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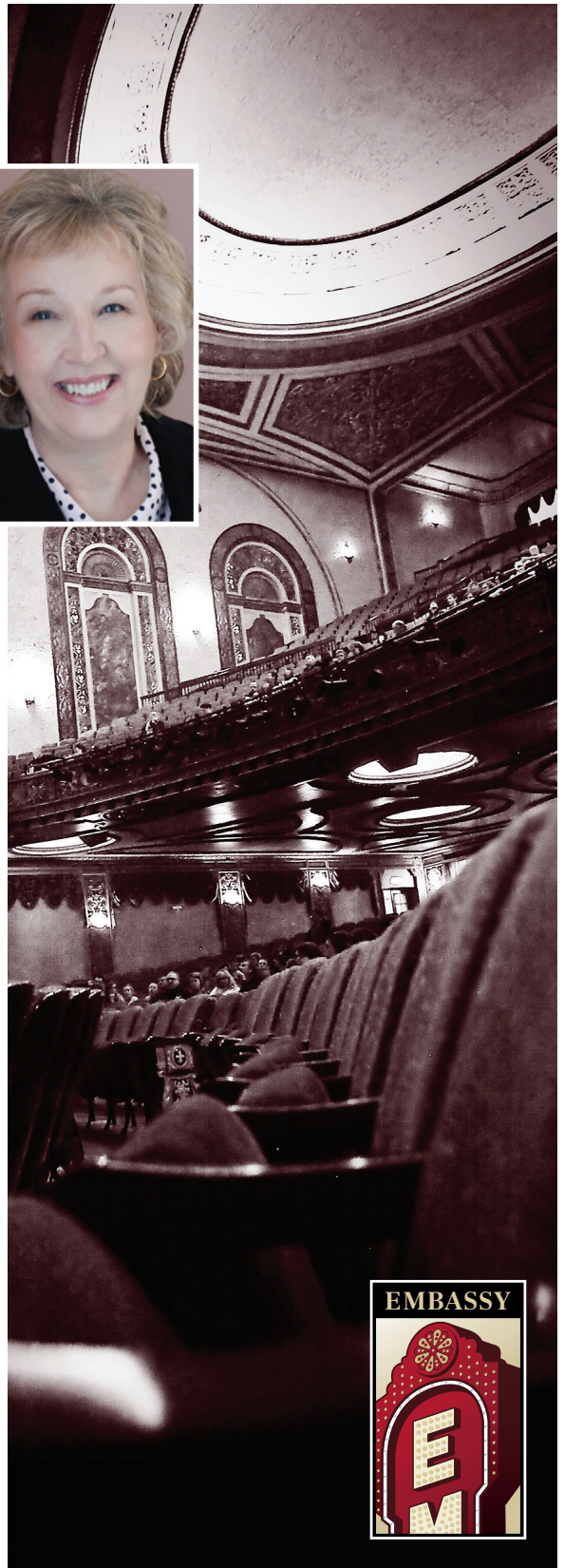
Thank you for attending the 2023-24 **Broadway at the Embassy** season. Thanks to MidWest America Federal Credit Union for once again sponsoring this season. We have a fabulous lineup awaiting you: *Come From Away*, *Mean Girls*, *The Simon & Garfunkel Story*, *Pretty Woman: The Musical* and *Mamma Mia!*. We are also excited to offer two add-on shows this season: *Cirque Dreams Holidayze* and *STOMP*. The Broadway experience is growing in Fort Wayne as several shows are making their Fort Wayne debut this season!



We are working closely with our Broadway partner Nederlander National Markets to grow this series. It is more important now than ever to fill the house throughout the season so that we can highlight the continued need and excitement for more **Broadway at the Embassy!** Having sold-out performances in our community leads to show variety and more nights of this spectacular artistry. And, being a season subscriber (guaranteeing you the best seats at the best price) goes a long way to showing this community's commitment to this series. Also, don't forget that **Broadway at the Embassy** tickets are a wonderful gift.

As a nationally renowned theater, we are focused on high quality programming that delights you and leaves an indelible imprint on your memory. Thank you for your support and love of the Embassy Theatre.

