TheWallis

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--->PHOTOS FOR DOWNLOAD

Chester Gregory: https://thewallis.org/photos.php?id=337 Delirium Musicum: https://thewallis.org/photos.php?id=334 The Tierney Sutton Band: https://thewallis.org/photos.php?id=336 For The Record: https://thewallis.org/photos.php?id=335

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Presents the Virtual Return of THE SORTING ROOM SESSIONS

Popular Nightclub Series Features Four New Entertaining On-Demand Programs Produced by The Wallis

Friday, April 30, 2021 – Chester Gregory: *Celebrating The Motown Era* Friday, May 7, 2021 – *MusiKaravan:* A Classical Road Trip with Delirium Musicum Friday, May 14, 2021 – *Celebrating 25 Years:* The Tierney Sutton Band Jazz Americana Friday, May 21, 2021 – For The Record: *The Brat Pack Reunion Concert*

Digital Concerts Begin at 7:00 PM and Include 48-Hour Viewing Access

Single Tickets and Series Package on Sale Now

(BEVERLY HILLS, CA, May 11, 2021) — The virtual Sorting Room Sessions, the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts' popular nightclub series, returns with four new entertaining on-demand programs featuring a range of Motown, jazz, popular and classical music. Broadway star and recording artist **Chester Gregory** delivers a range of soulful Motown hits, opening the digital series on April 30, followed by the compelling artistry of lauded Los Angeles chamber ensemble **Delirium Musicum**, performing works by Brahms, Chopin, Prokofiev and others, on May 7. The Sorting Room continues with the multi-Grammy-nominated **Tierney Sutton Band** presenting timeless jazz standards and selections from the American song book to celebrate the group's 25th anniversary on May 14. The series concludes on May 21 with **For The Record** showcasing the music and legacy of legendary '80s "Brat Pack" films. The programs are presented digitally on Friday evenings beginning at 7:00 pm (PT), with single tickets and multi-show ticket packages now available. Purchase of each digital concert includes 48-hour viewing access.

"These dynamic live performances, produced specifically with our artistic and production staff, were filmed live in The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater," says The Wallis' Artistic Director Paul Crewes. "We are particularly excited about this second virtual series as we are developing the world of The Sorting Room Sessions, and how we present our wonderful artists. The sessions also include compelling conversations with the artists that provide insights into their artistry and their creative process." The programs include:

Chester Gregory: *Celebrating The Motown Era* ON DEMAND: Friday, April 30, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Wallis' virtual Sorting Room Sessions launches with celebrated Broadway star and recording artist Chester Gregory, lauded for his "killer singing and dancing skills" (*The Hollywood Reporter*), showcasing his powerhouse eight-octave vocal range on such iconic Motown hits as "I Only Have Eyes 4 U," "What You Won't Do For Love," Superstition," "My Girl," "What's Going On," and "Higher and Higher." Gregory, who previously starred in The Wallis' critically acclaimed 2018 production of Sheldon Epps' 1980 show *Blues in the Night*, has also been showcased in such productions as *Tarzan*, *Cry-Baby*, *Sister Act*, *Hairspray* and *Motown the Musical*, in which he appeared as legendary songwriter/producer Barry Gordy, Jr. He has toured nationally with *Dreamgirls* and his one-man show *The Eve of Jackie Wilson*.

MusiKaravan: A Classical Road Trip with Delirium Musicum ON DEMAND: Friday, May 7, 2021, 7:00 PM

Delirium Musicum pulls up to The Wallis in in its distinctive tour bus, a whimsical 1971 vintage VW van, with *MusiKaravan*, the chamber music ensemble's "road show," in which founding members violinists Étienne Gara and YuEun Kim present impassioned performances of great chamber works and popular works for farmworkers, school children and others outdoors across the West Coast. For their Sorting Room engagement, Gara and Kim perform Charlie Chaplin's "Smile," featured in the soundtrack for his groundbreaking 1936 film *Modern Times* and inspired by Puccini's *Tosca*; Brahms' lively Hungarian Dance No. 5; Chopin's poignant Nocturne, Op. 9 No. 2; and the second movement of Prokofiev's Sonata for 2 violins in C major. The violinists are joined by bassist Ryan Baird for Waltz No. 2 from Shostakovich's Jazz Suite; and Monti's fiery Czards. Delirium Musicum, hailed for its "ferocious and rhythmically mesmerizing" performances (*San Francisco Classical Voice*), finds inspiration in the captivating artistic mosaic of Los Angeles, where the ensemble is based.

