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MEDIA ALERT FOR CABARET, MUSIC & THEATRE EDITORS AND  
REVIEWERS AND CALENDAR LISTINGS

**LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS &  
CHRIS ISAACSON ANNOUNCE PERFORMERS FOR THE  
UPRIGHT CABARET'S AMERICAN ICON SERIES  
3<sup>RD</sup> SEASON KICK-OFF CONCERT!  
"HEART AND SOUL"  
MUSIC OF DIANA ROSS, DIONNE WARWICK  
& WHITNEY HOUSTON!**

October 14, 2011...La Mirada, Calif...LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS & CHRIS ISAACSON are thrilled to announce the performers for UPRIGHT CABARET's AMERICAN ICON SERIES' first show of their 3rd Season, beginning with, **HEART AND SOUL**, starring American Idol Finalist **SYESHA MERCADO**, Broadway sensation **SHOSHANA BEAN**, and vocal powerhouse **SYLVIA MACCALLA**, celebrating the music of Diana Ross, Dionne Warwick & Whitney Houston!

Your favorite stars from *American Idol to Broadway* will blow you away with four unforgettable evenings of entertainment singing the #1 hits of our American Music Icons.

Under the musical direction of Todd Schroeder, expect to hear your favorites like *Ain't No Mountain High Enough, Stop In The Name of Love, Say A Little Prayer For You, I Wanna Dance with Somebody* and *I Will Always Love You*, with dazzling video and images in this One Night Only multi-media concert event! **HEART AND SOUL** will perform on Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 7:30PM at the NEW Cabaret Lounge at La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd. in La Mirada

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**ABOUT THE PERFORMERS**

**SHOSHANA BEAN** made her New York city debut in the off-Broadway revival of *Godspell*, and her Broadway debut in the original cast of the Tony Award-winning production of *Hairspray*. She went on to be the first replacement for the green-skinned witch Elphaba in Broadway's *Wicked* later reprising her performance on the *Wicked* national tour. She performed in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Weber* at the Kennedy Center, *Joseph and the . . . Dreamcoat* at Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera and headlined in the Las Vegas burlesque revue *Peepshow* opposite Holly Madison. Additionally she has performed solo concerts around the world from LA's Ford Amphitheater and New York City's Jazz at Lincoln Center, to Australia and Zurich and London's West End. Shoshana claims *Dear John Mayer* as her latest triumph, a musical she co-created, starred in and wrote the music and lyrics for, which recently made it's world premiere in Los Angeles at the Open Fist Theater.

Shoshana sang back-up for an endless list of superstars at *Michael Jackson: 30th Anniversary Celebration* at Madison Square Garden and shared the stage with Grammy Award nominee Brian McKnight at the *Soul Train Lady of Soul Awards* to honor Aretha Franklin.

Her debut solo album *Superhero* reached #5 on the itunes R&B charts, making it the only independent album in the top 100. Shoshana has lent her voice to the film soundtracks for *Hairspray*, *Enchanted*, *Dance Flick* and Fox's *GLEE*. Her work as a singer/songwriter has been featured on *The Hills*, *Mercy*, *The Big C*, NBC and her debut single "Superhero" won an Independent Music Award for best R&B song. *Superhero* is availabl at [itunes.com](http://itunes.com) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). [www.shoshanabean.com](http://www.shoshanabean.com).

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**SYLVIA MACCALLA** is a native Californian. Her theater credits span over 15yrs most recently she reprised her role as Bette in the award-nominated *Good Bad But Beautiful*. Sylvia played Joanne in the original Broadway Tour of *RENT*, Lorraine/Motormouth in the Broadway tour of *Hairspray*, Aretha Franklin in the award-winning *Beehive*, Jewel in Susan Anton's *The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas*, one of the Raelet's in the award winning *Ray Charles Live*, one of the 3L's in *Princess and the Blackeyed Pea*, Head Nurse in *South Pacific* at the Hollywood Bowl starring Reba McIntyre and Brian Stokes Mitchell, Sonia's voice in Jason Alexander's *They're Playing Our Song* to name a few. She has appeared on "The Wayne Brady Show," "Ellen DeGeneres," "Jay Leno," "Scrubs" and "RENT the Movie." Sylvia has sang with such artists as Smokey Robinson, Debbie Gibson, Smashmouth and Kimberly Locke. She is the co-founder and member of the recording group *LivinOutLoud*.