**Kelly Updike**  
**President & CEO**



MagicSpace Entertainment and RAIN

present

# RAIN<sup>®</sup>

## A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES

Cast:

STEVE LANDES  
PAUL CURATOLO  
ALASTAR MCNEIL  
DYLAN VERGE  
MARK BEYER

Created By:

STEVE LANDES  
JOEY CURATOLO  
JOE BITHORN  
RALPH CASTELLI  
MARK LEWIS

THERE IS ONE 20-MINUTE INTERMISSION



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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**STEVE LANDES** (Vocals, Rhythm Guitar, Harmonica, Piano, Original Broadway Cast) a life-long, second generation Beatles fan, Steve taught himself guitar at ten by listening to Beatles records and by 13 was fronting a top 40 cover band in his native Philadelphia. At 17 he joined Beatlemania and further developed his musicianship, touring the world with the show. After "passing the audition" with the existing Rain band members in 1998, his career was set. On one of his travels to England, he found himself at Liverpool's Casbah Club, owned by pre-Ringo Beatles drummer Pete Best. Encouraged to get on stage, Steve belted out lead vocals to the Beatles rocker "Slow Down," while Best sat in on drums. As a backup musician, Steve has performed alongside legendary sixties artists Peter Noone (Herman's Hermits), Joey Molland (Badfinger), Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels and Tiny Tim. As an actor, he appeared in the films Wedding Bell Blues, For Which He Stands and Tim Burton's Mars Attacks! Steve writes and records his own original music. [www.steve-landes.com](http://www.steve-landes.com), [facebook.com/steve.landes.rain](https://www.facebook.com/steve.landes.rain).

**PAUL CURATOLO** (Vocals, Bass, Piano, Guitar) The Beatles became Paul's biggest influence as a child growing up with RAIN. At ten years old, his musical journey began when he taught himself the drums. He quickly adapted to guitar & piano which drove him to write and record his own music. When he was 14, as a member of the pop band "Wayward", he went on to record five albums. Until recently the band has toured the U.S. and was voted home town heroes in A.P. magazine (Alternative Press). Paul's love for the Beatles has driven him to master the character of Paul McCartney down to every detail. From vocal inflections to turning the bass over to perform left-handed. Paul considers it an honor to pay tribute to his idol.

**DYLAN VERGE** (Drums, Percussion, Vocals) Like any Beatles fan, Dylan Verge was drawn to their magic by watching their "First U.S. Visit" DVD as early as he can remember. This was foundation for his musical journey. He started playing drums around age 5 and soon began playing professionally before his teenage years, as a self taught drummer. He later attended the Boston Arts Academy school, where his musicianship broadened exponentially through differ-

ent styles and intense performance study. With his time at this school and studying with Berkeley City Music all through high school, he was accepted into Berklee College of Music with the "J. Curtis Warner" full tuition scholarship. In addition to gigging 3-4 times a week, he majored in Contemporary Writing and Production, studying: scoring for orchestras, advertisement writing, and arranging. In his time as Berklee he taught himself bass guitar, through learning every McCartney line he could, along with guitar and mandolin, in order to write and record on all of his assignments. He currently lives in Nashville, and is working as a performer and multi-instrumentalist, and the Beatle sound and influence has always been and will be with him in his work, no matter what.

**ALASTAR McNEIL** (Vocals, Lead Guitar, Guitar Synth) Born and raised on the island of O'ahu, State of Hawai'i, Alastar McNeil grew up surrounded by musicians who played ukulele and guitar. These instruments would play a pivotal role in his life as he became an ukulele luthier - for a time supervising a local factory - and eventually changed careers to fulfill the dream of being a full time musician. Alastar and his wife Miwa (herself a kiho'alu or Hawaiian slack key guitarist) have played with the iconic band Kupa'aina for years even as he earned a solid reputation for his instrumentation and adaptability playing with Honolulu bands doing everything from Irish to reggae, funk to classic rock and even a local Beatles tribute. "Playing with RAIN has challenged and improved my ability to express myself not just as a musician but as an actor and entertainer as well. Nothing is more thrilling!"

