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TRAVEL & LIFE

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WINTER/SPRING

ARTS
GUIDE

OUR CRITICS' PICKS



'Beyond Monet: The Immersive Experience,' opening Feb. 11, will fill Ice Palace Studios in Miami with 400 animated artworks by French Impressionist Claude Monet. **BEYOND EXHIBITIONS**

Steve Martin and Martin Short will bring their show "You Won't Believe What They Look Like Today" to the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in West Palm Beach on March 4. **MARK SELIGER**



Art exhibits

'Beyond Monet: The Immersive Experience'

Feb. 11-March 27, at Ice Palace Studios, 1400 N. Miami Ave., Miami; MiamiMonet.com

After a year of Vincent van Gogh experiences that bloomed like sunflowers across Miami, you might think that South Florida had grown tired of Impressionistic cash grabs. But never underestimate the power of Monet. At Miami's Ice Palace Studios — the same venue where "Beyond Van Gogh" recently sold 2 million tickets in six months — the new "Beyond Monet: The Immersive Experience" will cocoon guests inside dark rooms filled with animated projections of poppy fields and water lilies. Never mind that you have to go inside to enjoy the French impressionist's plein-air visions of outside: women strolling under the shade of tilted parasols, stone cliffs off the coasts of Normandy, the sun-dappled harbors of Le Havre. More than 400 digital paintings will dance across the walls, including Claude Monet's popular water lilies of Giverny and poppy fields of Argenteuil, in this exhibition broken into three parts. These colorfully immersive rooms take their design cues from Musée de l'Orangerie in Paris, where some of Monet's masterpieces are permanently displayed. As guests roam these rooms, they're greeted by contemporary music and a voiceover reading the artists' thoughts and writings.

'The Art of the Hollywood Backdrop'
April 20-Jan. 22, 2023, at Boca Raton Museum of Art, 501 Plaza Real; 561-392-2500, BocaMuseum.org

If all those CGI'd-to-death Marvel films have taught us anything, it's that every generation likes to use a common refrain — "They don't make 'em like they used to" — to bemoan how new technology always ruins movies. (For a recent example, see Martin Scorsese's recent pandemic rant that Marvel movies aren't cinema, but "theme parks.") Still, the Boca Raton Museum of Art's new exhibit, "The Art of the Hollywood Backdrop," makes a strong argument for romancing the past. Remember Dorothy and Toto's colorful journey to Munchkinland, or Scarlett O'Hara's house in "Gone With the Wind," or inside the Death Star in "Star Wars"? These backdrops are all painted by Hollywood's best scenic artists, and designed to do one thing: show realism that is visually

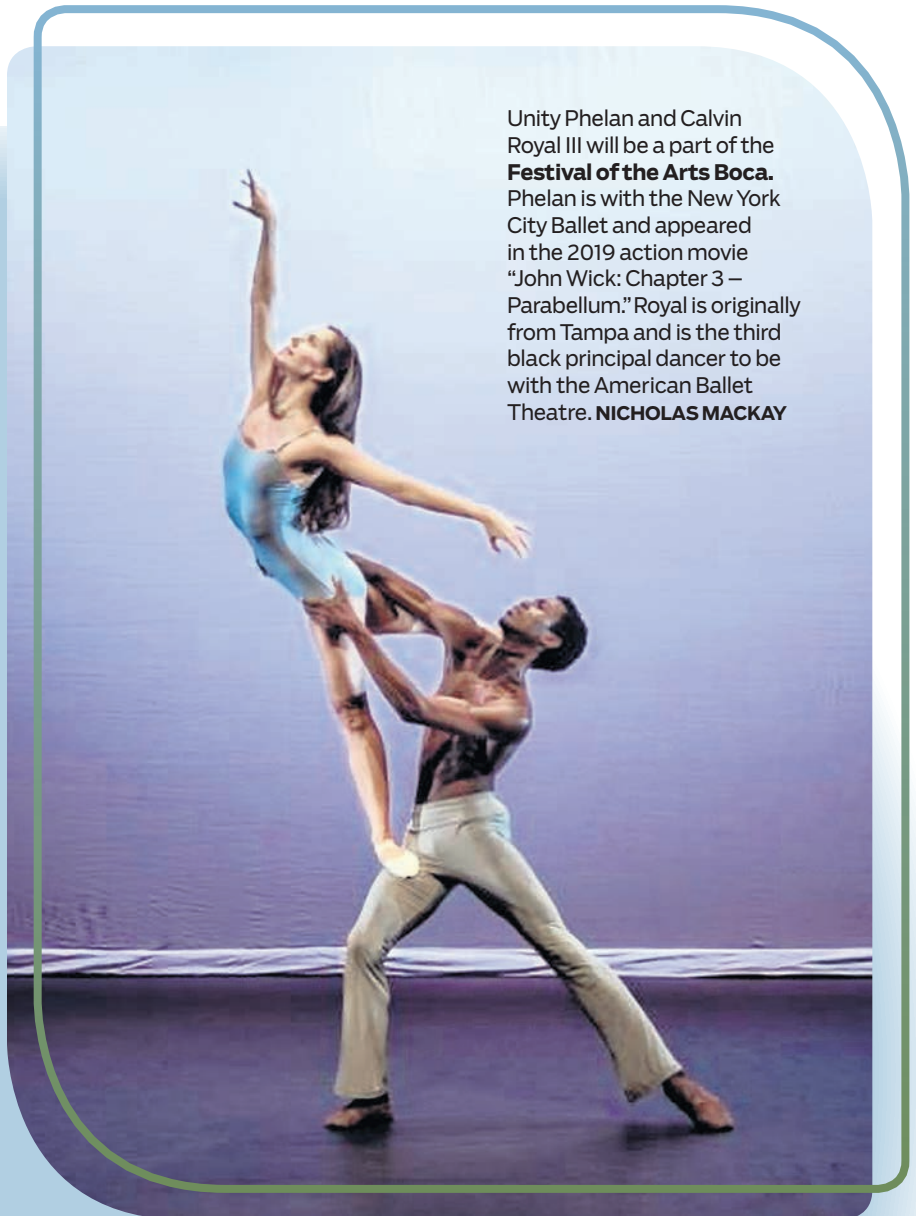
convincing, but also fool you into thinking you're seeing something real. On display are matte paintings from classic Hollywood films such as "The Sound of Music," "Singin' in The Rain," "Ben Hur," "North by Northwest" and others. But take note: While visitors might see Yoda, don't even think of looking for Captain America.