Celebrating 25 Years: The Tierney Sutton Band Jazz Americana

ON DEMAND: Friday, May 14, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Wallis' virtual Sorting Room continues with the 25th Anniversary celebration of the multi-Grammy-nominated Tierney Sutton Band. Featuring singer Tierney Sutton and instrumental virtuosos Kevin Axt and Trey Henry on bass, drummer Ray Brinker and pianist Christian Jacob, the band delivers timeless jazz standards, selections from the American songbook and a range of American film music, with *Variety* proclaiming, "the lady can swing." In recent years, the band has headlined at The Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center and Jazz At Lincoln Center and has also appeared on numerous film and television soundtracks, including the Academy Award-nominated film *The Cooler* and *Sully*, and television commercials for BMW, Green Giant, Yoplait Yogurt and Coke.

For The Record: The Brat Pack Reunion Concert

ON DEMAND: Friday, May 21, 2021, 7:00 PM

Concluding The Wallis' virtual Sorting Room, For The Record, the genre-bending series that brings classic movie soundtracks to thrilling life on stage, returns to an exact time and place when pop culture in America changed forever. *The Brat Pack Reunion Concert* combines an entire era of cinematic history, the revolutionary teen films of the 1980s and their hit soundtracks, to create an MTV teen dream – a New Wave, synth-pop journey through the hilarious and heartbreaking world of high school. The theatrical concert follows five teenage archetypes, well known to any lover of *The Brat Pack* is a group of the most unlikely of friends surviving the carnage of love & friendship, smashing stereotypes along the way. The cast features James Byous (Rebel), Emily Lopez (Basket Case), Parissa Koo (Princess), Patrick Ortiz (Jock), Doug Kreeger (Mister), Kenton Chen (Geek). For The Record, a breakthrough form of live entertainment, turns the soundtracks of iconic films into thrilling immersive theatrical experiences. What began in 2010 on a cabaret stage in East Hollywood, quickly became a "must-see show" in Los Angeles and beyond. The Wallis and For The Record's hit holiday show, *Love Actually Live*, broke Wallis box office records in both 2018 and 2019.

Single Sorting Room Session on-demand shows are \$20.00 per household, for viewing on Smart TV, computer, smartphone or tablet, and \$75 for all four performances (must purchase all four events in one transaction for savings). Patrons will receive a link and password 24 hours prior to each performance date. On Demand purchase includes a 48-hour window of access, beginning at 7:00 PM the evening of the performance. *Tickets cannot be transferred or shared*. Tickets may be purchased by visiting TheWallis.org/SR, by email at Tickets@TheWallis.org or by calling 310.746.4000 (Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm).

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:

The 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 300 dance, theater, opera, classical music, cinema and family 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 Critic's 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. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is led by Chairman of the Board Michael Nemeroff, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer Rachel Fine and Artistic Director Paul Crewes.

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

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

WHAT: The Wallis Presents THE SORTING ROOM SESSIONS

On Demand Performances Begin Streaming:

Friday, April 30, 2021, 7 pm – Chester Gregory: *Celebrating The Motown Era* Friday, May 7, 2021, 7 pm – *MusiKaravan*: A Classical Road Trip with Delirium Musicum Friday, May 14, 2021, 7 pm – Celebrating 25 Years: The Tierney Sutton Band Jazz Americana Friday, May 21, 2021, 7 pm – For The Record: *The Brat Pack Reunion Concert*

RUN TIMES:

Each on-demand show runs approximately 50 - 60 minutes.

TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:

\$20 for each on demand single show per household for viewing on Smart TV, computer, smartphone or tablet
\$75 for all four performances (must purchase all four performances in one transaction to receive savings)
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