**MARK BEYER** (Keyboard, Percussion) began piano lessons at age 8, and at 12 was given special acceptance into a local University music school where he was privately trained in piano and music theory. At 14, he began experimenting with electronic keyboards and synthesizers from the 1970s, and played professionally in a progressive rock band. As keyboard technology advanced, Mark became known for his uncanny reproductions of elaborate sound textures, exotic instruments, and simulations of full orchestras. Mark is the primary programmer and sound designer for the keyboards currently used in RAIN's production. [www.Beatlekeys.com](http://www.Beatlekeys.com)



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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

## **Performers may change. Additional musicians may include:**

**CHRIS SMALLWOOD** (Keyboard, Percussion) Chris fell in love with music as a young kid, but didn't fall onto a piano bench until high school, when he broke his leg. Just two years later, he was invited to Kentucky's prestigious Governor's School for the Arts program. In 2008, Chris received a bachelor of music from Belmont University, and in 2010 earned his master of music from the University of Louisville. Chris has toured internationally with Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles for over eight years, and loves sharing his passion for The Beatles' music with fans all over the world. Chris currently serves as adjunct music faculty at Belmont University, and owns Mockingbird Musicians - a Nashville contracting service for live music and entertainment. Chris was appointed Music Director/Performer for the "Eat Your Science" tour, Chef Alton Brown's live show. Chris released his first piano pop record, "Out in the Open," which is available on iTunes.

## **Creators:**

**JOEY CURATOLO** (Vocals, Bass, Piano, Guitar, Original Broadway Cast) grew up in a Brooklyn household where classical music and opera formed the soundtrack. A natural musician, he was infatuated with The Beatles, taught himself guitar at age 10 and played piano by ear at 16. After winning multiple McCartney sound-alike contests, Joey toured with the Broadway production of Beatlemania. He joined Rain shortly after, and helped transform the band into the multimedia production it is today. In addition, he is an active singer/songwriter and studio musician. His original Christmas song "Wishing You a Very Merry Christmas" is featured on Broadway's Carols for a Cure, Volume 12 (to benefit BC/EFA) as well as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Hope for the Holidays charity album. When Universal Pictures needed a McCartney sound, they contacted Joey to record the song "Love Take Me Down" for the recently released comedy Role Models. For Joey, performing on Broadway was a dream come true.

**JOE BITHORN** (Vocals, Lead Guitar, Guitar Synth, Sitar, Original Broadway Cast) grew up in Manhattan and Long Island, where he was exposed to a variety of music including jazz, Latin, classical and more. By age three, his musical

father taught his children how to sing harmony. He was profoundly influenced by the experiences he had at Carnegie Hall through his Mom, who worked with the Festival Casals. Thanks to The Beatles' appearance on Ed Sullivan, Joe took a strong interest in the guitar. Early influences include the band Cream, and Joe developed the ability to learn guitar parts by ear by age 14. By age 16, he was so proficient that he was recruited for studio sessions. While in high school, Joe and his brother formed the Bithorn Brothers Band, performing the early music of the Allman Brothers Band. Joe heard about an audition for Beatlemania and was hired for the touring production as George. After touring with the show in North America, Joe joined Rain in 1983 and has been touring the world ever since.

**RALPH CASTELLI** (Drums, Percussion, Vocals, Original Broadway Cast) was born and raised in southern California, surrounded by a musically talented family, and by age six became passionate about playing drums. On that momentous night in February, 1964, when The Beatles first appeared on "The Ed Sullivan Show," Ralph was hypnotized and knew playing drums was what he was born to do. Captivated by Ringo Starr and The Beatles that night, Ralph's excitement continued to grow, and his dream would eventually become his reality. After touring and performing with numerous bands and pursuing his acting career, Ralph landed the role of Ringo Starr in the touring production of Beatlemania and was also cast as Ringo in Beatlemania: The Movie. His talent, drum techniques, humor, style and appearance were in his favor. Ralph joined Rain in 1986 and was thrilled to be on Broadway.

**MARK LEWIS** (Founder, Manager, Original Keyboardist). As the managerial and creative mind that transformed Rain from a 1970's southern California bar band doing Beatles covers into an ultra-professional group, Mark Lewis recruited the excellent musicians who would gel into Rain's long-standing line-up. He traces his love of the Fab Four to the Sunday night of February 9, 1964, when his generation was smitten by The Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show." Originally called Reign, the band gained national fame, changed its name to Rain and cut the soundtrack to the made-for-TV movie Birth of The Beatles (thanks to Dick Clark). An accomplished pianist at 13, having studied since age five, he began his career playing the Farfisa organ in teenage rock bands



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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

around his native Los Angeles. It was Mark, the original keyboard player with Rain, who worked out all of the musical parts and sounds that enabled Rain to bring to life many songs that The Beatles themselves never performed live.