'Reginald O'Neal: As I Am'
Through October at Rubell Museum, 1100 NW 23 St., Miami; 305-573-6090, RubellMuseum.org

At just 29, Reginald O'Neal is a street artist without a drop of formal training, but his oil paintings call to mind classic techniques from Old Masters. O'Neal, who says he draws inspiration from Caravaggio, paints fragments of his life with stunning emotional intimacy, drawing on experiences growing up in an Over-town public housing project. His soft brushstrokes, filled with tenderness, capture friends, family and objects from the neighborhood with deep shadows and muted colors: his late grandmother's glasses, the chest scar of a man walking on crutches, figures mingling at a party, a black casket with golden trimmings floating in a black void. His paintings burst with tragedy and memory, and South Florida has started to take notice. The Perez Art Museum Miami and ICA Miami recently bought several O'Neal works, and



Elton John performs earlier this month in New Orleans during the "Farewell Yellow Brick Road" tour. He has two upcoming concerts in South Florida. **DERICK HINGLE/AP**



Unity Phelan and Calvin Royal III will be a part of the **Festival of the Arts Boca**. Phelan is with the New York City Ballet and appeared in the 2019 action movie "John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum." Royal is originally from Tampa and is the third black principal dancer to be with the American Ballet Theatre. **NICHOLAS MACKAY**



Ephraim Sykes (kneeling) and the cast of the Broadway national tour of "Ain't Too Proud" **MATTHEW MURPHY**

the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami just commissioned the artist to make a mural in its plaza.

Keith Haring and Pierre Alechinsky
Feb. 27-Sept. 25 at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, 1 E. Las Olas Blvd.; 954-525-5500, NSUArtMuseum.org

By now, it's easy to spot a Keith Haring painting at a thousand paces. The radical New York City muralist, who died of AIDS in 1990 at age 31, crafted cartoonish figures of crawling children, dancing figures and barking dogs. This visual language — rendered in simple and bold strokes of black paint — are everywhere from AIDS museums to T-shirts to New York City subway walls. NSU Art Museum's newest exhibition argues that Haring's early exposure to Belgian avant-garde artist Pierre Alechinsky, as a 19-year-old in 1977, gave him the "rush of confidence" to create his political pop-art shapes. NSU Art Museum's show traces Haring's early paper works and his first encounters with Alechinsky's art, which he has described as "spontaneous, truthful, and real."

— Phillip Valys

Stage shows —
theater, dance
and comedy

'Garage Queens'

Feb. 25 at Arts Garage, 94 NE Second Ave., Delray Beach. Tickets are \$35 and \$40 at 561-450-6357 or ArtsGarage.org.

