

# CAPE SYMPHONY

## “Respect: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin” Show Notes

The Cape Symphony presents [Respect: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin](#) on Saturday, April 22 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 PM at the [Barnstable Performing Arts Center](#).

### **Cape Symphony**

[Jung-Ho Pak](#), Conductor

[Cape Symphony Musicians](#)

[Board and Staff](#)

### **Guest Artists**

Tamika Lawrence, Vocals

Shaleah Adkisson, Vocals

Corwyn Hodge, Vocals

John Boswell, Piano

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#### **PRECIOUS LORD**

Thomas A. Dorsey

#### **AMAZING GRACE**

Traditional, Arr. Daryl McKenzie

#### **I NEVER LOVED A MAN (THE WAY I LOVED YOU)**

Ronnie Shannon, Arr. Richard Maslove

#### **SON OF A PREACHER MAN**

John Hurley & Ronnie Wilkins, Orch. Ryan Shirar

#### **CHAIN OF FOOLS**

Don Covay, Arr. Richard Maslove

**DON'T PLAY THAT SONG (YOU LIED)**

Ahmet Ertegun & Betty Nelson, Orch. Scott Ryan

**BABY, I LOVE YOU**

Ronnie Shannon, Arr. Richard Maslove

**AIN'T NO WAY**

Carol Franklin, Orch. Ryan Shirar

**A CHANGE IS GONNA COME**

Sam Cooke

**I DREAMED A DREAM**

Claude Michel-Schonberg, Alain Boublil, Jean-Marc Natel, Herbert Kretzmer, Orch. Ryan Shirar

**THINK**

Aretha Franklin & Ted White, Arr. Richard Maslove

*Intermission*

**GIMME A FIFTH O' FUNK**

Ludwig "Funk" Beethoven, Arr. Tim Berens

**THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT**

Bobby Lance & Fran Robins, Orch. Scott Ryan

**SOMETHING HE CAN FEEL**

Curtis Mayfield, Orch. Scott Ryan

**BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER**

Paul Simon, Orch. Scott Ryan

**(YOU MAKE ME FEEL LIKE A) NATURAL WOMAN**

Gerry Goffin, Carole King & Jerry Wexler, Orch. Ryan Shirar

**NESSUN DORMA**

Giacomo Puccini

**ROLLING IN THE DEEP**

Adele Adkins & Paul Epworth, Arr. Daryl McKenzie

**About Today's Program**

Our guest artists for this tribute to Aretha Franklin include two-time Grammy-winning artist Tamika Lawrence, who has appeared on Broadway for a decade in shows *The Book of Mormon*, *Come From Away*, *Beautiful*, and more. She has sung backgrounds for artists including Hugh Jackman and Idina Menzel and appeared in "The Wiz Live!" on NBC. In 2018, Tamika won a Grammy for her work on the

*Dear Evan Hansen* album. She received a 2022 Drama Desk nomination as Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical for *Black No More*. Tamika recently starred in *Caroline or Change* on Broadway!

Shaleah Adkisson has been seen on Broadway and on tour in *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical* and off-Broadway in the revival of the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical *Rent*. She also performs in New York City and on tour with *Back to the Garden*, the all-female tribute to the music of Joni Mitchell, Carole King, and Laura Nyro. When not on stage, Shaleah works as an administrator and teaching artist with Bridge Arts Ensemble, a non-profit organization catering to public schools in upstate New York.

Corwyn Hodge is a native of Louisville, Kentucky and received his BFA in musical theatre from Cincinnati Conservatory of Music (CCM). Some of Corwyn's show credits include *The Lion King*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Grease* to name a few. He is also part of an a cappella group called MO5AIC (Mosaic) which travels the world, headlines in Las Vegas, and has performed with Tony Bennett, Prince, Bruno Mars, and Justin Timberlake.

These talented vocalists will be joined by John Boswell on piano. John Boswell has served as musical director for Judy Collins, Andy Williams and Bob Newhart, as well as the concert tours of "Cinema Toast," "That's Life: A Toast to Sinatra," "Blockbuster Today," "Three Men and a Baby Grand," "Blockbuster Broadway!" and "The Spy Who Loved Me" starring Sheena Easton. John played the role of "Moose" in the national tour of *Crazy For You*, and recently appeared at Birdland in New York in his acclaimed musical comedy cabaret "Cashino."

Aretha Franklin was one of the greatest singers of all time, and is among the world's best-selling music artists. She began singing gospel at her father's church in Detroit, and as part of her first record deal, she released "Precious Lord" in 1956. Her early friends and influences included Mavis Staples, Sam Cooke, and Marvin Gaye. After a lackluster stint at Columbia Records, Aretha signed with Atlanta Records in 1967 and worked with producer Jerry Wexler; it was a match made in music heaven.

The run of hits that followed kicked off with "I Never Loved a Man (The Way I Love You)," recorded at the famous studio in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. It was her first number one hit on the R&B chart and reached number nine on the Billboard Hot 100. Next, Aretha's modified version of Otis Redding's "Respect" became her first single to reach number one on both the R&B and pop charts.

Her next two number-one songs came later in 1967: "Baby I Love You" and "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman," written by Carole King. 1968 brought more hit singles: "Chain of Fools," "Ain't No Way," "Think," and "I Say a Little Prayer." Aretha also won her first two Grammys, including the first time an award was given for Best Female R&B Performance.

You may wonder why "Nessun Dorma," a famous aria from Puccini's opera *Turandot*, is on the program for this concert. At the Grammys in 1998, Aretha was asked to perform "Nessun Dorma" when Luciano Pavarotti fell ill. She received a standing ovation, and later recorded the aria and performed it live several times.

One of her final hits is also included in our program. Aretha performed Adele's "Rolling in the Deep" on Late Night with David Letterman in 2014 and released her recording on her final studio album, *Aretha Franklin Sings the Great Diva Classics*. Aretha continued to perform live during her final years, including a show-stopping appearance at the Kennedy Center Honors, the "Star Spangled Banner" at an NFL game

in her home town of Detroit, and at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City for Elton John's AIDS Foundation 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala.

Aretha Franklin remains as popular and relevant today as ever. In recent years, she was portrayed in two separate projects about her life – “Genius: Aretha,” a four-part series on NatGeo starring Tony winner Cynthia Erivo, and the film *Respect*, starring Oscar winner Jennifer Hudson.

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To purchase tickets for [Respect: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin](#), visit [capesymphony.org](http://capesymphony.org), call the Box Office at 508-362-1111, email [tickets@capesymphony.org](mailto:tickets@capesymphony.org), or visit 2235 Iyannough Road in West Barnstable, MA.

*With thanks to Wikipedia.*