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**BAY AREA CABARET
ANNOUNCES
STELLAR ARTIST LINEUP FOR '15-'16 SEASON**
Presented in the historic Venetian Room of San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel
October through May

*Season Kickoff with opera star **Stephanie Blythe** **October 4, 2015***
*Also featured this season: Jane Monheit, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieley, John Pizzarelli and
Jessica Molaskey, Emily Skinner, The Puppini Sisters and Ann Hampton Callaway and Liz
Callaway*

San Francisco, CA....**Bay Area Cabaret**, now in its 12th season of presenting world-renowned popular musical performers announces the 2015-2016 season of shows at San Francisco's most elegant and historic showroom, the Fairmont Venetian Room. This marks the fifth consecutive season at the legendary "grand dame" Fairmont Hotel and the sparkling lineup of performers features some making their Bay Area Cabaret debuts, as well as the return of several favorites. The season kicks off on **Sunday, October 4, 2015** with opera star **Stephanie Blythe**, in her critically acclaimed show showcasing the songs of Kate Smith. The season continues **November 8** with Grammy nominated jazz singer **Jane Monheit** singing songs made famous by the iconic Ella Fitzgerald, who appeared at The Venetian Room in its heyday and, for those eager to experience the Fairmont's special holiday spirit, the **December 13** show features "Broadway's golden couple," **Marin Mazzie** and **Jason Danieley**, singing popular standards as well as songs they introduced in roles they originated on Broadway.

Bay Area Cabaret's series resumes in 2016 with another husband/wife team: Grammy-nominated jazz guitarist and vocalist **John Pizzarelli** and Broadway star **Jessica Molaskey** (*Sunday In the Park With George, Tommy, NBC's Sound Of Music*) on **January 10, 2016** in their critically-acclaimed new show, *Grownup Songs*. On Sunday, **March 6**, Tony nominated Broadway star **Emily Skinner** makes her Bay Area concert debut, on the heels of her critically acclaimed performance in A.C.T.'s *A Little Night Music*. Chic close-knit harmony trio **The Puppini Sisters** swing in from London on **April 17** bringing their distinct take on familiar jazz, swing, pop and even disco tunes. On **April 24**, for a special recently added engagement, Tony Award-winning Broadway and television star **Annaleigh Ashford** returns to Bay Area Cabaret performing her acclaimed cabaret show, "Lost in the Stars," and celebrating the release of her CD by the same name. The season closes with Tony nominees, the popular cabaret duo **Ann Hampton Callaway** and **Liz Callaway** performing their new show, *From West Side Story to Wicked: Broadway by the Callaways*, on **May 22**. (More details on each show begin on page 3)

All shows are presented in the Venetian Room at the Fairmont Hotel (950 Mason Street in San Francisco). Tickets to most shows are \$55 general (\$50 subscribers), with no food or drink minimum required. Subscribers enjoy substantial discounts and reserved seating. Information and tickets are available at www.bayareacabaret.org. For group tickets and information call (415) 927-4636.

Having presented cabaret seasons in a variety of elegant showrooms, Bay Area Cabaret found a permanent home five years ago when it was invited to reopen the Fairmont Hotel's historic Venetian Room, which had been dark as an entertainment venue for over 21 years. Following a gala opening (featuring Oscar, Grammy, Tony, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Marvin Hamlisch), the company went on to present such musical legends as Chita Rivera, Judy Collins, Elaine Paige, Tommy Tune, and the *Bay Area Teen Idol* competition, with judges from *American Idol* and *Wicked*. Having been awarded exclusive music booking rights to the Venetian Room, Bay Area Cabaret has continued to provide top caliber lineups, and now begins its sixth year in residence, to present Bay Area Cabaret's twelfth season of music.

From 1947 to 1989, the Venetian Room reigned supreme as the city's premier showroom. It was there that Tony Bennett introduced his signature song, 'I Left My Heart in San Francisco' and show business legends like Ella Fitzgerald, Marlene Dietrich, Tina Turner, Peggy Lee, Nat 'King' Cole, and many others held forth for more than four decades. "An evening at a Bay Area Cabaret performance at the Venetian Room is a magical and distinctive San Francisco experience," said Marilyn Levinson, Founding Executive Producer of Bay Area Cabaret. "Both audiences and performers have said that they can sense the venue's rich musical history the minute they set foot in the room. Patrons are delighted to enjoy a buffet supper at the beautifully renovated Laurel Court restaurant - which also includes free parking at the hotel - and attend a performance in our City's most glamorous venue for a very reasonable price."