**SYESHA MERCADO** was a finalist on the 7<sup>th</sup> season of the wildly popular Fox television reality show, "American Idol." She was the only female in the top three which left fellow contestants David Archuleta and David Cook a chance to compete in the finale. Following her third place finish, she toured with "American Idol Live" 2008 playing 53 performances in 49 cities across the United States and Canada. Among her performances in the tour, Syesha sang "Listen" from the recently released hit film "Dreamgirls." With that Syesha landed the much sought after role of Deena Jones in the newly conceived production of the stage musical which opened at the Apollo Theater in Harlem in November 2009 and has toured all over the US and Japan. Los Angeles audiences welcomed her as she recently opened at the Americana at Brand in Glendale, CA for Jake Simpson in "Arena: Born to Rock." Currently, Syesha is writing and recording her first solo album which will debut in the spring of 2012.

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**TODD SCHROEDER** (Musical Direction) started playing piano at the age of four. Growing up in a musical family, he was introduced to everything from Claude Debussy to Neil Diamond, from Ray Charles to Elton John, but what he remembers most is discovering, at the age of eight, the rock and roll piano playing of Jerry Lee Lewis. For Schroeder, this variety of musical influences has produced a variety of musical accomplishments as a composer, producer, arranger, musical director and performer. Playing piano remains Schroeder's first love. He has performed at Carnegie Hall and the White House, with the Boston Pops and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and has appeared on numerous television shows including The Oprah Winfrey Show. As an accomplished composer, his original music has been featured in film and television. His production of "Roter Mond: The Braveheart Musical" is set to open in Duisburg, Germany in November 2011. He composed music and lyrics with his writing partner, Kevin Fisher, for the new hit musical "Unbeatable: A Bold New Musical". He has also recorded four of his own CD's including the critically-acclaimed "Songs My Father Taught Me".

Along with writing and producing, Schroeder has conducted and arranged for such artists as Angela Lansbury, Nell Carter, Jason Alexander, Rita Coolidge, David Burnham and Sam Harris. He also serves as the vocal director for Disney's "Aladdin, A Musical Spectacular" and for "Wicked" at Universal Studios Japan. And finally, he is the proud founder of the Todd Schroeder Young Artist Grant, an annual scholarship presented to graduating High School students wanting to pursue careers in the arts.

### **ABOUT CHRIS ISAACSON AND THE "UPRIGHT CABARET" SERIES**

Kicking off their 3rd Season, UPRIGHT CABARET, the pre-eminent Los Angeles hot spot for the next generation of world-class entertainers, brings its unique brand of cabaret entertainment to La Mirada!

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This *"young impresario"* has created, produced and promoted over 450 events since forming his company in 2004. From small clubs to major theatres, Isaacson has produced some of the most influential stars of his generation including Adam Lambert (*American Idol*), Lea Michele (*Glee, Spring Awakening*), Neil Patrick Harris (*CBS's How I Met Your Mother & ABC's Doogie Howser, M.D.*), Grammy Award-nominee Natasha Bedingfield, 3x Grammy Nominee Taylor Dayne, Grammy-winner Paula Cole and more.