Female impersonators are a faux femme force of fabulousness, as anyone who has attended these popular drag queen shows at Arts Garage can attest. Returning emcee Ariel Rimm will share the stage with Adelaide, Citris and Angie Ovahnness Pryce. Word to the wise: Get your tickets now, because this drag-a-licious series always sells out.

'Ain't Too Proud To Beg: The Life and Times of the Temptations'

Feb. 8-20 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Tickets are \$32.50-\$90.50 at 954-462-0222 or BrowardCenter.org.

This is the second Broadway hit to mine gold from the storied Motown record company. The legendary Detroit label was in the stage musical spotlight with "Motown the Musical." And some might say that "Dreamgirls" was the first clone, siphoning off the story of the Supremes the way it did. Which is a perfect segue to a bit of trivia: The Supremes were originally called the Primettes, and were a girl group in support of the Temptations, who were then the bigger act known as the Primes. This musical retelling of that history will include some of the Temptations' biggest hits including "My Girl," "Just My Imagination," "Get Ready" and "Papa Was a Rolling Stone."

'Dancing with the Stars — Live Tour 2022'

Feb. 20 at Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Tickets are \$65-\$130 at MyHRL.com.

The tops in terpsichorean talent will bring that glitz and glam from the ABC ballroom dance competition to the entertainment venue at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Dancers expected include Brandon Armstrong, Alan Bersten, Artem Chigvintsev, Sasha Farber, Daniella Karagach, Pasha Pashkov, Gleb Savchenko, Emma Slater and Britt Stewart.



South Florida drag entertainers Angie Ovahnness Pryce, left, and Adelaide Rose will be part of the cast of **Garage Queens** at Delray Beach's Arts Garage. **BIANCAM STUDIOS, LLC**

Turn to Arts, Page 2

Arts

from Page 1

'Ben Platt's The Reverie Tour'

Feb. 25 at *Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood*. Tickets are \$45-\$125 at MyHRL.com.

The star of both the Broadway and movie versions of "Dear Evan Hansen" — snagging a Tony Award, a Grammy and a Daytime Emmy (for performing on NBC's "Today Show") — will perform in support of his second solo album, "Reverie," which dropped Aug. 13. Platt also starred in the original Great White Way production of "The Book of Mormon" as well as movies such as "Pitch Perfect" and this year's "The People We Hate at the Wedding."

'Steve Martin and Martin Short'

March 4 at the *Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach*. Tickets are \$55-\$139 at 561-832-7469 or Kravis.org.

This show's subtitle, "You Won't Believe What They Look Like Today," says it all. The humor here from two comedic superstars takes swipes at their own celebrity and teases Tinseltown. Joining the dynamic duo onstage will be keyboardist Jeff Babko ("Jimmy Kimmel Live" house band) and The Steep Canyon Rangers (Grammy-winning bluegrass band).

'A Night at the Ballet'

March 6 at *Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton*. Tickets are \$25-\$150 at FestivalBoca.org.

This ballet performance is part of the larger Festival of the Arts Boca, which has a slate of performances and talks from March 4-13. "A Night at the Ballet" will feature dancers from both the American Ballet Theatre and the New York City Ballet as well as others. One work we can't wait to see is from choreographer Melanie Hamrick, a former ballerina with American Ballet Theatre. Hamrick also was in a relationship with Mick Jagger, with whom she has one child, Deveroux, born in 2016. Two of the contemporary works by Hamrick in this performance are set to Rolling Stones music.

Disney's 'Frozen'

March 9-20 at the *Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale*. Tickets are \$30.50-\$90.50 at 954-462-0222 or BrowardCenter.org.

Based on the 2013 mega-hit movie of the same name, this stage musical follows the film's narrative of Elsa and Anna, two sisters (spoiler alert: one has magical powers that inform the title). They are also princesses who learn about sacrifice and love through their adventures. In addition to a dozen new songs, the Broadway show includes tunes from the movie such as "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" "Love Is an Open Door," "For the First Time in Forever," "Reindeer(s) Are Better Than People," "Fixer Upper," "In Summer," "Monster" and, of course, that bring-down-the-house favorite, "Let It Go."

'Overactive Letdown'

March 26-April 10 at *Theatre Lab at FAU, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton (the Heckscher Stage theater space in Parliament Hall on the campus of Florida Atlantic University)*. Tickets are \$32 and \$40 at 561-297-6124 or FAU.edu/theatrelab.

This world-premiere of Miami-based playwright Gina Montet's dark-comedic thriller grew out of Theatre Lab's 2020 New Play Festival. Christine and Mark are expecting their first child but exhaustion, pregnancy jitters and surging hormones begin to play with Christine's mind. The mom-to-be soon gets lost in her vivid fantasy world, sparked by all the binge-watching of movies she's been streaming.

