

Bay Area Cabaret

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Bay Area Cabaret announces its 16th Season of Broadway and Jazz Vocalists in the historic Venetian Room of San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel October 13, 2019 through May 10, 2020

*Opening Night special event starring **Maurice Hines and the DIVA Jazz Orchestra***

*Also this season — **LaChanze, Carole J. Bufford John Pizzarelli, Stacey Kent,
Max Von Essen and Billy Stritch and Stephanie J. Block***

San Francisco, CA (August 2019) **Bay Area Cabaret** announces its 16th Season of shows that includes a stellar and diverse lineup featuring many performers making their *Bay Area Cabaret* debuts, as well as the return of several favorites. This season also marks *Bay Area Cabaret's* tenth season in residence at the legendary Venetian Room (Fairmont Hotel, 950 Mason Street atop Nob Hill).

The 2019-2020 season opens on **Sunday, October 13, 2019** at 7:30 pm with Broadway legend **Maurice Hines** performing *Tappin' Thru Life with the DIVA Jazz Orchestra*. In this very personal show, Maurice taps audiences through his incredible career in a jazzy song-and-dance celebration that pays tribute to his brother Gregory (Maurice and Gregory appeared together on the stage of The Venetian Room) and other performers who inspired him from Frank Sinatra to Lena Horne. Backed by his tap protégés, The Manzari Brothers as well as the acclaimed all-female DIVA Jazz Orchestra, Maurice offers his distinctive take on American standards.

Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. marks the Bay Area concert debut of another Broadway star, **LaChanze** (*The Color Purple* and *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*, for which she received a Tony Award nomination), performing her autobiographical piece *Feeling Good*. Later that month on **Sunday, November 24** is the solo Bay Area debut of **Carole J. Bufford**, one of the most sought-after young performers in the New York City cabaret and jazz scene, in her show *You Don't Own Me: Fearless Females of the Sixties*.

The new year kicks off with the return of two of *Bay Area Cabaret* audiences favorites: **John Pizzarelli** at 4:00 pm on **Sunday, January 26, 2020**, and **Stacey Kent** on **Thursday, February 27, 2020** at 7:30 pm. San Francisco audiences who saw **Max Von Essen** on Broadway, where he earned a Tony nomination for originating the leading role in *American in Paris*, played to spellbound audiences in *Anastasia* or saw him in the recent national touring production of *Falsettos*, will enjoy his *Bay Area Cabaret* debut, *Call Me Old Fashioned*, accompanied by the acclaimed jazz pianist **Billy Stritch** on **Sunday, March 8, 2020** at 5:00 pm. **A Very Jazz Cabaret** on **Sunday, April 26, 2020** at 7:30 pm is a show that will feature a special surprise guest (*star performer to be revealed this Fall*).

The **Bay Area Cabaret** 2019-2020 season finale is on **Sunday, May 10, 2020** at 7:30 pm showcasing the Bay Area concert debut of **Stephanie J. Block**, winner of the 2019 Tony Award for her star turn in *The Cher Show* and well known to Broadway audiences from *Wicked*, *Anything Goes*, and her Tony nominated performances in *Falsettos* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

"*Bay Area Cabaret* in the swanky Venetian Room at the iconic Fairmont Hotel is the epitome of a sophisticated night out on the town in San Francisco," says Marilyn Levinson, Founding Executive Producer of *Bay Area Cabaret*. "Reveling in the elegant surroundings, mingling with friends and other music-lovers while you savor the performances of both acclaimed and rising stars is an unparalleled experience. The intimate setting offers a magical connection between the artists and their audience. Both audiences and performers have said that they can sense the venue's rich musical history the minute they set foot in the room."

All **Bay Area Cabaret** shows this season are presented in the Venetian Room at the *grand dame* Fairmont Hotel (950 Mason Street in San Francisco). From 1947 to 1989, the Venetian Room reigned supreme as the city's premier showroom. Tony Bennett introduced his signature song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" at the venerable venue, where such show business legends as Ella Fitzgerald, Marlene Dietrich, Tina Turner, Peggy Lee, Nat 'King' Cole, and many others performed for over four decades. Having presented seasons in a variety of elegant showrooms, *Bay Area Cabaret* found a permanent home in 2010 when it was invited to reopen the Fairmont San Francisco'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 organization has gone on to present such musical legends as Barbara Cook, Chita Rivera, Judy Collins, Stephen Schwartz, Elaine Paige, Tommy Tune, Leslie Uggams, and the *Bay Area Teen Idol* competition. Having been awarded exclusive music booking rights to the Venetian Room, *Bay Area Cabaret* continues to provide top caliber lineups, now celebrating its tenth season in residence, to present *Bay Area Cabaret's* 16th season of music.

Subscribers to at least five shows enjoy substantial discounts and reserved seating and are allowed to exchange tickets among shows. Subscriptions are available online at www.bayareacabaret.org or directly from Bay Area Cabaret at **(415) 927-4636**, and deepest discounts are available to early birds ordering before September 8, 2019. Single tickets to most Bay Area Cabaret shows are \$65 general/\$50-\$55 subscribers, with no food or drink minimum required; Tickets to the **Maurice Hines and the DIVA Jazz Orchestra** Opening Gala show are \$75 general and \$60 for subscribers. Information and single tickets are available by phone at City Box Office (415) 392-4400 or online at www.bayareacabaret.org. For BAC 2019-2020 season information and video clips of performers visit www.bayareacabaret.org.

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