



SOCIETY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Bringing the World's Best to Houston

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**MULTI-TALENTED STAR HARRY CONNICK, JR. AND HIS BAND
BRING INTIMATE PERFORMANCE TO HOUSTON**

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HOUSTON (January 14, 2020) – Renowned singer, actor and musician **Harry Connick, Jr.** returns to Houston for an evening of the **True Love: An Intimate Performance Tour** presented by **Society for the Performing Arts (SPA)** on **March 11, 2020** at **8:00pm** in **The Hobby Center for the Performing Arts**.

While Harry Connick, Jr. is the virtual definition of a multi-talented star, with notable triumphs as a television personality and an actor, the foundation of his art remains his music. After 30 million albums sold worldwide and a music, film, television and Broadway career spanning three decades, Harry Connick, Jr. returns with a sensational new record that debuted atop the Jazz charts, *True Love: A Celebration of Cole Porter*. Join Harry and his band for an intimate performance of songs from *True Love* as well as classics from his remarkable career.

In addition to his accomplishments as a performer, Connick has always found time to be charitable and has done some of his most important work in his efforts to help his hometown of New Orleans rebuild after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He, along with friend Branford Marsalis, conceived of "Musicians' Village," a community in the Upper Ninth Ward of New Orleans. To date, Musicians' Village has provided homes for many of the city's displaced residents as well as a focal point for preserving and extending New Orleans' creative heritage with the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music.

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About Harry Connick, Jr.

Harry Connick, Jr.'s career has exemplified excellence across multiple platforms in the entertainment world. He has received Grammy and Emmy awards as well as Tony nominations for his live and recorded musical performances, his achievements in film and television and his appearances on Broadway as both an actor and a composer.

Over the past three decades, Connick has established himself as a musician, singer and composer par excellence, a legendary live performer and a best-selling artist with millions of recordings sold around the world. The foundation of Connick's art is the music of his native New Orleans, where he began performing as a pianist and vocalist at the age of five. Highlights of his music career include several multi-platinum recordings such as "When Harry Met Sally," "Blue Light, Red Light (Someone's There)," "When My Heart Finds Christmas," "Come By Me, and "Only You." His debut album on legendary Verve Records, his new label home, is titled ***True Love: A Celebration of Cole Porter*** and was released in October 2019.

Connick has appeared in 19 films including *Dolphin Tale* with Morgan Freeman, *Hope Floats* with Sandra Bullock, *P.S. I Love You* with Hilary Swank, *Bug* with Ashley Judd, and *Copycat* with Sigourney Weaver, and on television (*American Idol*, *Will & Grace*, *South Pacific* and his Emmy Award winning concert specials). In the fall of 2016, he launched *Harry*, a national daytime television show featuring his touring band, which earned 11 Daytime Emmy nominations in its two seasons, including two nominations for best host, and a Critics' Choice nomination for best talk show. On Broadway, Connick received Tony nominations as both a lead actor in *The Pajama Game* and as a composer/lyricist for *Thou Shalt Not*.

Despite his busy career, Connick has always found the time to be charitable and has done some of his most important work in his efforts to help New Orleans rebuild after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He, along with friend Branford Marsalis, conceived of "Musicians' Village," a community in the Upper Ninth Ward of New Orleans. Musicians' Village provides homes for

Katrina-displaced musicians and its focal point, the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, is an after-school teaching facility for children, a performance hall and recording studio for indigent musicians, and a gathering place for the community. Connick's honors, including being honored with a star on the celebrated Hollywood Walk of Fame as part of the 2019 class of Honorees, induction into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame, Honorary Doctorates from Tulane and Loyola Universities and the Jefferson Award for Public Service, have not led Harry Connick, Jr. to slow his creative pace; they only confirm his determination to apply his talents in ways that prove inspirational to other artists and publicly spirited citizens.

About Society for the Performing Arts

Founded in 1966, Society for the Performing Arts (SPA) is the largest independent non-profit presenting organization in the Southwest. Since its inception, SPA has sponsored more than 1,000 performances of the world's finest music, dance and theater events, in adherence to the belief that the arts are fundamental to the overall enrichment and quality of life within a community. In addition to presenting artists, SPA seeks to provide a variety of learning experiences for adults and children through master classes, lectures and special student performances, as well as build relationships between the performing arts and other interests within the greater Houston area and throughout the state of Texas.

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WHO: Society for the Performing Arts presents...

WHAT: Harry Connick, Jr. "True Love: An Intimate Performance" Tour

WHEN: Wednesday March 11, 2020 at 8 pm

WHERE: Sarofim Hall, The Hobby Center

WHAT ELSE: Tickets start at \$49 and are on sale Friday, January 17 at 9 am. Tickets can be purchased at www.spahouston.org, by calling 713-227-4772 or at the courtyard level ticket office at Jones Hall located at 615 Louisiana St. Hours of operation: 9 am – 5 pm Monday–Friday. Prices are subject to change.