Subscribers who purchase six or seven shows receive both substantial ticket discounts and reserved seats, and are allowed to exchange tickets among shows. For patrons of Bay Area Cabaret, the Fairmont Hotel offers a lavish buffet supper in the Laurel Court for \$45 (plus tax and tip), plus free parking, for all who dine in the Laurel Court on the evening of a Bay Area Cabaret performance.

Bay Area Cabaret (BAC) is a not-for profit organization founded by Marilyn Levinson, a fifth generation San Francisco native. Through its concert series and wide-ranging outreach activities, BAC aims to expand the definition of cabaret and broaden the audience for intimate entertainment, featuring Great American Songbook offerings from George and Ira Gershwin and Stephen Sondheim to Antonio Carlos Jobim and Joni Mitchell. Past seasons have featured Chita Rivera, Elaine Paige, Norm Lewis, Sutton Foster, Barbara Cook, Christine Ebersole, Marvin Hamlisch, Peter Gallagher, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Annaleigh Ashford, and the high school vocal competition *Bay Area Teen Idol*.

Tickets for individual concerts are available at www.bayareacabaret.org or by phone at City Box Office (415) 392-4400. Subscriptions, and discounts for groups of 8 or more, are available directly from Bay Area Cabaret at (415) 927-4636. For Bay Area Cabaret 2015-2016 season subscriptions, information and video clips of performers visit www.bayareacabaret.org.

INDIVIDUAL CONCERT INFORMATION:

Opening Night Gala

Stephanie Blythe

We'll Meet Again: The Songs of Kate Smith

When: 7:30 pm, Sunday, October 4, 2015

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$75/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "<http://www.bayareacabaret.org>"
www.bayareacabaret.org.

Bay Area Cabaret's Opening Night Gala stars one of the world's most preeminent mezzo-sopranos, **Stephanie Blythe**, in her Bay Area Cabaret debut. Direct from her starring role as Mrs. Lovett in the San Francisco Opera's *Sweeney Todd*, Stephanie Blythe brings us her critically acclaimed Lincoln Center American Songbook tribute to Kate Smith, which was recorded by PBS for broadcast on "Live From Lincoln Center." Known as The First Lady of Radio, Kate Smith recorded more songs than any other singer (almost 3,000+), and introduced more songs than any other performer (over 1,000, of which 600 made the hit parade). Her voice, and signature rendition of Irving Berlin's "God Bless America", brought optimism to our nation as it struggled through the Great Depression and a World War. As we face an election year and an uncertain world, Smith's songs and spirit have hardly been more relevant. Stephanie Blythe is a champion of American song, and a rare example of an internationally renowned opera star who can successfully cross over to the realm of musical theatre (*Carousel* at NY Philharmonic and Houston Grand Opera (upcoming); *Sweeney Todd* (this fall in San Francisco) and popular song (at Carnegie Hall this spring, Ms. Blythe drew rave reviews for her performance of songs by Jacques Brel and Irving Berlin). Bay Area Cabaret kicks off this season's musical journey by honoring this towering talent, and the indomitable spirit she embodies in this hit show.

Jane Monheit

Greatest Hits

When: 5 pm & 7:30 pm, Sunday, November 8, 2015

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$55 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "<http://www.bayareacabaret.org>"
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Bay Area Cabaret presents Grammy nominated jazz and pop vocalist **Jane Monheit** in her Venetian Room debut. She'll sing her most requested songs, and give us a preview of her upcoming Ella Fitzgerald album...in the room where Ella Fitzgerald so often sang. Jane created a sensation in the jazz world with her very first album in 2000. She has since recorded over 10 albums (receiving two Grammy Award nominations), and has collaborated with some of the music industry's biggest names and most respected jazz artists, including Michael Bubl , John Pizzarelli, David Benoit, Ivan Lins and Ramsey Lewis. Singing in both English and Portuguese, Jane Monheit has garnered a worldwide fan base and tours the globe regularly. The sultry voiced jazz singer has also developed a loyal cabaret following, with her expressive storytelling, and intimate connection to her lyrics. Jane says, "Everything I'm singing now is a reflection of my truest self."

