

LPAC

LAGUARDIA
PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER

&



PRESENT

NYCMC

New York City Musicians Collective

HONOREES

TUES. NOV. 1, 2022 - 7:30PM



Damon Mendes, Voza Rivers, LPAC invite you to
"SMELL THE ROSES" with us as we appreciate the
gifts and honor the musical journeys of New York
City's extraordinary musicians and artists.



HONORING



PAUL
SHAFFER



ALYSON
WILLIAMS



GERALD
ALSTON



LISA
FISCHER



LIVING
COLOUR



INCLUDING

SHAILA SCOTT,
Radio Personality
KENNY SEYMOUR,
Broadway Best
MARK WHITFIELD,
Jazz Guitarist
CP LACEY,
Mr. Entertainment

HOSTED
BY



LENNY GREEN
OF WBL5

Silky smooth baritone voice



CO-HOST
RAHJ
MASON

PERFORMANCE NOV 1ST, 2022 @ 7:30PM

WWW.LPAC.NYC

A NOTE FROM STEVEN HITT - LPAC'S ARTISTIC PRODUCING DIRECTOR



As Director of LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, I am very proud of the work we are producing here in Long Island City. Our entire LPAC team is dedicated to programming vital, high-quality and culturally relevant theatre, dance and educational performances for New York

City audiences and beyond.

We are grateful for the tremendous support we have received from the NYC Dept. Of Cultural Affairs, Mertz Gilmore and the New York Community Trust.

The LaGuardia Performing Arts Center is an artistic hub for vibrant, innovative story-tellers. We're committed to making space for emerging and mid-career performers and most importantly, change the way the world thinks about theatre. Amplifying new voices to change.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven R. Hitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" being the most prominent.

Steven Hitt
Artistic Producing Director

ABOUT THE HOST



LENNY GREEN

The unmistakable, undeniable, silky smooth baritone voice that comes through your speakers can only come from one man: Lenny Green. Hailing from Brooklyn, NY, Lenny is the undisputed master of creating a relaxed atmosphere and setting the mood. Over the years, Lenny has interviewed celebrities including Jay-Z, Patti LaBelle, Mary J. Blige, the late Barry White, Gerald Levert, and Natalie Cole, as well as countless other A-list names. With his voice being syndicated live to cities across the nation, Lenny believes in using his instrument to assist in developing the next generation hopefuls. Believe it or not, radio was not Green's initial interest; it was singing. But after visiting his college radio station, his passion shifted to radio. "I was so overwhelmed at that precise moment in the studio, and I knew right away that I wanted to be a radio personality," As the case is with many college graduates, Green found it difficult to find employment within his broadcast management major. "I wanted an on-air radio job as a personality, but life taught me a valuable lesson," says green. "I learned real fast to be patient and persistent, because anything worthwhile doesn't come easy or fast."

When Green finally got his opportunity as an on-air personality, he took the world by storm – The Quiet Storm. Now, after many years in the radio business, the nationally syndicated on-air personality isn't slowing down. "Like technology, the radio industry is evolving every day, which means you have to stay abreast of industry changes. You cannot get too comfortable. You must always reach for the next level," says Green. "There are so many things to accomplish, so stay the course because what God has for you, no one can take away." Lenny Green says by staying the course and being persistent, he provides a blueprint for taking talent and giving it to the world.

