

Bay Area Cabaret

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Bay Area Cabaret announces its 15th Anniversary Season of Broadway and Jazz Vocalists in the historic Venetian Room of San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel September 30, 2018 through May 19, 2019

*Opening Night special event starring **Matthew Morrison**.*

*Also this season — **Gavin Creel, Kate Baldwin, LaChanze, Christine Andreas, Carmen Cusack with Susan Werner, Catherine Russell, John Pizzarelli and Jessica Molaskey***

San Francisco, CA (June 2018) **Bay Area Cabaret** announces its Fifteenth Anniversary Season of shows, its ninth at the legendary Venetian Room (Fairmont Hotel, 950 Mason Street atop Nob Hill).

This season's stellar lineup features many performers making their *Bay Area Cabaret* debuts, as well as the return of several favorites. It kicks off on **Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 7:00 pm** with the San Francisco solo concert debut of Tony, Emmy and Golden Globe award nominee **Matthew Morrison** (*Glee, Hairspray, South Pacific, Finding Neverland*).

The season continues at **7:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 14, 2018** with the Bay Area debut of **Gavin Creel** (*Hair, Thoroughly Modern Millie*), winner of the Tony Award for his portrayal of Cornelius in the *Hello, Dolly!* revival starring Bette Midler, and the Olivier award for originating the role of Elder Price in *The Book of Mormon* in London's West End. Sunday, **November 4, 2018**, brings the Bay Area concert debut of soprano **Kate Baldwin** (*Finian's Rainbow, Big Fish*), recently nominated for the Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critic's Circle awards for her role as Irene Molloy in *Hello, Dolly!* On Sunday, **December 2, 2018**, renowned singer and recording artist **Christine Andreas** channels famed French chanteuse Edith Piaf in her acclaimed new show and upcoming CD release *PIAF --No Regrets*.

Bay Area Cabaret's series resumes on **January 20, 2019**, with a program featuring singer/actress **Carmen Cusack** (*Bright Star, Wicked, Sunday in the Park with George*) performing selections from her vast musical theatre career as well as originals, and versatile Grammy nominated singer/songwriter **Susan Werner**. Cusack is attached to Werner's Broadway-bound musical *Bull Durham* in the role made famous by Susan Sarandon. On Sunday, **March 3, 2019**, Grammy and Nightlife Award winning singer/guitarist **John Pizzarelli** makes his annual appearance at the Venetian Room, with a 3:30 show and CD release event celebrating the centennial of Venetian Room regular Nat "King" Cole. At 7:30 that evening, his wife, the talented Broadway singer/actress **Jessica Molaskey** will join him for a duo show that the pair will debut at the Café Carlyle this fall. Grammy Award-winning recording artist **Catherine Russell** performs her knockout jazz-and-blues-flavored show *Harlem on my Mind* on **March 24, 2019**. The *Bay Area Cabaret* season closes on **May 19, 2019** with *The Feeling Good Show*, an autobiographical piece by Tony winner **LaChanze** (*The Color Purple*), currently starring in *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* (Tony nomination, Best Actress in a Musical).

All *Bay Area Cabaret* shows this season are presented on Sundays 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 beginning its ninth year in residence, to present Bay Area Cabaret's 15th season of music.

Says Marilyn Levinson, Founding Executive Producer of *Bay Area Cabaret*: "An evening at *Bay Area Cabaret* offers not only a chance to connect with friends, but also a unique experience to hear world class performers in an intimate setting, where a magical connection is formed 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."

Subscribers to at least six 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 July 20, 2018. Single tickets to most Bay Area Cabaret shows are \$65 general (\$55 subscribers – \$50 if purchased by 7/20), with no food or drink minimum required. Information and single tickets are available at www.bayareacabaret.org or by phone at City Box Office (415) 392-4400. For BAC 2018-2019 season information and video clips of performers visit www.bayareacabaret.org.

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