Marin Mazzie & Jason Danieleley

Broadway & Beyond

When: 7:30 pm, Sunday, December 13, 2015

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$55 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "http://www.bayareacabaret.org" www.bayareacabaret.org

Returning to Bay Area Cabaret's series by popular demand, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danieleley—"Broadway's Golden Couple" (*S.F. Chronicle*)—present songs from both the Great White Way and the Great American Songbook. They will perform songs they introduced on Broadway in roles they originated from *Ragtime*, *Passion*, *Kiss Me Kate* (revival of course), *The Full Monty*, *Curtains*, *The Visit* as well as popular standards from their many TV appearances, cabaret, concert hall and symphony performances around the world.

John Pizzarelli & Jessica Molaskey

Grownup Songs

When: 4 pm & 7:30 pm, Sunday, January 10, 2016

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$50 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "http://www.bayareacabaret.org" www.bayareacabaret.org.

Bay Area Cabaret is happy to present Grammy-nominated jazz guitarist and vocalist **John Pizzarelli** and Broadway star **Jessica Molaskey** in the West Coast debut of their latest show. Of the New York debut, the *New York Times* wrote: "The ability to infuse pop and jazz with a Chekhovian wisdom about life's ups and downs is the special gift of John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey, long-married musical partners whose work gets deeper each year. When these musical opposites combine forces, the whole they embody is much greater than the sum of its two equally formidable parts. And at the opening-night performance of their new show, *Grownup Songs* at Café Carlyle on Tuesday, they hit a new peak... In a phrase: this was it." With songs ranging from Stephen Sondheim to Irving Berlin, this show was named one of the year's Ten Best Shows by *Time Magazine*.

Emily Skinner

Broadway, Her Way

When: 5 pm, Sunday, March 6, 2016

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$55 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "http://www.bayareacabaret.org" www.bayareacabaret.org

On Sunday, March 6th, **Bay Area Cabaret** presents Tony nominated Broadway star **Emily Skinner** in her San Francisco concert debut. San Francisco audiences remember Emily from her recent standout performances in A.C.T.'s production of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* and 42nd Street Moon's *Do I Hear A Waltz?*. On Broadway, Ms. Skinner has appeared in *Jekyll &*

Hyde, The Full Monty, Dinner At Eight (Outer Critics Circle nomination), James Joyce's *The Dead* (opposite Christopher Walken) and *Billy Elliot* (the first American actress chosen to play Billy's teacher Mrs. Wilkenson). Emily will always be remembered for her iconic role in the musical *Side Show*. Creating the role of Siamese twin Daisy Hilton opposite Alice Ripley's Violet Hilton, Emily received rave reviews, the Drama League Award, and a Tony Award nomination for Best Actress in a Musical. This fall, Emily travelled to Tokyo, to star in the world premiere of *The Prince of Broadway*, alongside Ramin Karimloo (*Les Miz, Phantom of the Opera*).

Skinner's cabaret show, *Broadway, Her Way*, is a dazzling evening filled with glorious music from legendary composers Rodgers and Hammerstein, Kander and Ebb, the Gershwins, Stephen Sondheim, and some of the most exciting composers on the current musical theatre scene. Skinner infuses all of it with her irrepressible enthusiasm and wry sense of humor.

The Puppini Sisters
The High Life Tour

When: 5 pm, Sunday, April 17, 2016

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$60 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "<http://www.bayareacabaret.org>"

www.bayareacabaret.org

The Puppini Sisters will swing in from London to **Bay Area Cabaret** debuting music from their upcoming album, "The High Life." Newly added to the 2015-2016 season, this chic close-knit harmony trio, inspired by the sister acts of the '30s and '40s, offer their distinct take on jazz, swing, pop and even disco with a wink and a grin. The Puppini Sisters are well known throughout Europe and took New York City by storm when they first performed in their North American debut at the legendary Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel. This is The Puppini Sisters' debut with Bay Area Cabaret and their first time back in the Bay Area since 2007.