Isaacson is also creator/founder of LA's renowned Upright Cabaret which has been redefining the cabaret milieu for a new generation of audiences in Los Angeles since 2005. Upright Cabaret seeks to celebrate old style cabaret while simultaneously turning it on its ear, bringing young Broadway and young Hollywood together in a live setting. Isaacson produces concerts and events under the "Upright Cabaret" banner including the successful "American Icon Series" which plays La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza and the Annenberg Theatre in Palm Springs, his critically acclaimed concerts *"Shoshana Sings Streisand"* starring Shoshana Bean, *"Stephen Schwartz: Making Good"* featuring Wicked creator/lyricist Stephen Schwartz, *"Eden Espinosa: Me"* starring Eden Espinosa and *"New York's Finest: The Leading Men of Broadway"* starring Tony Award-winner Levi Kreis, Tony Award-nominee Brandon Victor Dixon, American Idol's Ace Young and David Burnham with direction by Tony Award-nominee Sam Harris at the Ford Amphitheatre.

This past summer, Isaacson produced Broadway sensation Jennifer Leigh Warren in the new show entitled *"Diamonds Are Forever: The Songs of Dame Shirley Bassey"* at the Renberg Theatre directed by Richard Jay-Alexander, and presented the West Coast debut of Saturday Night Live star Ana Gasteyer in *"Elegant Songs from a Handsome Woman"* at Catalina Jazz Club.

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Most recently, Isaacson produced the 9th annual Summer Concert Series at The Grove in Los Angeles and The Americana at Brand in Glendale, CA starring guitar phenomenon Orianthi, Grammy Award-winner Richard Marx, NBC's The Voice star Frenchie Davis and Blake Lewis, Country super-group Lonestar. Latin Music Icon Sergio Mendes and the debut of Isaacson's new show entitled "Arena: Born To Rock" starring 2x Star Search Grand Champion Jake Simpson with special guest American Idol finalist Syesha Mercado.

His concerts have been featured on Access Hollywood, EXTRA, ABC's On The Red Carpet, KTLA 5 Morning News, the L.A. Times and New York Post. Please visit [www.ChrisIsaacsonPresents.com](http://www.ChrisIsaacsonPresents.com)

### **THE THIRD SEASON'S SHOWS INCLUDE:**

**HEART AND SOUL** • November 6, 2011 • 7:30PM  
Music of Diana Ross, Dionne Warwick & Whitney Houston

**THE TROUBADOURS** • January 29, 2012 • 7:30PM  
Music of Bob Dylan, Carole King & James Taylor

**RHYTHM IN THE NIGHT** • April 29, 2012 • 7:30PM  
Music of Gloria Estefan, Santana & Ricky Martin

**VIVA LAS VEGAS!** • June 10, 2012 • 7:30PM  
Music of Elvis Presley, Elton John & Cher

### **ABOUT TICKETS**

Ticket prices for UPRIGHT CABARET are: Single Shows for the 2011-12 season are: \$40 / \$30 /\$20

Subscription prices for all four shows are: \$144 / \$108 /\$72

Tickets to these extraordinary shows are now available by calling the Box Office at 562-944-9801 or 714-994-6310 or online at [www.lamiradatheatre.com](http://www.lamiradatheatre.com).

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LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS is located at 14900 La Mirada Boulevard in La Mirada, Parking is free.

To schedule press interviews, photos, press comps or for additional information, please contact David Elzer/DEMAND PR at 818/508-1754 or by e-mail at [davidelzer@me.com](mailto:davidelzer@me.com) or visit [www.demandpr.com](http://www.demandpr.com). Photos and press information also available at [lamiradatheatre.com](http://lamiradatheatre.com). For more information about Upright Cabaret, please visit: [www.uprightcabaret.com](http://www.uprightcabaret.com).

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*LA MIRADA THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, now in its fourth decade, has been hailed by the Los Angeles Times as "one of the best Broadway-style houses in Southern California." This beautiful state-of-the-art theatre has been producing quality productions for its Southern California audiences since 1977. The theatre has produced several national tours and is the recipient of many accolades including Ovation and Emmy Awards and Tony Award nominations. Brian Kite is the theatre's Producing Artistic Director. The theatre is located at 14900 La Mirada Boulevard in La Mirada, California, near the intersection of Rosecrans Avenue. Parking is theatre-adjacent and free. For further information call 562-944-9801 or visit [www.lamiradatheatre.com](http://www.lamiradatheatre.com).*

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