TheWallis

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WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS the World Premiere of MOTOWN: CELEBRATING THE MUSIC, THE MAGIC, THE LOVE

RESS RELEASE

The Uniquely Entertaining Show Highlights the Early Era of Motown Records with Candid Conversations and Performances by Artists and Executives Who Were There

> Saturday, October 1, 7:00 pm The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater

Event Is Sold Out; Waitlist Available

(Beverly Hills, CA, September 1, 2022) – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts presents the world premiere of *Motown: Celebrating the Music, the Magic, the Love* on Saturday, October 1, 2022, 7:00 pm, at The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater.

Immerse yourself in the magic of early Motown with a unique opportunity to experience an evening with music trailblazers and icons who will share their rare insights into the phenomenal music, and the stories behind it, that positively impacted people and music around the globe. Motown: Where legends were born and dreams were made!

Created, produced and directed by Karla Gordy Bristol, of Bristol Entertainment, this spectacular show highlights the early days of Motown Records as only can be told by those truly in the Motown Family.

The show includes a Motown panel, moderated by four-time Grammy nominee Patrice Rushen, featuring artists, writers, producers, and executives including: Brian Holland, hitmaker known for songs including "Stop! In the Name of Love"; Claudette Robinson of The Miracles; Iris Gordy, former Motown Vice President; Janie Bradford, co-writer of "Money That's What I Want"; and Miller London, pioneering record salesman.

Experience a presentation of nostalgic stories shared by Smokey Robinson, The Temptations' Otis Williams, The Four Tops' Duke Fakir, and Martha Reeves "Dancing in the Street," and relive the

days of "Hitsville U.S.A.," the little house with the big sound as envisioned by Motown Founder and living legend Berry Gordy.

Dynamic keyboardist Herman Jackson is the evening's music director. Performing songs that have brought people together for over six decades are singing sensations Grammy-winner Thelma Houston, Brenda Holloway, Scherrie, Lynda & Susaye Former Ladies of The Supremes, and special guests.

This incredible show truly celebrates the Music, the Magic and the Love of the Motown story, and will be led by legendary radio personality and Announcer Shadoe Stevens and Master of Ceremonies, Emmy Award-winning news anchor Pat Harvey.

Motown: Celebrating the Music, the Magic, the Love, a Bristol Entertainment Production, is supported by Sony Music Publishing and The Berry Gordy Foundation for Truth and Justice.

Tickets for *Motown: Celebrating the Music, the Magic, The Love* (\$29 - \$99) are sold out. To be added to the waitlist, please emailed Ticket Services at <u>tickets@thewallis.org</u>. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills.

The Wallis is closely monitoring the ever-changing local health and safety environment carefully and addressing known health factors at the moment. Should plans change and any performance be required to be postponed or cancelled or if venue capacity limitations are instituted, ticket holders will be notified immediately with options for their purchased tickets per The Wallis' ticketing policies.

The health and safety of patrons, our staff, and artists inside and outside the venue are a top priority for The Wallis, which is requiring all patrons to provide, upon entry, proof of full vaccination or a negative PCR test result within 48 hours or a verifiable Antigen test within 24 hours from your performance date, along with a government issued photo ID. Facial masks, covering both the mouth and nose, are still required at all times while within the venue. The Wallis' health and safety protocols are also subject to change at the venue's sole discretion or in accordance with LA County and City of Beverly Hills regulations. Current Health & Safety Protocols and updates may also be accessed at TheWallis.org/Safety. Policies are subject to change.

About Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The campus, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 350 theater, dance, music, film, cabaret, conversation, and family entertainment programs since its doors opened in October 2013. Hailed as "au courant" (*LaLa Magazine*), The Wallis was lauded by *Culture Vulture*, which proclaims, "If you love expecting the unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis." Its programming has been nominated for 79 Ovation Awards and nine L.A. Drama Critics Circle Awards. The campus itself, a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, has garnered six architectural awards. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), which serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and includes the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other

performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is led by Chairman of the Board Michael Nemeroff and Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer Rachel Fine.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: <u>TheWallis.org</u>. Like The Wallis on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter and Instagram: @thewallisbh

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Presents *Motown: Celebrating the Music, the Magic, the Love* (World Premiere) Created, produced and directed by Karla Gordy Bristol

FEATURED MOTOWN ARTISTS/WRITERS/PRODUCERS/EXECUTIVES (in alphabetical order):

Shelly Berger Janie Bradford Duke Fakir William Goldstein Iris Gordy Brian Holland Brenda Holloway Thelma Houston Miller London Scherrie, Lynda & Susaye Former Ladies of The Supremes Martha Reeves Paul Riser Claudette Robinson Smokey Robinson Otis Williams

MASTER OF CEREMONIES/MODERATOR/ANNOUNCER (in alphabetical order):

Pat Harvey, master of ceremonies Patrice Rushen, panel moderator Shadoe Stevens, announcer

WHEN:

Saturday, October 1, 7:00 pm

WHERE:

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Bram Goldsmith Theater 9390 N. Santa Monica Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210

RUN TIME: Approximately 150 minutes, including a 20-minute intermission

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

\$29 - \$99

SOLD OUT

Join the waitlist by emailing Ticket Services at tickets@thewallis.org.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to current health and safety variables, performances are subject to change, postponement or cancellation.