



AT THE LOADING DOCK!

ORDWAY *Cabaret*

presented by

BREMER BANK

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Disney's Beauty and the Beast sponsored by

SPIRE



Welcome to a new stage at the Ordway – the loading dock – and a brand new Ordway Cabaret made for this space and for this moment. We've created this show just for you. And, like everything that happens at the Ordway, you've made this possible. Because of you, we are able to connect people to the arts while our indoor stages are dark. Your support and generosity is what makes the difference!

Artists, craftspeople, and technicians also make a difference. They are theater-makers because by making stories come to life, they make magic. We come together for stories like these because we need to share them *together*. If you're like me (and all of us here at the Ordway), you're *craving* this kind of gathering; craving the particular brand of magic that only theater-makers can make. We've been deprived this kind of collective experience for so long, giving us a new appreciation of how essential it is.

Today, our stories are a collection of songs from the Ordway's flagship series: **Broadway at the Ordway**. We're not able to do those shows inside at the moment, so we're taking it outside! Tonight is a taste of what's to come and part of our promise to you for the future.

We're so glad you're here with us to share a few songs. So, take the hand of someone you love and know that you are with friends. We are all here, gathered together, in a place where we belong.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rod Kaats". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rod Kaats, Producing Artistic Director

The artist storytellers on stage tonight are using their intelligence, imagination, and courage to make magic. They draw from their personal stories, their hardships, and their joy. And they pour all of that into their work. That's why it's so entertaining and moving and fun and why it speaks directly to us. Artists seem to know us. They speak directly to our hearts. But they also challenge us and inspire us to do better, work harder, and dream bigger.

We all need artists. That is abundantly clear. But I think they need us too; they need us to do our part; to give their work added meaning and purpose. They need us to hold ourselves accountable in this time of much needed reckoning, to evaluate our structures, to work with them and on their behalf in conversation with our community. They need us to listen closely and find ways to make changes; to dismantle systems of oppression and racism. Artists inspire me to be honest with myself and recognize that I have contributed to and benefit from a system that isn't equitable. Recognizing systems of oppression is important, but it is only a marker at the beginning of a journey. The real work, and the reward – a more just, equitable and anti-racist world that we can make together – lies ahead.

There is another powerful system in place here today: the ecosystem of live performance, with the dynamic relationship between audiences

and artists. That ecosystem creates a place where we can laugh and cry and learn from each other; where we can rise above our limitations and our differences and be joyful together.

Some of you experienced that here at the Ordway's loading dock when we screened ***A Breath for George*** that honored the life of George Floyd, created and generously shared with us by our friend Austene Van and New Dawn Theater. I hope you will celebrate that same spirit of love and dignity, words made immortal by legendary U.S. Representative John Lewis, and so evident in the film, ***John Lewis: Good Trouble***, an intimate account of his extraordinary life and legacy I hope you'll take part in the Ordway screening of that film on September 21.

Rod Kaats, Producing Artistic Director

THE ORDWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
presents

Live at the Loading Dock: Ordway Cabaret

With Music From

Disney's *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN *RENT* *THE COLOR PURPLE*
TRIANGLE *WAITRESS*

Featuring

BEN BAKKEN JAMECIA BENNETT REESE BRITTS
RUTHANNE HEYWARD RAJANÉ KATURAH

Vocal Director

LOUIS SACCO

Musical Director

SANFORD MOORE

Directed By

ROD KAATS

Musical Numbers*

"Seasons of Love"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson</i>	Full Company
"Take Me or Leave Me"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson</i>	Rajané Katurah & Ruthanne Heyward
"Me"	<i>Music by Alan Menken & Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice</i>	Reese Britts & Ruthanne Heyward
"Nine Floors Up"	<i>Music by Curtis Moore & Lyrics by Thomas Mizer</i>	Ben Bakken
"Just A Little More"	<i>Music by Curtis Moore & Lyrics by Thomas Mizer</i>	Ruthanne Heyward
"Never Ever Getting Rid of Me"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles</i>	Reese Britts
"She Used to Be Mine"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles</i>	Rajané Katurah
"One Song Glory"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson</i>	Ben Bakken
"Love Lift Us Up"	<i>Music by Jack Nitzsche, Buffy Sainte-Marie & Lyrics by Will Jennings</i>	Ben Bakken & Rajané Katurah
"Home"	<i>Music by Alan Menken & Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice</i>	Ruthanne Heyward
"If I Can't Love Her"	<i>Music by Alan Menken & Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice</i>	Reese Britts
"Everything Changes"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles</i>	Ruthanne Heyward
"I'm Here"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Brenda Russell, Allee Willis & Stephen Bray</i>	Rajané Katurah
"Beauty and the Beast"	<i>Music by Alan Menken & Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice</i>	Jamecia Bennett
"Seasons of Love (Reprise)"	<i>Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson</i>	Full Company

