

LARCOM THEATRE APRIL 25, 2026

THE PROGRAM



Willin'	Lowell George
You're Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go	Bob Dylan
Free Man in Paris	Joni Mitchell
Carey	Joni Mitchell
Across the Great Divide	Kate Wolf
All to You	Ellen McIlwaine
Sam Stone	John Prine
Nine to Five	Dolly Parton
Just Like That	Bonnie Raitt
Tennessee Whiskey	Dean Dillon and Linda Hargrove
Love Me Like A Man	Chris Smither
1952 Vincent Black Lightning	Richard Thompson
<i>Intermission (15 minutes)</i>	
Jump, Jive, and Wail	Louis Prima
I Feel The Same	Chris Smither
Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy	Don Raye and Hughie Prince
O soave fanciulla (from La Bohème)	Giacomo Puccini
Romeo and Juliet	Mark Knopfler
Respect	Otis Redding
Angel From Montgomery	John Prine
Georgia on My Mind	Hoagy Carmichael
La Vie en Rose	Edith Piaf and Louisguy

THE MIRANDA RUSSELL BAND



Brittany Betts is a versatile trumpeter, singer, composer, collaborator and worship facilitator based on the North Shore. She performs with the David Whitney Orchestra, Riverside Renaissance Swing Band, Cantemus Chamber Chorus and the vocal ensemble, ONE. She served as Artist-in-Residence at First Church Congregational in Swampscott in 2023-2024. This fall will mark her third season as the Cape Ann Symphony Chorus director. Brittany traveled the country and abroad as a 'Glocal' Musician Educator and Worship Coordinator with the Global Mission Unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 10 years. During that time she also served on the music staff of Visible Music College in Memphis, TN where she taught voice, music theory, rock bands, the World Music Ensemble and a guided improvisation class. Music has the capacity to bring people together for good and Brittany hopes you feel that tonight!

Leo Ciaramitaro is a drummer and teacher of American roots-based music. He plays with bands and artists throughout New England, and hails originally from Gloucester, Massachusetts. He holds a Bachelor of Music from Berklee College of Music and a Master of Music from Longy School of Music at Bard College. Playing professionally since 1996, he began his career drumming in local clubs and theaters, eventually moving on to touring Broadway Shows. He spent four years on the road in touring productions of *Footloose*, *Grease*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. Several hundred nights of show tunes, weddings, and gigs later, Leo's love of drumming and performing continues to grow. Leo studied for 10 years with the late Boston jazz luminary, Bob Gullotti. This is his 30th year working with Miranda.

Joe Kessler's career began at age nine with his first public performance playing classical violin. By the age of 17 he had expanded his repertoire to include Klezmer, folk, bluegrass, Balkan, jazz, rock, and pop. Joe has performed in over 10 countries on three continents. When not traveling to gigs, studio sessions, or teaching lessons, Joe resides in Gloucester, MA with his beautiful wife and two rescued ex-racing greyhounds.

David Landoni received his B.A. from Berklee College of music in 1986. In 1989, David became a member of the Artie Shaw Orchestra under the direction of Dick Johnson, touring worldwide. He has played and recorded with jazz legends including Herb Pomeroy, Hal Galper, Sheila Jordan, and Lee Konitz. David is currently freelancing and recording with many top flight artists including drum legend Joe Hunt, and pianists Tim Ray, and Eugene Maslov. David maintains a private teaching studio.

Justin Piper resides north of Boston where he teaches, composes and performs. His 2016 album 'Avant Funk' has been re-released through Arabesque Records and is available from all major online retailers. His album, 'transcend' was released in August 2017. He is the musical director for the band Ripcord, while also leading his own group that performs his compositions along with improvisation-based pieces.

David Sparr has been a professional keyboardist for about as long as the next oldest member of the band has been alive. To date, working with The Miranda Russell Band is one of his all-time favorite gigs, and that is only partially because of the free pie at rehearsals. It remains a joy and an honor to work with such a talented group of musicians! Although David's sparkling wife, Jamie Leader, suggests maybe he should lay off the pie.

With:

Mark Earley is a two time Grammy nominated, Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame inductee, & 6 -time W.C. Handy Award-winning saxophonist. His musical journey has brought him from NYC's Lincoln Center to The San Francisco Blues Festival, The Moscow International Performing Arts Centre to the JBL Jazz Festival in Paris.

He has collaborated with scores of musicians, including Jay McShann, Duke Robillard, Albert Collins, Louis Bellson, Joe Williams, James Cotton, Billy Boy Arnold, Otis Clay, Gerald Levert, Taj Mahal, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Roomful of Blues, Victor Wainwright, The Temptations, Omar Hakim, Wayne Newton, & Red Skelton.

Neal Ferreira Dubbed a "Boston mainstay" by the Boston Globe, Neal Ferreira is a nationally recognized lyric tenor who has been performing professionally in opera & oratorio for over two decades. Currently he is appearing as the Duchess in Boston Lyric Opera's new production of *Daughter of the Regiment*, followed by several concerts in May with Portsmouth Pro Musica and Gloria Dei Cantores. Next season he will return to the Boston Symphony Orchestra for Tchaikovsky's *Pique Dame* and to Boston Lyric Opera for *A Streetcar Named Desire*. In addition to performing, Neal is an Assistant Professor of Voice at Berklee College of Music.

Tom Palance is known for his versatility as a trumpet player and innovative teacher. He has retired from the US Navy Band in Washington DC after 20 years of service. At the band Tom was the soloist with the Commodores Jazz Band. Tom now resides in Ipswich, where

he is a freelance trumpet player, composer, conductor and teacher. Tom has taught at The Berklee College of Music, The University of New Hampshire, and Salem State University. Tom is the founder, Artistic Director and composer for The Orchestra on The Hill, a unique organization performing all original music.

SPECIAL THANKS



Mum, Stan, Dad, Mariann, Cecelia, Annie, Hunton, Maggie, Lydia, Josh Lu, Donnie & Lisa at the Larcom, and all the behind the scenes helpers - you know who you are. To the band: thank you for being the best around. I'm only as good as you make me sound! Biggest thank you to Doug, the absolute love of my life; we are the lucky ones.