**MAGICSPACE ENTERTAINMENT** (*Producer*). MagicSpace Entertainment is a boutique producing and presenting firm focused on first-class properties and productions. Based in Park City, UT, the company has produced and presented national tours, Broadway shows, concerts, museum exhibits and sporting events worldwide for over 40 years with a powerhouse producing team focused on providing creative, marketing and general management expertise. Recent Broadway credits include *The Illusionists - Witness the Impossible* (Broadway & West End), *Donny & Marie - A Broadway Christmas*, *American Idiot* and *RAIN - A Trib-*

*ute To The Beatles On Broadway*. National tour credits include *The Illusionists - Live From Broadway*, *Lord of the Dance* created by Michael Flatley, Jamie Hyneman and Adam Savage starring in *Mythbusters - Unleashed*, *Alton Brown Live*, *Mannheim Steamroller Christmas* by Chip Davis, *Donny & Marie Christmas*, *RAIN - A Tribute to the Beatles*, *The Magic of David Copperfield*, *Circus 1903 - The Golden Age of Circus*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *A Chorus Line* and national concert tours by Janet Jackson, Cher and Fleetwood Mac to name just a few. Touring museum exhibitions produced include *Jurassic World: The Exhibition*, *Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs Exhibition*, *Titanic: The Exhibition* and *Diana - A Celebration*, *St Peter and the Vatican: The Legacy of the Popes* exhibition. [www.magic-space.net](http://www.magic-space.net)

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Official Website: [www.RainTribute.com](http://www.RainTribute.com)



Become a fan of RAIN on  
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B-Roll Location: The Pioneer Center, Reno, Nevada  
Eccles Theater Salt Lake City, Utah

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# CREDITS

## SPECIAL THANKS

To John, Paul, George and Ringo without whom we wouldn't be here.

Thank you to all of our family, friends, and fans for all their love and support throughout the years.

Sid Bernstein, Casey Leonard

SONY/ATV MUSIC PUBLISHING – Martin Bandier, Peter Brodsky, Jimmy Ascì, Hofner Guitars

Shea Stadium photos courtesy of Tony Griffin

And the late Jim Riddle

## CREDITS

Ludwig Drums. Zildjian Cymbals. VicFirth Drumsticks. Evans Drum Heads. Dan Dean/ Dan Dean Productions for his Solo Strings Advanced. Pyramid Strings. LaBella Bass & Guitar Strings. Dean Markley Strings. Muse Research. Bluthner Pianos. Höfner, Martin, Epiphone guitars. Guitars supplied by Gibson Guitars. VOX Amplifiers courtesy of Korg USA. Christie Lites. B. Zee Brokerage LTD. Stage Call Trucking. Florida Coach. FM Systems.

## MUSIC CREDITS

Please Please Me, I Want To Hold Your Hand, A Hard Days Night, If I Fell, Yesterday, I Feel Fine, Day Tripper, Twist and Shout, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, With A Little Help From My Friends, Eleanor Rigby, Sgt. Pepper (Reprise), A Day In The Life, Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da, In My Life, Here Comes The Sun, While My Guitar Gently Weeps, Come Together, The End, Hey Jude, Add: All My Lovin, This Boy, You Can't Do That, We Can Work it Out, You're Gonna Lose That Girl, Drive My Car, The Word, Nowhere Man, Good Day Sunshine, With a Little Help from My Friends, Fixing a Hole, Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite, She's Leaving Home, Lovely Rita, Maxwell's Silver Hammer, Because, You Never Give Me Your Money, Mean Mr. Mustard, Polythene Pam, She Came in through the Bathroom Window, Golden Slumbers, Carry that Weight Written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC. Twist and Shout written by Bert Berns and Phil Medley © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC and Sloopy II Music





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The name “Nederlander” has been synonymous with great entertainment since 1912. A show business dynasty began when David T. Nederlander, a smart young businessman living in Detroit Michigan, purchased a 99-year lease on the Detroit Opera House. In 1964, his son James M. Nederlander came to New York City and purchased the Palace Theatre on Broadway. His hard work, pioneering spirit and vision enabled him to build one of the largest privately held live entertainment companies in the world, including theaters in 32 cities across the United States and theaters in London.

Nederlander National Markets, a Nederlander Presentation based in Chicago, is one of the largest presenters of Broadway series and engagements across North America. Currently, they oversee subscription seasons in more than 20 cities throughout the country.

Nederlander continues the tradition of operating historic theatres, producing and presenting the best in theatrical and concert events, and innovating new ways to engage future generations of theatergoers.

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