A NIGHT TO HONOR



PAUL SHAFFER



ALYSON WILLIAMS



GERALD ALSTON



LISA FISCHER



LIVING COLOUR



SHAILA SCOTT



KENNY SEYMOUR



MARK WHITFIELD



CP LACEY

HONOREES BIOS

PAUL SHAFFER - Paul Allen Wood Shaffer CM[2] (born November 28, 1949) is a Canadian singer, composer, actor, author, comedian, and multi-instrumentalist who served as David Letterman's musical director, band leader, and sidekick on the entire run of both *Late Night with David Letterman* (1982-1993) and *Late Show with David Letterman* (1993-2015). His father was a jazz aficionado while his mother loved show tunes. When Shaffer was 12, his parents took him on a trip to Las Vegas where they took in Nat King Cole and other shows; this was an experience Shaffer described later as "life changing" and led to his decision to become a performer.[6] As a child, Shaffer took piano lessons, and in his teenage years played the organ in a band called Fabulous Fugitives with his schoolmates in Thunder Bay. Later, he performed with the "Flash Landing Band" at different venues around Edmonton and the interior of British Columbia. Educated at the University of Toronto, he began playing with jazz guitarist Tisziji Muñoz, performing in bands around the bars there, where he found an interest in musicals, and completed his studies, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology in 1971. Shaffer began his music career in 1972 when Stephen Schwartz invited him to be the musical director for the Toronto production of *Godspel*. The musical director for John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd whenever they recorded or performed as the Blues Brothers. He appeared in 1998's *Blues Brothers 2000*. Beginning in 1982, Shaffer served as musical director for David Letterman's late night talk shows: as leader of "The World's Most Dangerous Band" for *Late Night with David Letterman* (1982-1993) on NBC, for which he also composed the theme song, and as leader of the CBS Orchestra for the *Late Show with David Letterman* (1993-2015) on CBS.

Shaffer has served as musical director and producer for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony since its inception in 1986 and filled the same role for the 1996 Olympic Games closing ceremonies from Atlanta, Georgia. Shaffer also served as musical director for *Fats Domino and Friends*, a Cinemax special that included Ray Charles, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Ron Wood. Shaffer guest-hosted the show four times when Letterman was unavailable: February 9 and 11, 2000, during Letterman's recovery from his quintuple heart bypass surgery. In October 2017, Shaffer returned to the late-night stage to perform with the band on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* Shaffer wrote and performs the bridging music on Letterman's current Netflix series *My Next Guest Needs No Introduction*

with David Letterman which premiered in 2018. The National Black Sports and Entertainment Hall of Fame inducted Paul Shaffer in 2002 for his part in opening doors in the entertainment industry for African-Americans. Paul is traveling the world with his music currently touring with his band.

ALYSON WILLIAMS - The songbird stylist Alyson Williams was in the middle of recording her album when COVID-19 stamped stop on the world. As time drudged on as though turtles had taken over time technology it was clear the pandemic was not going to end in the very near future.

Williams decided to release the two completed songs "Summer Nights in Harlem" and "The Romance of You," both written by the executive producer Maurice Lynch; co-producers Williams, Ray Chew and Ajaay Swindell. This song is most apropos for the singer, who was born in New York City and grew up in Harlem. The song is a jaunting Bossa Nova with Williams offering a jazzy sultry sassiness that swings like a late autumn night breeze. A love song that captures memories and the essence of Harlem, with standout solos by Kirk Whalum and Ron Blake on tenor and soprano saxophones (on both songs). Also featured are the recognized musicianship of pianists Christian Sands and keyboardist Ray Chew (musical director for ABC-TV's "Dancing With The Stars"), Grammy award winning bassist Christian McBride and drummer Ulysses Owens, Jr.

Ever since she became the first R&B vocalist to be signed by CEO Russell Simmons of Def Jam Records (1980s), she has been a shining star. Although her star continues to rise her accolades and proper just dues are yet to find her. Hopefully, her jazz repertoire will catapult her to the forefront of both genres. She is known for her R&B chops but the main influence in her life was jazz sparked by her father Bobby Booker, the celebrated jazz trumpeter and bandleader. "While working on this jazz project, I am not done with R&B. There is gospel and house music coming."

While Williams continues to negotiate her production she is celebrating the 5th year of "Love Notes with Alyson Williams in the Chill Zone," her Tuesday (8 p.m.-10 p.m.) radio show on WHCR-FM (90.3). Her interviews cover everyone from politicians to community activists, artists from rap to classical and R&B legend Chaka Khan to jazz group Manhattan Transfer. She is currently

broadcasting remotely. This year also marks the 30th anniversary of her hit song "Just Call My Name" and she was inducted into the Soul Music Hall of Fame. Williams has an umbrella company "A Woman's Prerogative" that covers her many ventures from producing music, writing plays, concepts for television shows and films. "I am above the sky the stratosphere is the limit."

GERALD ALSTON - Recruited out of college to be the lead singer for the Manhattans, Gerald Alston's Sam Cooke-influenced tenor voice became the signature for that group, providing the Manhattans with their first major crossover success via top ten hits "Kiss and Say Goodbye" and "Shining Star." Alston's smooth voice and phrasing were among the best in soul music in the 70s and 80s, and it was a perfect match for the rather traditional songs recorded by the group.

