



Rose announces coming season

By ASHLEY GOODFELLOW
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There are 40 fantastic reasons for Brampton and area residents to 'Experience It Live!' at the Rose Theatre during the 2010/2011 season, which is set to launch with big names and big shows this October.

The phenomenal line-up, just announced, lists a "commercial season of popular entertainment, of diversity and of family shows— and of going back to basics when it comes to why patrons should come and see a live show," said Costin Manu, Rose Theatre marketing and program manager.

The upcoming season's theme— Experience It Live!— is an offer to audiences to take in some terrific live theatre at reasonable costs, he said, and continue the Rose Theatre's legacy as an entertainment destination for all.

Manu, who describes the Rose Theatre's audiences as "very discerning and sophisticated" has worked diligently to bring a roster of performers to the stage in 2010/2011 that will please all palates.

With 40 shows scheduled over eight months, patrons and subscribers will have a broad selection of presentations without being overwhelmed with choices.

"We wanted to keep the season more focused and not dilute the programming by having way too many choices in one genre or another," explained Manu, noting that the season covers comedy, dance, music, family and more. "We have comedies, musicals, concerts, chills, thrills, nostalgia, surprises and ... superstars."

Of particular interest for the upcoming season, the Rose Theatre has secured some impressive presentations— comedian Howie Mandel takes the stage Oct. 15; the classic ballet Swan Lake will delight on Jan. 25 and 26; and the touring Broadway Musical comes to Brampton April 1, for instance.

Manu predicts tickets for these events, as well as Engelbert Humperdink (Oct. 12 and 13), Roch Voisine (Oct. 20), Monty Python's Spamalot (Oct. 29) and The Pointer Sisters (Feb. 18) will go fast. He also suggests to watch out for Mark Masri (Nov. 24), a singer Manu predicts will become a star over the next 12 months, and the teen sensation who wowed us at the Olympics, Nikki Yanofsky (Jan. 21).

"I am also pleased to announce that, back by popular demand is Scrooge, The Christmas Musical (Dec. 16 to 19), a show that enjoyed tremendous success last season and gave such joy to entire families. It will sell out," said Manu.

Also returning this season are Spirit of the West (Oct. 14), Gerry Dee (Oct. 22), The Nutcracker (Dec. 8 and 9), The Peking Acrobats (March 15), and the Just for Laughs Comedy Tour (April 11).

The off-Broadway hit musical I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, featuring Marisa McIntyre from Mamma Mia! and How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria fame, will also run Feb. 9 to 12, just in time for Valentine's Day.

Also new this coming season is the Jazz Series in the Studio Theatre, which will feature some notable performers such as Heather Bambrick, Denzel Sinclaire, John Sherwood, Adi Braun and more. Manu has also returned the Blues Series this year.

Making theatre more accessible for families, the Rose Theatre will introduce a new style of show in the Studio Theatre for parents and tots, called The Little Sprouts Series, with the duo Splash 'N' Boots as the first guest performers.

"No matter what we present on the stage, it will engage, entertain and deliver good value to our loyal patrons and subscribers," said Manu. "I know that we've succeeded in making it very attractive and extremely affordable for our patrons to visit us again and again...and to 'Experience It Live!'."



Bring out your dead! Monty Python's Spamalot comes to the Rose Oct. 29. *Submitted photo*

Beginning May 27, current subscribers will have first choice of the best seats in the house. This special promotion lasts until June 20. New subscribers will go on sale starting June 21, and single tickets will be available to the public as of Aug. 3.
For more information, visit www.rosetheatre.ca or call 905-874-2800.

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