

# 2024-2025 SEASON SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

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*With every MBT ticket purchased, a new door opens to a thrilling experience*

## **The Decemberists**

Friday, August 2, 2024 at 7:30 PM

- ◆ The band's album *The Crane Wife* (2006) received critical acclaim and marked their first major-label release.
- ◆ The Decemberists have received Grammy nominations, including Best Rock Performance for "Down by the Water" (2011).
- ◆ The Decemberists have headlined major music festivals such as Coachella, Bonnaroo, and Lollapalooza.

## **Squirrel Nut Zippers: Jazz from the Back O' Town**

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 7:30 PM

- ◆ The multi-platinum band played a significant role in the swing revival of the late 1990s and early 2000s. This movement saw a resurgence of interest in swing music and dance, harking back to the big band era of the 1930s and 1940s.
- ◆ The band's 1996 album *Hot* was a major success, peaking at No. 27 on the Billboard Top 200 chart.
- ◆ Released as a single from their 1996 album *Hot*, "Hell" became their most successful song, reaching No. 13 on the Billboard Modern Rock Tracks chart. It gained platinum status, selling over 1.3 million copies in the United States and remains a hallmark of the swing revival era.

## **Mariachi Herencia de Mexico: Our Latin Thing (Nuestra Cosa)**

Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 7:30 PM

- ◆ Mariachi Herencia de Mexico is a two-time Latin Grammy-nominated band.
- ◆ Their first Latin Grammy nomination was for Best Ranchero/Mariachi Album in 2017.
- ◆ In 2023, the band received their second Latin Grammy nomination for Best Ranchero/Mariachi Album.

## **Ben Folds: Paper Airplane Request Tour**

Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 7:30 PM

- ◆ Ben Folds is an Emmy-nominated singer-songwriter-composer, multi-platinum selling artist and member of the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame with a star on the Music City Walk of Fame in Nashville, Tennessee.
- ◆ He received a Primetime Emmy Award Nomination for his original song "The Luckiest" from the film *About Time* (2013).
- ◆ Folds is a recipient of a 2002 Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) Gold Record award for *Five's Whatever and Ever Amen* (1998).

## **Black Violin | BV20: Then & Now | A 20th Anniversary Celebration**

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ Black Violin's 2019 album, *Take the Stairs*, earned a Grammy Award nomination for Best Contemporary Instrumental Album. The band also recently received their second Grammy Award nomination (Best Americana Performance) for the track "The Message" in collaboration with The Blind Boys of Alabama.
- ◆ Their 2015 album, *Stereotypes*, debuted at #1 on the Billboard Classical Crossover Chart and sold thousands of copies worldwide.
- ◆ Black Violin was nominated for an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Duo, Group, or Collaboration.

## **Come From Away**

**Tuesday, October 29, 2024 & Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ The winner of Best Musical all across North America, *Come From Away* also received seven Tony Award nominations in 2017, winning Best Direction of a Musical (Christopher Ashley).
- ◆ In 2019, this true story won four Olivier Awards, including Best New Musical.
- ◆ *Come From Away* won five Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Outstanding New Broadway Musical.
- ◆ The production garnered three Drama Desk Awards, including Outstanding Musical.

## **Grand Funk Railroad: The Loco-Motion Tour**

**Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ With a 50-year music legacy, Grand Funk Railroad has earned multiple Gold and Platinum records throughout their career. They were awarded the prestigious Diamond Award for selling over 10 million copies of their albums.
- ◆ In 1971, Grand Funk Railroad sold out Shea Stadium in New York faster than The Beatles, a record-breaking achievement that solidified their status as a top live act.
- ◆ They have multiple Top 10 hits on the Billboard charts with "We're an American Band" reaching No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100.

## **David Sedaris**

**Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ David Sedaris is the author of numerous best-selling books. His books have sold millions of copies and have been translated into multiple languages.
- ◆ Sedaris has been nominated for five Grammy Awards including Best Spoken Word Album and Best Comedy Album.
- ◆ He is the winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor in 2001 for "Me Talk Pretty One Day."
- ◆ Sedaris was named one of Time Magazine's "Humorists of the Year" in 2001.

## **Shrek The Musical**

**Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

- ◆ Tony Award-winning duo Jeanine Tesori (music) and David Lindsay-Abaire (book) have revisited their first collaboration to deliver a more intimate and engaging experience with *Shrek The Musical*.
- ◆ All-new original direction and choreography by Danny Mefford, Choreographer for *Dear Evan Hansen*.
- ◆ *Shrek The Musical* is the winner of the 2009 Tony Award for Best Costume Design of a Musical.

## **Bettye LaVette**

**Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ Bettye LaVette is a 2020 Blues Hall of Fame Inductee and the winner of R&B Foundation's Pioneer Award.
- ◆ Seven-time Grammy-nominated artist, LaVette received her seventh nomination for her latest album *LaVette!*
- ◆ She received the Legacy of Americana Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2023 Americana Music Honors & Awards.
- ◆ LaVette has multiple Blues Music Award wins, including Best Contemporary Blues Album for *The Scene of the Crime*; Best Contemporary Female Blues Singer in 2008; and Best Soul Blues Female Artist of 2016, 2020 and 2021.

## **Vitamin String Quartet: The Music of Taylor Swift, Bridgerton, and Beyond**

**Friday, November 22, 2024 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ Vitamin String Quartet (VSQ) has released over 300 albums, making them one of the most prolific and versatile groups in the industry.
- ◆ This Billboard charting ensemble is known for classical reinterpretations of pop hits with over 2 billion streams, 4 million downloads and over 1 million physical units sold.
- ◆ VSQ's music has been widely used in various media, including television shows, films and commercials. Some notable placements include TV shows like *Bridgerton*, *Westworld*, *Pretty Little Liars*, and *Gossip Girl*.

