

Feature Performing Arts Events

Cabaret Night
With Graham Yates and Liz Cass
September 6, 2017
SPI Convention Center

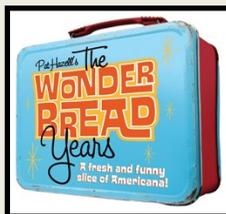


We will kick off our 13th season of events with an amazing evening of music on

September 6, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., at the South Padre Island Convention Center. *Cabaret Night* is an engaging evening of musical theater songs and dramatic lyrics about people at a crossroads: choosing a soulmate, declaring love, losing love, and occasionally looking for love in all the wrong places. Your musical tour guides for the evening, mezzo-soprano Liz Cass and pianist Graham Yates, share stories through the music and about the music that will make you laugh, cry, and maybe even pause and reflect on our shared humanity. Music by the famous young Broadway composer Jason Robert Brown (*The Last Five Years*) and the wildly imaginative cabaret and ragtime composer William Bolcom feature strongly in the program. Works by Bob Dylan, Kander & Ebb (*Cabaret*, *Chicago*) and classical composers Bizet (*Carmen*) and Samuel Barber (*Adagio for Strings*) make appearances, too. Even the performer Graham Yates presents his "Spam Songs" - miniature and eclectic art songs inspired by the junk in everyone's email inbox.

The Wonder Bread Years
Starring Pat Hazell
September 18 -19, 2017
SPI Convention Center

A fresh and funny salute to Americana, *The Wonder Bread Years* Starring Pat Hazell (former Seinfeld writer) is a fast-paced, hilarious production that gracefully walks the line between standup and theater. Audiences across the country are enjoying a show that not only



restores a much-needed sense of wonder, but leaves audiences laughing and savoring the past like never before. From sitting at the kids table to riding in the way back of the Country Squire Wagon, *The Wonder Bread Years* hits a comic bullseye.

"Pure unpasteurized nostalgia" - *LA Times*
 "Milk-snorting funny!" - Jerry Seinfeld

A'lante Flamenco
October 28, 2017
Padre Sunset Club



The A'lante Flamenco Ensemble, based out of Austin, Texas, excites audiences with a blend of traditional and contemporary flamenco music and dance. The ensemble was formed in 2011 by Artistic Director/Choreographer Olivia Chacón and Music

Director Isaí Chacón with the object of presenting flamenco to Texas and regional audiences in the freshest and most creative way possible. A'lante Flamenco produces popular traditional flamenco shows as well as innovative flamenco theater works incorporating multimedia and addressing relevant social issues. A'lante Flamenco's work aims to reach audiences on a visceral level, provoking emotional responses through music and dance that crosses cultural and linguistic boundaries. Join us at the intimate setting of Padre Sunset Club for this rare chance to enjoy a professional dance performance right here in our own backyard!

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
Book by Rachael Sheinkin
Lyrics by William Finn
November 15-17, 2017
SPI Convention Center

Winner of the Tony Award for best musical, this show has charmed audiences across the country with its effortless wit and humor. This bee is an unforgettable experience. An eclectic group of six

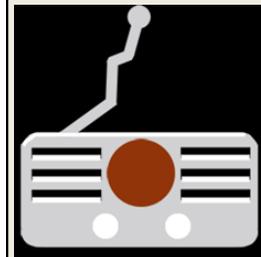
pubescents (played by adults) vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime.



While candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home life, the contestants spell their way through a series of words hoping to never hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life unaffirming "ding" of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; one speller leaves! At least the losers get a juice box. It's a riotous ride complete with audience participation. *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* is a delightful den of comedic genius. It's a fast-paced crowd pleaser with fun music, audience participation and loads of laughs.

Dead Air - a Mystery Comedy Play
By Lee Mueller
January 22 - 23, 2018
Isla Grand Beach Resort Ballroom

Radio station WEZ-Y established a winning format in the 1950's and has stuck with it ever since. Nothing has changed. Not the music nor the annual "Live Broadcast" hosted by Guy Godfry; 'Your voice in the night.' However, this particular Anniversary show proves to be a wee bit different. First of all, rumor has it the station is about to be purchased by a large media conglomerate. Secondly, Guy seems to be having a virtual breakdown on the air. To top it off, the Bunny Bagel Boy collapses right after his live commercial spot and appears to be dead. Will any of this help the ratings? Is anyone listening? Does anyone care? Why am I asking you? Tune in January 22 or 23 and find out!



Reduced Shakespeare Company in
William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play
(abridged)
By Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor
February 6-7, 2018
SPI Convention Center



One of the most regrettably overlooked **fake news** stories of the past year is the discovery of William Shakespeare's first dramatic work. Discovered in a treasure-filled parking lot in England (next to a pile of bones that didn't look that important), an ancient manuscript proves to be the long-lost first play written by none other

than seventeen-year-old William Shakespeare from Stratford. Abridged down to 90 minutes, thanks to the able minds of the Reduced Shakespeare Company, this plot of a lost masterpiece begins when Puck and Ariel hijack the plot of *Comedy of Errors*. In the *Long Lost First Play*, the company weaves the Bard's most famous characters, greatest lines, and magnificent speeches into an entirely new, comic tour de force. As National Public Radio says, "something wickedly funny this way comes! ... and wickedly smart, too."

The Elephant Man
By Bernard Pomerance
February 22 - 24, 2018
SPI Convention Center

Winner of 1979 Tony Award for Best Play and 2015 Drama Desk Award for Best Revival of a Play, *The Elephant Man* is based on the life of John Merrick, who lived in London during the latter part of the nineteenth century. A horribly deformed young man - victim of rare skin and bone diseases - he becomes the star freak attraction in traveling sideshows. Found abandoned and helpless, he is admitted to London's prestigious Whitechapel Hospital. Under the care of celebrated young physician Frederick Treves, Merrick is introduced to London society and evolves from an object of pity to an urbane and witty favorite of the aristocracy and literati, but can never become like other men.