*subject to change

RENT

Book by Jonathan Larson

Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Book by Linda Woolverton

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

TRIANGLE

Book by Thomas Mizer, Curtis Moore & Joshua Scher

Music by Curtis Moore

Lyrics by Thomas Mizer

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN

Book by Dick Scanlan

Original Book by Douglas Stewart & Sharleen Cooper Cohen

Music by Jack Nitzsche, Buffy Sainte-Marie

Lyrics by Will Jennings

WAITRESS

Book by Jessie Nelson

Music & Lyrics by Sara Bareilles

THE COLOR PURPLE

Book by Marsha Norman

Music & Lyrics by Brenda Russell, Allee Willis & Stephen Bray



Ben Bakken



Jamecia Bennett



Reese Britts



Ruthanne Heyward



Rajané Katurah

Who's Who

BEN BAKKEN Ordway: *Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller, Mamma Mia!, The Rocky Horror Show*. Theater Latté Da: *Once, Five Points, Aida*. Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: *Grease, Hairspray, Jesus Christ Superstar, All Shook Up, Footloose, Oklahoma!, 7 Brides for 7 Brothers, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Altar Boyz*. Children's Theatre Company: *Disney's High School Musical, Curtain Call Ball*. History Theatre: *Teen Idol*. Ruby's Cabaret at the Lab: *When a Man Loves a Diva*. Minnesota Orchestra: *80's Rewind*. Bucket Brigade: *Kingdom Undone, Til' Death*. 2011 Ivey Award for Acting. Theatre Teacher and Director at Hill-Murray School in Maplewood.

JAMECIA BENNETT Ordway: *42nd Street, Blues in the Night*. Park Square Theater: *Marie and Rosetta, The Color Purple*. Guthrie Theater: *Caroline or Change, The Night Before Christmas*. Mixed Blood Theatre: *Passing Strange*. The Lab Theatre: *Rent, Rocky*

Horror. The Penumbra Theatre: *Black Nativity, The Dutchmen, Owl Answers, Detroit 67, Girl Shakes Loose, Get Ready, The Wiz*. History Theatre: *Lonely Soldiers*. Hey City: *BeeHive*. Ordway Resident Artist 2020-2021, 3-time Grammy Award winning artist, NAACP Image Award Winner, Vocal coach, CEO Minnesota Movement LLC (Artist Development Co.)

REESE BRITTS Ordway: *Smokey Joe's Café, Mamma Mia!* Guthrie Theater: *South Pacific*. Artistry: *Footloose*. Lyric Arts: *Hairspray, Rent, Young Frankenstein*. Dangerous Productions: *Spring Awakening*. Educational Credits: *Sister Act!, Into the Woods, Noises Off, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged), Rhinoceros*. Training: BFA Musical Theatre, University of Minnesota Duluth. 'I hope you're all staying safe and healthy!' #BlackLivesMatter

RUTHANNE HEYWARD Ordway: *Debut*. Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: *Newsies, Sister Act, Grease, Beauty and the Beast, Fiddler on the Roof, Bye Bye Birdie*. Skylark Opera: *On the Town, Mlle. Modiste, Wonderful Town, The Vagabond King, The*

Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company: Patience, HMS Pinafore. She can also be seen hosting on ShopHQ, the in-home shopping network and on many locally produced commercials and films.

RAJANÉ KATURAH Ordway: *Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller*. Park Square Theatre: *Rule of Thumb, Marie & Rosetta*. Underdog Theatre Company: *How It's Gon' Be*. Ten Thousand Things: *Into the Woods*. Penumbra Theatre Company: *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf*. The Old Globe: *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax*. Children's Theatre Company: *Cinderella, Dr. Seuss's The Lorax, The Wiz*, Acting Company Member. Training: BA Theatre, Spelman College: Children's Theatre Company Performing Apprentice 2017-2018.

LOUIS SACCO (Vocal Director) Ordway as vocal coach: *42nd Street, Smokey Joe's Cafe*, and *Mamma Mia!* and as a performer, the Ordway's world premiere presentation of Dolly Parton's *Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol*. Louis has over 30 years of experience teaching vocal technique, most recently for the

University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program and previously as adjunct professor for the California State University System, with private students in Los Angeles and New York (and now in Saint Paul!) His New York students include company members from the Broadway productions of *Hamilton*, *In the Heights*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Mean Girls*, and *The Lion King*. His New York acting credits include the off-Broadway productions of *Silence! The Musical*, and *Room Service* and Louis and his singing partner Drew Gasparini have appeared together in New York cabaret venues including Don't Tell Mama's and 54 Below (their EP *Louis and Drew* can be found on Spotify and iTunes).