As the Manhattans' recording career faded, Alston went solo in 1987 and released a well received solo debut on Motown. It yielded the top 10 hit "Take Me Where You Want To" as well as an excellent cover of the Eagles' "I Can't Tell You Why." He followed two years later with the even bigger hit "Slow Motion" from the album Open Invitation. He issued one more less successful album on Motown and another Scotti Bros before rejoining former Manhattans leader Blue Lovett in a reformed version of the group in the 90s. Alston continues to front the most popular touring version of the Manhattans, touring the world 35-40 weeks per year.

In 2003, Alston and good friend Al Goodman (of Ray Goodman & Brown) began working on an inspired side project, a tribute album to Alston's vocal influence, Sam Cooke. After five years of off-and-on work and the help of arranger Travis Milner, saxman Gerald Albright and a number of other friends, the resulting disc, Gerald Alston Sings Sam Cooke, was issued in early 2008 on Alston's own LST Records. In 2015, Alston, by then the only remaining living member of the most popular version of The Manhattans, recorded a Gospel album that was released in 2015.

Both as a member of the legendary Manhattans and as a solo artist, Gerald Alston has proven to be one of the great soul music voices of the past half century.

LISA FISCHER - After four decades of featured background singing with icons like Luther Vandross, The Rolling Stones, Chaka Khan, Tina Turner, and Nine Inch Nails, MS. LISA FISCHER set out to take center stage with her own humble, heartfelt song. The 2013 Best Documentary Oscar winning film "Twenty Feet from Stardom" altered the course of Lisa's musical journey, telling her story, with clips of her legendary duets with Sting or with Mick Jagger on "Gimme Shelter", left audiences eager to see and hear more, so Lisa took the chance to set out on her own reinventing classic songs with her co-conspirators JC Maillard and Grand Baton. Their organic fusion of Caribbean psychedelic soul and jazzy progressive rock ignited Lisa's flexibility and freedom of expression, awakening her lifelong desire to make music that heals but still rocks the house.

While Lisa's range is legendary, her greatest gift is the ability to connect, to reach the hearts of her listeners. Raised in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn, she emerged from New York's fervent studio scene in the early 1980s, sang for two decades with legendary vocalist Luther Vandross, and released "So Intense", earning her first Best R&B Performance Grammy with "How Can I Ease The Pain". She joined the Rolling Stones for their 1989 Steel Wheels tour, and continued to grace their stage for the next 26 years. Lisa's passion for constant growth and experimentation with different styles invited recent collaborations with jazz pianist Taylor Eigsti, Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Michael McDonald, Eric Krasno, Talib Kweli, Billy Childs and YoYo Ma, the BBC Proms / Jules Buckley and the Metropole Orkest, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, Anna Deavere Smith's "Notes from the Field" for HBO, and especially her full evening program The Classic Lisa Fischer with Grand Baton and Seattle Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony and the National Philharmonic.

LIVING COLOUR - Living Colour is an American rock band from New York City, formed in 1984. The band currently consists of guitarist Vernon Reid, lead vocalist Corey Glover, drummer Will Calhoun and bassist Doug Wimbish. Stylistically, their music is a creative fusion influenced by heavy metal, funk, jazz, hip hop, punk, and alternative rock. The band's lyrics range from the personal to the political, including social commentary on racism in the United States.

Living Colour had released six studio albums so far. The band rose to fame with their debut album Vivid in 1988. Although they scored a number of hits,

Living Colour is best known for their signature anthem "Cult of Personality", which won a Grammy Award for Best Hard Rock Performance in 1990. They were also named Best New Artist at the 1989 MTV Video Music Awards and won their second Grammy Award for their follow-up album Time's Up (1990). Their third album, Stain (1993), was also well received by music critics. Other records Collideøscope (2003), The Chair in the Doorway (2009) and Shade (2017). The band has been in the process of working on new material for the follow-up to Shade. They have been recording and performing worldwide 2017 to present. Headlining areas around the world.