## **Hadestown**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

- ◆ *Hadestown* received 14 Tony Award nominations and won eight Tony Awards (2019) including Best Musical, Best Original Score (Anais Mitchell), Best Performance by a Featured Actor in a Musical (André De Shields), Best Scenic Design of a Musical (Rachel Hauck), Best Lighting Design of a Musical (Bradley King), Best Sound Design of a Musical (Nevin Steinberg and Jessica Paz), Best Direction of a Musical (Rachel Chavkin) and Best

Orchestrations (Michael Chorney and Todd Sickafoose).

- ◆ The production won seven Drama Desk Awards in 2019.
- ◆ *Hadestown* is the winner of six Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Outstanding New Broadway Musical.
- ◆ *Hadestown* won a Grammy for Best Musical Theater Album in 2020.

## **STOMP 35th Anniversary**

**Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

- ◆ STOMP received the Obie Award in 1994 for their unique contribution to the world of off-Broadway theater.
- ◆ In 1994, STOMP won the Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience.
- ◆ STOMP's HBO special, *Stomp Out Loud*, received four Emmy Awards, highlighting its exceptional television adaptation.
- ◆ The group has performed in over 50 countries and in front of more than 24 million people globally.
- ◆ STOMP won an Olivier Award for Best Choreography and Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatre Experience.

## **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ In 2007, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (The Trocks) won the Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Best Classical Repertoire.
- ◆ The dance company received the Positano Premia La Danza Léonide Massine Award in 2008, honoring their significant contribution to the dance world.
- ◆ The Trocks have performed in over 34 countries and 600 cities worldwide, entertaining millions of audience members.
- ◆ In 2014, they celebrated their 40th anniversary with a series of commemorative performances and international tours, highlighting their enduring popularity and influence in the dance world.

## **Dear Evan Hansen**

**Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

- ◆ *Dear Evan Hansen* won six Tony Awards in 2017, including Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical (Steven Levenson), Best Original Score (Benj Pasek and Justin Paul), Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical (Ben Platt), Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Musical (Rachel Bay Jones) and Best Orchestrations (Alex Lacamoire).
- ◆ The original cast recording of *Dear Evan Hansen* won the Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album in 2018.
- ◆ In 2020, the West End production of *Dear Evan Hansen* won three Olivier Awards, including

Best New Musical, Best Actor in a Musical (Sam Tutty) and Best Original Score or New Orchestrations.

### **Matt Dusk: *The Best is Yet to Come!***

**Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ Matt Dusk has received multiple Juno Award nominations including Best Vocal Jazz Album.
- ◆ His albums have achieved gold and platinum status in multiple countries, highlighting his international appeal and commercial success.

### ***The Princess Bride: An Inconceivable Evening with Cary Elwes***

**Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 3:00 PM**

- ◆ *The Princess Bride*, released in 1987, was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Music (Original Song) for “Storybook Love” by Willy DeVille.
- ◆ Cary Elwes is an acclaimed actor known for his diverse range of roles across film, television and theater. He rose to prominence with his portrayal of Westley in *The Princess Bride*. Elwes has since appeared in a multitude of acclaimed projects, including *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*, *Saw*, *Twister* and *Glory*, among others.

### **Colin James**

**Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 7:30 PM**

- ◆ Colin James’ career has spanned over 30 years with multiple awards and nominations. He won eight Juno Awards including Best Producer (1996), Best Male Vocalist (1996), Best Blues Album for “Colin James and The Little Big Band” (1994) and Best Video for “Just Came Back” (1991).
- ◆ James is the winner of 30 Maple Blues Awards including Entertainer of the Year, Electric Act of the Year, and Guitarist of the Year.
- ◆ In 2013, James was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame in recognition of his contributions to the Canadian music industry.
- ◆ He is the winner of several Western Canadian Music Awards and has multiple multi-platinum record sales.

### **Alton Brown Live: Last Bite — The Farewell Tour**

**Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 4:00 PM**

- ◆ Alton Brown has received several James Beard Awards, including the prestigious James Beard Award for Best Television Food Personality in 2011.
- ◆ Brown is the author of several bestselling cookbooks including *I’m Just Here for the Food* and *Good Eats: The Early Years*.
- ◆ He’s been nominated for several Daytime Emmy Awards for his work on television, including nominations for Outstanding Service Show Host for *Good Eats*.

- ◆ In 2006, *Good Eats* received a Peabody Award for excellence in broadcasting. Brown was recognized for his innovative approach to food education on television.

## **Booker T. Jones: 60 Years of Green Onions**

Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 7:30 PM

- ◆ Booker T. Jones has won multiple Grammy Awards throughout his career. He received the Grammy Award for Best Pop Instrumental Performance for his iconic song “Cruisin’” in 1994.
- ◆ Jones was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992 as a member of the influential group Booker T. & the M.G.’s. The group’s pioneering work in soul and R&B music had a profound impact on the music industry.
- ◆ In 2007, he was honored with the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ◆ Jones was inducted into the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville, Tennessee in 2008 after being recognized for his significant contributions to the field of music. In 2019, he was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

## ***The Addams Family***

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 7:00 PM

- ◆ *The Addams Family* received multiple Tony Award nominations during its Broadway run.
- ◆ The production was nominated for two Tony Awards in 2010, including Best Original Score (Music and Lyrics) Written for the Theatre and Best Performance by a Featured Actor in a Musical for actor Kevin Chamberlin’s portrayal of Uncle Fester.
- ◆ *The Addams Family* is the winner of the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Set Design.