SANFORD MOORE (*Music Director*) Ordway: *Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber and Stoller*. Penumbra: *Girl Shakes Loose*, *By the Way Meet Vera Stark*, *The Ballad of Emmet Till*, *The Amen Corner*, *I Wish You Love*, *Black Pearl Sings*, *Black Nativity*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Get Ready*, *Dinah Was*. Children's Theater: *The Wiz*, *Last Stop on Mrkt St.*, *Three Little Birds* Guthrie: *Parchman Hour*, *Disgraced*, *To*

Kill a Mocking Bird, *Choir Boy*, *Crowns*. Ten Thousand Things: *Thunder Knocking at the Door*. Pillsbury Playhouse: *Nina Simone: Four Women*. Park Square Theatre: *Nina Simone: Four Women*. Mixed Blood Theatre: *Two Queens*, *One Castle*, *Black Belts*. Illusion: *Always and Forever*. Lab Theater: *When a Man Loves a Diva*. Director, Arranger for the vocal jazz ensemble Moore by Four. Threads Dance Company: *Composer*, *Warriors of Light*. Minister of Music at Kingdom Life Church, North Minneapolis, Minnesota

ROD KAATS (*Producing Artistic Director*) Ordway: *SIX* (the first show in the Ordway's history to transfer directly to Broadway), the Ordway Original productions of *Mamma Mia!*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *42nd Street*, and the world premiere of Dolly Parton's *Smokey Mountain Christmas Carol*. A champion of Twin Cities artists, this season Rod established a new artist residency program and is thrilled to be working with Jamecia Bennett and Tyler Michaels King, the Ordway's inaugural Resident Artists. New York: Rod made his Broadway debut as a producer this season with *Girl From The North Country*

and was part of the producing, management or creative teams for the original Broadway productions of *American Psycho* and *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, the Broadway revivals of *Hay Fever*, *A Long Day's Journey into Night*, *Private Lives* and *Joe Egg*, the off-Broadway productions of *Rock of Ages* and *The Fantasticks*, the recent North American tour of *Sweeney Todd*, produced in association with American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco and the first national touring companies of *Three Mo' Tenors*, *Having Our Say*, *Three Tall Women*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Big! The Musical*, *Falsettos*, *Jerome Robbins' Broadway* and *Crazy for You*. Off-Broadway/Regional Directing: Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, Goodspeed Opera House, George Street Playhouse and the Cleveland Playhouse. As Artistic Director of the Helen Hayes Theatre Company in New York: Twenty-seven shows including *Jesus Christ Superstar* (with Billy Porter) *Marvin's Room* (with T.R. Knight), *Company* (with Norm Lewis and Donna McKechnie), the US premiere of the Olivier Award-winning musical *Honk!* (with Gavin Creel) and the world premiere of Elaine Stritch: *At Liberty*.

Production Staff

V.P. of Building Operations and Production – Andy Luft

Director of Production – Julia Erickson

Technical Manager – Samantha Goessner

General Manager – Rachel Murch-D'Olimpio

Director of Guest Services – Tammie Weinfurtner

V.P. Advancement – Diane Nixa

Director of Advancement – Leah Dixon

Events Manager – Annie Deering

Production Photography – Laura Alpizar

Production Videography – Karl Demer

Production Crew

Production Sound Engineer – Wendell Bell

Production Properties Master – Marko Dalglish

Production Electrician – Kris Brodersen



Backstage employees are represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (or I.A.T.S.E.).

Special Thanks:

Darryl Archibald, Kaden Demer, Martha Banta, Michael Heitzman, Curtis Moore and Thomas Mizer, our friends at Park Square Theatre, Stephen Gabriel, and everyone at Work Light Productions, Total Limo, and Ultimate Events.

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Dwight and Marjorie Peterson

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Ted and Nancy Weyerhaeuser

Coming Soon:

Meet the Artists

A series of online conversations with artists curated to take you inside the Ordway's flagship series, Broadway at the Ordway

- Christine Sherrill, Ann Michels, and Erin Schwab | oct 21
- Tamara Tunie | TBD

Virtual Field Trips

- Thornetta Davis | oct 1-31
- Siama's Congo Roots | nov 9-22
- *Rhapsody in Black* | dec 1-31

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Your contribution, along with donations
from other individuals and organizations,
makes it possible to continue to create
programming and activities filled with
entertainment, wonder, and hope.

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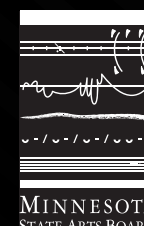
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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.