SHAILA SCOTT - Ms. Scott is an American radio personality. A native New Yorker from Harlem, she has worked in New York radio for 30 years as of 2018. One being a midday radio personality for WBLS 107.5 FM. Scott graduated Buffalo State College with a B.A in radio and television in 1985. Her first job was as an on-air personality for WBLK in Buffalo where she worked for four years, followed by six years at WBLS. She joined 98.7 KISS FM in New York City in 1994 as the first hostess of love show Kissing After Dark and co-host to Jeff Foxx, Talent and Bob Slade of the 98.7 KISS FM morning show, The Wake Up Club for 5 years. In 2010 Scott and Fred Buggs received the Excellence In Radio Broadcast Journalism Award. Following the closure of KISS FM, she re-joined the WBLS team in April 2012 thru to 2022. She is the mother of media personality and model Scottie Beam.

The Radio industry has featured her voice on a variety of commercials while working with the William Morris & SEM&M Agency. She has won the hearts of many as the first hostess of "Kissing After Dark", co-host of the "The Kiss Wake Up Club" and often held the #1 ratings position in the midday for decades until her departure from WBLS in 2022. She can be heard rocking "The BLOCK" on 94.7 in New York.

KENNY SEYMOUR - Kenny owes his start in the music industry to his late grandmother, entertainer Wilhelmina C. Pappy, his mother, Broadway actress Mary Seymour of Hair (original Broadway cast) and Raisin: The Musical, and his late father, Kenny W. Seymour formerly of the music group "Little Anthony and the Imperials".

Kenny Seymour has developed a reputation as a consummate professional for his creativity, talent, versatility, exquisite musicianship, and his ability to navigate a wide variety of musical styles and genres with authenticity and integrity. He has worked with many of Broadway's top producers, composers, playwrights, choreographers, and directors, a wide variety of artists in the recording industry, as well as many up and coming directors of film and television.

Currently the music director/music supervisor and arranger of the 12 Time Tony nominated hit Broadway show *Ain't Too Proud: The Life & Times of the Temptations*, some of his other credits include: music director for the Tony Award winning Best Musical *Memphis*, orchestrator for Broadway's *Amazing Grace*, music supervisor/arranger/orchestrator for *MARLEY: A Premiere Musical*, music director/supervisor/orchestrator for Carnegie Hall's *A Time Like This: Music For Change*, as well as dance arranger/electronic music producer for *Half-Time: The Musical*, music director/arranger/incidental music for *The Tallest Tree In The Forest*, and music supervisor/orchestrator for *Big Maybelle: Soul of the Blues*.

As a composer Kenny has had his work performed by the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, received a Global Music Award for Best Original Score of the independent film *Talking with the Taxman About Poetry* and composed and orchestrated music for the popular international children's language program *English Egg*. Kenny has arranged and orchestrated music for shows on Fox, BET, and NBC as well as the Inaugural Ball for President Barack Obama. He has performed on stages around the world, from the legendary Apollo Theatre and Carnegie Hall, to the Montreux Jazz Festival, working with a wide variety of the industry's top recording artists. Kenny attended Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art, Manhattan School of Music, and Berklee College of Music.

MARK WHITFIELD - Whitfield was born in Lindenhurst, New York and graduated from Boston's prestigious Berklee College of Music, the world's foremost institution for the study of Jazz and modern American music in the spring of 1987. Shortly thereafter, he returned to his native New York to embark on a career as a Jazz Guitarist that has afforded him the opportunity to collaborate with such legendary artists including Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, Quincy Jones, Ray Charles, Herbie Hancock, Carmen McRae, Gladys Knight, Burt Bacharach, Jimmy Smith, Clark Terry, Shirley Horn, Wynton Marsalis, Branford Marsalis, Joe Williams, Stanley Turrentine and his mentor, the great George

Benson. In 1990 the New York Times dubbed Whitfield "The Best Young Guitarist in the Business". Later that year, Warner Bros. released his debut album "The Marksman". The success of his debut release led to a recording career that has produced a total of 16 solo recordings and a myriad of collaborative efforts with some of the most important artists in recent years; Sting, Steven Tyler, D'Angelo, Mary J. Blige, John Mayer, Chaka Khan, Jill Scott, Diana Krall, Chris Botti, Roy Hargrove, Nicholas Payton, Robert Glasper and the aforementioned Christian McBride.

