission. **Tickets are \$30**.

Next up in the **Aventura Foreign Film Series is** *Rams*, which will be screened on **Tuesday, March 7 at 7 p.m.** Winner of numerous international awards, including the 2015 Cannes Un Certain Regard Prize, this film chronicles two sheep farmer brothers who have not spoken to each other in 40 years, but find they must band together as they learn that a fatal degenerative disease threatens their ancestral sheep-stock. For the sake of the herd, the two brothers are forced to flee together to the highlands with a

few non-symptomatic ewes, where they face unforeseen complications. **Tickets are \$11.**

Part rock concert, part rock tribute and all rock 'n roll, **Rock Legends** on **Wednesday**, **March 8 at 8 p.m.** is a totally unique revue that will take the audience on a journey from the 50s sounds of Elvis, Buddy Holly and Patsy Cline to the psychedelic 60s songs of The Rolling Stones, Janis Joplin and Stevie Wonder, and from 70s hits of Fleetwood Mac, The Eagles, Billy Joel and Elton John to the music of the 80s with Tom Petty, U2 and more. **Tickets are \$40 and \$45**.

Jump, Jive & Wail Featuring The Jive Aces on Friday, March 10 at 8 p.m., features a mixture of fresh arrangements of swing, Jive and R&B by The Jive Aces, as the band lends its original style to classics by Louis Prima, Cab Calloway, Bobby Darin, Louis Armstrong, Dean Martin, Big Joe Turner and Sammy Davis, Jr., as well as performs its own original songs. Tickets are \$40 and \$45.

Almost AHBA, The World's #1 Tribute to ABBA, will take to the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center stage on Saturday, March 11 at 8 p.m. Formed in 1996, the group boasts intricate harmonies, stunning costumes and choreography, and is the longest-running, North American tribute to Swedish super group ABBA. This dynamic, interactive show will feature songs from the hit Broadway musical *Mamma Mia!* Tickets are \$40 and \$45.

The Aventura Cultural Series *Classical Sundays at Five* continues on Sunday, March 19 at 5 p.m. with Italian composer, conductor and pianist Francesco Libetta, who has graced stages worldwide and recorded works of Chopin, Schumann, Beethoven and the complete set of Liszt's transcriptions from Wagner operas. His afternoon program will include selections by Weber, Schumann, Debussy, Gounod and Liszt. The series is presented by The Miami International Piano Festival, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this season. Tickets are \$35.

Latrice Royale Inc. presents the **Mr. and Miss Pride South Florida Pageant on Monday, March 20 at 8 p.m.** In this competition for female impersonators and male entertainers, contestants will compete in five categories: creative presentation. swimsuit, talent, evening wear and question and answer. Tickets are \$10-\$30.

Broadway's celebrated "Jean Valjean" returns to Aventura on **Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m.** with **Dudu Fisher in Jerusalem**, an exhilarating concert based on his PBS Special of the same name. Along with his starring role in *Les Miserables*, Fisher has performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, for Britain's royal family, for former President Bill Clinton and currently he is on a worldwide tour with *Dudu Fisher in Jerusalem*. Tickets are \$50, \$75 and \$100.

On **Thursday, March 23 at 8 p.m.**, Latin Grammy Award winner **Nestor Torres** will take the stage at Aventura. Standing on the shoulders of flute giants including Rampal, Galway and Ian Anderson from Jethro Tull, Torres' rhythmic and mellifluous flute sound is in a class all by itself. His 14 recordings as a soloist; numerous accolades; and

collaborations with diverse artists such as Gloria Estefan, Kenny Loggins, Dave Mathews, Herbie Hancock, Tito Puente, Michael Camilo, Paquito D' Rivera and Arturo Sandoval; as well as performances with the Cleveland, Singapore, and New World Symphony Orchestras are testament to the remarkable journey of this artist. Presented by Singer Productions and Entertainment, tickets are \$39.50 and \$44.50.

On Friday, March 24 at 8:30 p.m., Dance Now! Miami presents **Masterpiece in Motion: Ritmo Jondo**, featuring swirling, cascading motions by the women and vibrating, thrusting steps and gestures from the men, all performed to the tantalizing Spanish rhythms of Catalan-born composer Carlos Surinach. This exhilarating work sets up a counterpoint of masculinity and femininity that has had significant impact on modern dance and has powerful contemporary meaning. Tickets are \$35, with \$15 tickets for students at the door and free lap seats for children 5 and under.

Consummate Elvis tribute artist **Chris MacDonald** returns to the Aventura stage with **Chris MacDonald's Memories of Elvis in Concert**, on **Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m.** This dynamic, full-out Las Vegas production pays homage to and shares the incredible story of the shy, humble country boy who became the King of Rock 'n' Roll, highlighting Presley's career from the 50s to his 1968 comeback, as well as his "white fringe" 70s concerts. MacDonald is the only tribute artist to be hired by Elvis Presley Enterprises to perform at Graceland's Heartbreak Hotel. Presented by Chris MacDonald Enterprises, Inc., tickets are \$55.

On Sunday, March 26 at 2 p.m., the audience members will question what they are seeing during **The Magic of Bill Blagg Live!** Illusion, audience participation, comedy and off-the-cuff interaction will mystify young and old alike, as Blagg walks through steel, brings ordinary objects to life and makes volunteers levitate in mid-air, while others vanish in the blink of an eye and so much more. Tickets are \$30 and \$35.

Culminating March, **Aventura's Broadway Concert Series** features the incomparable **Linda Lavin**, who will perform Broadway favorites, standards, jazz, and even some songs she learned from other female greats on **Wednesday**, **March 29 at 8 p.m.** Heralded by Stephen Holden of *The New York Times* as "A sizzling, electric connection...a human tornado!" – Tony and Golden Globe winner Lavin has a host of Broadway and cabaret credits and is known the world over for her wisecracking role as Alice Hyatt in the TV series *Alice*. Tickets are \$40 and \$45.

Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Aventura Arts & Cultural Center and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at <u>aventuracenter.org</u>; by phone at 877-311-7469; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers. For Group Sales, please call 954-660-6307.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, a 14,864-square-foot, 330-seat waterfront complex that hosts performing arts, cultural and educational programming for all ages. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is located at 3385 N.E. 188 Street in Aventura. Join the conversation on Twitter at #AventuraCenter, and follow us on Face Book at facebook.com/aventuracenter and Instagram at aventuracenter.

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