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Contact: Jeff Hocker 760-409-1530 jeffhocker1@gmail.com

Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus Announces 24th Season

Special Guest Artists Michele McConnell and Sharon McNight to Perform in 2022-23 Shows

(Palm Springs, CA) November 8, 2022... The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus (PSGMC) is thrilled to announce that its 24th season concert line-up will be "Naughty or Nice?" December 16-18, 2022 and "Notorious" April 28-30, 2023 at the Palm Springs Art Museum Annenberg Theater.

"The Chorus has been entertaining, inspiring and giving back to the community for 24 years. Our dual mission of musical excellence and singing for change, as well as our commitment to service, has made PSGMC 'a chorus like no other. It is an honor and privilege to be the official gay men's chorus of Palm Springs, and to present our main stage concerts in the heart of the city at the Annenberg Theatre at the Palm Springs Art Museum. There will be laughter, tears, and a whole lot of fun for everyone who attends, whether you're on the nice list, or the naughty list! Santa's elves remind us that the shows sell out early," said Jerry R. Soria-Foust, Artistic Director, PSGMC.

New this year, PSGMC has enlisted the incredible talents of choreographer Michael Nickerson-Rossi. Michael launched and founded his dance company, "Nickerson-Rossi Dance," in 2011. His firm belief in charitable and educational benefits propelled Michael to incorporate his company into a non-profit 501©3. The non-profit mission of Nickerson-Rossi Dance is to provide dance programs to youth, young adults,

and adults that focus on dance education, dance as a therapeutic value, and access to professional performances.

We're making our list, and checking it twice! The incredible Broadway diva Michele McConnell returns for our holiday extravaganza "Naughty or Nice?" December 16-18, 2022. Michele proudly made her Broadway debut in *The Phantom of the Opera*. During her 7-1/2 years in *Phantom*, Michele had the privileged distinction to be the longest-running Carlotta in Broadway history, with over 2200 performances in the role to her credit and to perform as Carlotta for the 10,000th Broadway show as well as the 25th Anniversary performance.

Michele's other credits include: My Fair Lady in Concert with The Utah Symphony, The Music Man in Concert with The Pacific Symphony, Festival of Carols Guest Soloist with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir & Chamber Orchestra, Camelot (Natl. Tour w/ Robert Goulet), Beauty and the Beast (Montreal/Las Vegas), San Diego Comic Opera and San Diego Repertory.

PSGMC brings you a production that radiates the magic and wonder of the holiday season, the way we all felt when we were kids and when we all believed in Santa! Get on board as PSGMC performs traditional and non-traditional holiday favorites including: "Hanukkah in Santa Monica," "There is a Santa Claus," "I Wanna Be a Rockette," "O Holy Night," "Santa Baby," and music from *Elf the Musical* and *Polar Express* along with songs in Spanish, Hebrew and Italian.

CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS!

Following a completely sold-out 23rd season, the 90+ members of PSGMC will continue to wow audiences in their 24th season.

The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus is under the Artistic Direction of Jerry R. Soria-Foust, Joel Baker is the Principal Accompanist and Martin Coogan provides ASL.



"Notorious!" The Leading Ladies Who Rock Our Worlds

The scoundrels and villains we love to hate. Those unforgettable divas that make Broadway shows so irresistible. These are the characters we will celebrate **April 28-30**, **2023**.

From Eva Perón to Agatha Hannigan to Dolly Levi. Annie Oakley to the Baker's Wife to Ursula from The Little Mermaid. You'll enjoy songs from Into the Woods, Chicago, Company, Wicked, and much, much more! Theatre queens and geeks alike, unite! CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS!

We've invited the incomparable Tony® nominated Broadway star and cabaret legend Sharon McNight to join the Chorus. Sharon began her career in San Francisco and made her Broadway debut in 1989 in "Starmites," creating the role of Diva. She received a Tony® nomination as "Best Leading Actress in a Musical" for her performance and is the recipient of the coveted Theatre World Award for "Outstanding Broadway Debut" and a Hirschfeld drawing of her character.

She has six solo recordings to her credit, and has played from Moose Hall to Carnegie Hall, from Los Angeles to Berlin. She has won two Lifetime Achievement awards, a Bistro award, a New York Nightlife award, and six San Francisco Cabaret Gold awards. Her eclectic repertoire ranges from blues to country to good old-fashioned entertainment.

This year's August auditions brought in another 25 new singers in one of the most diverse and talented freshman classes in the Chorus' 24-year history. Along with many seasoned members, the PSGMC singers will impress you, lift your spirits, and put a smile on your face in this retrospective of the most prolific shows on Stage and Screen. The Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus is under the Artistic Direction of Jerry R. Soria-Foust. Joel Baker is the Principal Accompanist and Martin Coogan provides ASL.

Jerry R. Soria-Foust joined the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus in September 2021 as a professional music educator and arts leader, with a career spanning more than 25 years. At the age of 19, Jerry had his first GALA choruses experience, performing in the inaugural season of the Indianapolis Men's Chorus. That experience was transformational, and he credits participation in a number of GALA organizations for the fulfilling life he leads as a teacher, leader, artist, husband, dad and grandpa.

From 2005-2009, Jerry served as Artistic Director for the San Diego Men's Chorus, where he led the chorus through a number of milestones, including performing as main stage entertainment on an ocean liner for RSVP cruises, singing the national anthem for the San Diego Padres, and becoming the resident choral ensemble in the newly renovated Balboa Theatre in downtown San Diego. To read more visit https://psgmc.com/leadership/.

About Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus:

Through musical excellence, community outreach, and civic responsibility, the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus, seeks to entertain, inspire, and educate the culturally diverse community in which we live.

For a variety of ways to support the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus or to purchase tickets, visit www.PSGMC.com Press inquiries should be directed to Jeff Hocker, Hocker Productions at 760-409-1530 or jeffhocker1@gmail.com.