

Four Family Friendly Features At Festival Of The Arts Boca

Film, Jazz, Opera and Cirque to Appeal to Younger Festival-Goers

The 10th Annual Festival of the Arts BOCA, presented by the Schmidt Family Centre for the Arts from March 4 - 16, will appeal to cultural aficionados of all ages with four family-friendly features starting with opening night and the Raiders of the Lost Ark to orchestra.

The fun continues with Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in a new family-friendly, semi-staged 90-minute English translation by Festival Music Director Constantine Kitsopoulos, featuring a star-studded cast of international singers, as well as local students and chorus; 12-year old jazz piano phenom Joey Alexander, recently featured on *60 Minutes*; and *Cirque de la Symphonie*.

This season's Festival will open on Friday, March 4, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. with the Florida premiere and 35th anniversary celebration of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, presented with live orchestra. Digitally remastered, the film that gave the world one of its greatest movie heroes, Indiana Jones, is back and better than ever before. John Williams' epic score from the film will be performed live to picture by the Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra from the University of Miami's Frost School of Music and conducted by Constantine Kitsopoulos. Arrive to the Mizner Park Amphitheater early, at 6 p.m., and take part in a *Raiders*-themed treasure hunt with exclusive prize packages. Free for ticket holders.

On Saturday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m., come see for yourself why Mozart's timeless masterpiece of high comedy and serious drama, *The Magic Flute*, is the second-most

performed opera in the world. A celebration of true love conquering all, *The Magic Flute* transports us into an enchanted world where good faces the forces of darkness. Semi-staged in a shortened English-language version under the baton of Constantine Kitsopoulos, a winning ensemble cast - including several singers from South Florida - brings fresh life to Mozart's timeless fairy tale.

Twelve-year old jazz piano prodigy, "Little Man Jazz," as recently featured on *60 Minutes* with Anderson Cooper, Joey Alexander, will grace the stage on Friday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. The two-time Grammy nominated Alexander, in concert with The Symphonia Boca Raton and Constantine Kitsopoulos, will perform a program to include Gershwin's "An American



in Paris" and two other world premieres. Alexander has already been invited to perform at venues including the Rochester Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, Jazz at Lincoln Center and a TED conference. The sky appears to be the limit for this soulful young artist.

On Saturday, March 12, *Cirque de la*



Symphonie will bring the magic of cirque to the music hall.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. with special games, children's activities and more at 6 p.m. *Cirque* is an elegant adaptation of some of the most amazing cirque acts performed on a stage shared with the full symphony orchestra, showcasing many of the best artists in the world. The audience will be thrilled and bedazzled by aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen. These accomplished veterans include world record holders, gold-medal winners of international competitions, Olympians and some of the most original talent ever seen.

Other highlights of this year's Festival of the Arts BOCA include violin superstar and conductor Joshua Bell and jazz trumpet legend Herb Alpert and his wife, Grammy Award winning singer Lani Hall.

This season's Authors & Ideas program welcomes some of the world's brightest thinkers. Fareed Zakaria, CNN host, contributing editor at *The Atlantic*, *Washington Post* columnist and author will talk about *Global Hot Spots and Trends: The Next Security Crisis*. Dr. Robert Sapolsky, a MacArthur "Genius" Fellow, professor of biology and neurology at Stanford University and multiple-award winning author will present *The Biology of Good and Evil*. Laila Lalami will talk about her novel, *The Moor's Account*, an account of the Spanish exploration of Florida and the Gulf Coast that was a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize. Lalami is a regular contributor to *The Nations*, *Newsweek* and *The* **Continued on page 9**

Los Angeles Times. Dr. Jay M. Winter, former professor of history at Yale University, award-winning author and specialist on World War I will explore its history and impact on the 21st century. Irwin Stovroff, U.S. Veteran and founder of Vets Helping Heroes will present "An Extraordinary Life, Gone to the Dogs."



10th Annual
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New this season is a free official Festival of the Arts BOCA app, a digital pocket guide featuring GPS directions, schedule of events, ticket purchasing, contests, links to social media channels, videos, sneak previews of upcoming performances and much more. Users will have the ability to enable push notifications for up-to-the-minute schedule changes, emergency information, and traffic updates. To download, visit the app store on your mobile device and search for Festival BOCA.

Tickets for the 10th Annual Festival of the Arts BOCA range from \$15 to \$225 per person and are available at www.festivalboea.com or by calling (866) 571-ARTS (866-571-2787). Multi-event and full Festival packages are also available.