Mark Whitfield remains extremely active as a performer, recording artist and sideman and as a highly sought after instructor and master clinician. Along with this most recent Grammy nomination, 2022 will see the release of several new projects that feature Whitfield talents as a guitarist, composer and producer.

CP LACEY - The one word which sums up actor, comedian, singer, writer, producer and Master celebrity impersonator/tribute artist, C.P. Lacey, is SPIRITED. For more than three decades, C.P. Lacey has been performing both domestically and internationally, receiving countless ovations from gratified audiences everywhere. An extraordinary ability to sing, do comedy, dance and act, C.P. flawlessly impersonates top celebrities and public figures with bedazzling accuracy, including Kanye West, Eddie Murphy, Snoop Dogg, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, the legendary James Brown and more. Added to this list are CP's own originally created cast of characters, "Grandma Yea", "Shark Bait", "Lil L" and so many more. Such flair has afforded him return appearances to Caroline's Comedy Club in New York City, appearances on B.E.T.'s "Comic View", "The Chappelle Show" and a featured role in John Kesselman's comedy movie, "The Hebrew Hammer" alongside actors, Adam Goldberg and Mario Van Peebles. A multi-dimensional talent, Lacey and his alter-ego cast of characters have shared the stage with a variety of Hollywood's most notable artists, including Sting, Tracy Morgan, Steve Harvey, Jimmy Fallon and Tina Fey.

LaGuardia Community College Theatre Program and
LaGuardia Performing Arts Center present:

Spring Awakening

a musical by Steven Sater and Duncan Sheik



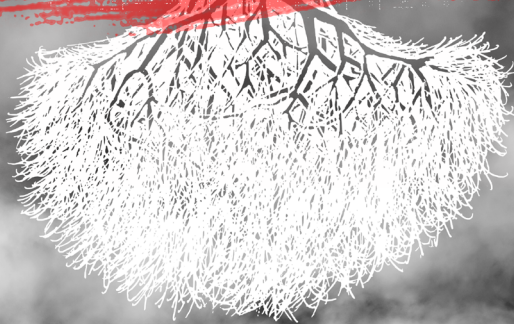
The Little Theatre at LaGuardia Community College
Open Dress Rehearsal Wed. 11/9 at 2:30p

Performances:

Thurs. 11/10 at 7:30p

Fri. 11/11 at 2:30p & 7:30p

Sat. 11/12 at 2:30p & 7:30p



Theatre Program
LaGuardia Community College

LPAC LAGUARDIA
PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER

GUEST PERFORMERS FOR THE NIGHT



ANDRICKA HALL



BRENT CARTER



NYCMC SINGERS



JJ SANSAVERINO



AMADOU GAYE



KIKI EXPERIENCE



TOM DEMPSEY

NEW YORK CITY MUSICIANS COLLECTIVE

Damon Mendes, Voza Rivers and LPAC invite you to "SMELL THE ROSES" with us as we appreciate the gifts and honor the musical journeys of New York City's extraordinary musicians and artists.

SPECIAL THANKS TO



UPCOMING PERFORMANCES AT LPAC

ROUGH DRAFT WORKSHOP

“Moving Through A Scene - Using
Krump To Choreograph”

**NOV 10TH
10:30-12PM**

BRIAN "HALLOWDREAMZ" HENRY



**“MOVING THROUGH A
SCENE - USING KRUMP
TO CHOREOGRAPH”**

WORKSHOP



TO RSVP FOR THIS EVENT VISIT
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LaGuardia Performing Arts Center

Steven Hitt...Artistic Producing Director

Handan Ozbilgin...Associate Director/Artistic Director Rough Draft Festival

Carmen Griffin...Theatre Operations Manager/Technical Director

Toni Foy...Education Outreach Coordinator

Isabelle Marsico...Office Manager

Caryn Campo...Finance Officer

Lindsay Timmington... Communications Coordinator

Juan Zapata...Marketing Coordinator

Elodie Dufroux...Performing Arts Consultant

Callum Lane...House Manager

Technical Staff

Glenn Wilson...Stage Manager/Assistant Technical Director

Melody Beal...Lighting Designer

Alex Desir...Master Electrician

Ronn Thomas...Sound Engineer

Marland Harrison...Technician

Denton Bailey...Technician