Formed by Marcella Puppini in 2004, The Puppini Sisters quickly garnered a global fan base, signing with Universal Music, appearing on television shows such as ABC's "The View" and "The Graham Norton Show," and performing on iconic stages from the Shephard's Bush Empire in London to the Olympia in Paris. Their first two albums landed in Billboard's Top 5 Jazz Albums, with their debut album becoming gold. Originally coming from different musical backgrounds, including classical, heavy metal, and jazz, Marcella Puppini (the Italian), Kate Mullins (the Blonde) and Emma Smith (the Redhead) all shared a passion for intricate vocal harmonies, and the music of the Andrews Sisters and the Boswell Sisters, as well as a love for fashion and fashion history.

Annaleigh Ashford
Lost in the Stars

Encore Performance and CD Release Event

When: 5 pm, Sunday, April 24, 2016

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$50 general

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "<http://www.bayareacabaret.org>"

www.bayareacabaret.org

Bay Area Cabaret is delighted to present a **special event** return engagement by Tony Award-winning Broadway and television star **Annaleigh Ashford**. In the spring of 2015, she made her West Coast concert debut with Bay Area Cabaret. Singing Broadway, pop music, standards and classic disco, Annaleigh electrified the Venetian Room audience with her amazing voice, humor and energy, delivering a performance that demonstrated the infinite possibility of the cabaret genre. Soon after her Bay Area Cabaret appearance, Ms. Ashford went on to sweep the awards season on Broadway, winning the Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards for Best Featured Actress in a Play, for her role in the revival of *You Can't Take It With You*.

On Broadway, Annaleigh Ashford has starred in *Wicked* (Glinda), *Legally Blonde: The Musical* (Margot), *Rent* (Maureen) and *Kinky Boots* (Lauren), where she received her very first Tony Award nomination. Ashford's film appearances include *Sex In The City: The Movie*, and *Rachel Getting Married*. On TV, Annaleigh stars as Betty Dimelo in the hit Showtime series *Masters Of Sex*. Annaleigh Ashford conquered Broadway once again this fall—in the title role of Sylvia, alongside Matthew Broderick. At the Venetian Room in April, she'll celebrate the release of her new CD "Lost in the Stars" with an updated version of her show by the same name.

Ann Hampton Callaway & Liz Callaway

From West Side Story to Wicked

When: 5pm, Sunday, May 22, 2016

Where: Venetian Room of the Fairmont San Francisco
950 Mason Street, atop Nob Hill, San Francisco

Tickets: \$55 general/\$50 subscribers

(415) 392-4400 or HYPERLINK "http://www.bayareacabaret.org" www.bayareacabaret.org

Bay Area Cabaret will conclude its season by welcoming back two favorites: Tony nominated Broadway and cabaret artists **Ann Hampton Callaway** and **Liz Callaway**. Together, the sisters have drawn rave reviews and standing ovations across the country with this new show, featuring showstoppers from *West Side Story*, *Chicago*, *Funny Girl*, *Cats*, *Carousel*, *Wicked* and more. Ann's dark, husky and jazz-flavored sound is the perfect complement for Liz' clear bell tones, in an evening of wit, humor and soul-stirring selections like "You'll Never Walk Alone", "Perfect Year/Memory", "Broadway Baby", "If He Walked into My Life", and more.

Platinum and gold-selling singer/songwriter **Ann Hampton Callaway** has released more than 11 solo albums, has had her songs recorded by Barbra Streisand, Liza Minnelli and Patti LuPone, wrote, headlined the San Francisco Symphony and other orchestras around the country, sang the theme to the classic sit-com *The Nanny*, and received a Tony nomination for her Broadway debut in *Swing!*

Tony nominated Broadway star **Liz Callaway** has starred in *Miss Saigon* (with Lea Salonga), *Cats* (as Grizabella), *Baby*, and Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* (with Jason Alexander). On film, Liz has sung in many animated features including *Anastasia*, *The Swan Princess* and *Aladdin* and *The King of Thieves*.

Together, Ann and Liz Callaway have recorded two albums and toured the globe with their award-winning shows *Sibling Revelry*, *Relative Harmony* and *Boom!* Bay Area Cabaret is proud to present the Bay Area debut of their newest show, *From West Side Story to Wicked: Broadway by the Callaways!*

PHOTOS: For high res photos, please visit: <http://www.bayareacabaret.org>
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