'Ben Butler'

March 25-April 10 at *Boca Stage Theatre, 3333 N Federal Highway in Boca Raton (The Sol Theatre)*. Tickets are \$45 and \$50 at 866-811-4111 or BocaStage.net.

This Civil War comic-drama by Boca Stage Theatre (formerly Primal Forces) follows the absurdities that General Benjamin Butler must face with military bureaucracy at his Virginia fort when an escaped slave demands asylum.

'Flamenco Festival XIII: Stars of Flamenco'

April 21 at the *Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami*. Tickets are \$25-\$125 at 305-949-6722 or ArshCenter.org.

Three of flamenco's luminaries will appear at this annual event: Mercedes Ruíz, María Moreno and Eduardo Guerrero. Under the auspices of artistic director Manuel Liñan, they will be joined onstage by musicians and singer Maria Terremoto.

— Rod Stafford Hagwood

Pop concerts

The Eagles

8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at *FLA Live Arena, 1 Panther Parkway, Sunrise*

The veteran rockers bring their Hotel California tour to South Florida for a track-by-track tribute to the classic 1976 album followed by a set of greatest hits, all elevated by a choir and an orchestra. The lineup features veterans Don Henley, Joe Walsh and Timothy B. Schmit joined by guitarist Vince Gill and Deacon Frey (son of Glenn Frey). Tickets are on sale at Eagles.com.

Elton John

7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at *Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood*; 8 p.m. Thursday, April 28, at *FTX Arena, 601 Biscayne Blvd., Miami (formerly American Airlines Arena)*

Elton John began his long-running Farewell Yellow Brick Tour in 2018 in front of just under 9,000 fans at PPL Arena in downtown Allentown, Pa., a note of humility that seemed to echo the sentiment in his iconic album's title track, about a man uncomfortable with fame looking



Patrick Dupre Quigley, center, is conductor and artistic director of Seraphic Fire. SOUTHERN LAND FILMS



Ben Platt, left, and Julianne Moore in "Dear Evan Hansen." ERIKA DOSS/UNIVERSAL PICTURES



Miami-based playwright Gina Montet's dark-comedic thriller "Overactive Letdown" will get a world-premiere at Theatre Lab at FAU in Boca Raton March 26-April 10. G. KADE PHOTO



Miami soprano Elizabeth Caballero takes on the tour de force role of Blanche DuBois in the 80th anniversary season production of Florida Grand Opera's "A Streetcar Named Desire." KOKE PHOTOGRAPHY

to trade the penthouse for the plough. But this is Elton's farewell to live (lucrative) touring, and the final North American dates on his schedule will be a string of massive stadium performances in 2022, from Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia to its conclusion with back-to-back performances at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles Nov. 19-20. Which makes his Feb. 27 concert at 7,000-seat Hard Rock Live in

Hollywood even more remarkable and rich with anticipation. The state-of-the-art space is certainly more penthouse than industrial-belt Pennsylvania, but there's no telling what kind of mood the intimacy of the room will inspire in Elton. Visit MyHRL.com, Ticketmaster.com.

New Country 103.1 Rib Round Up

Noon-11 p.m. Saturday, March 5, *iTHINK Financial Amphitheatre, 601-7 Sansburys Way, West Palm Beach*

Sponsored by the radio station once best known as WIRK, this combustible mix of country music stars, smoldering meat and liquid refreshments returns to West Palm Beach with a lineup that includes Florida native Jake Owen, Jimmie Allen (CMA New Artist of the Year), Jameson Rodgers, Priscilla Block, Callista Clark, Elvie Shane, Conner Smith and others. Tickets start at \$40, with four-pack discounts starting at \$24.75 each. Visit NewCountry1031.com.

Tortuga Music Festival

Friday-Sunday, April 8-10, *Fort Lauderdale Beach Park, 1100 Seabreeze Blvd.*

The annual boots-and-bikinis jam returns to its traditional spring cycle with a strong lineup led by country stars Luke Combs, Morgan Wallen, Thomas Rhett, Brothers Osborne and Jordan Davis, with sprinkles of eclecticism from Nelly, Surfaces, Sister Hazel and Sublime With Rome. Three-day passes cost \$249, with VIP passes \$1,299. Visit TortugaMusicFestival.com.

Van Morrison

8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 23-24, *Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood*

The legendary Celtic soul singer had the original Feb. 11-12 dates for these shows postponed by COVID concerns (tickets for the original concerts will be honored on the new dates). The tour follows the 2021 release of the album "Latest Record Project, Volume 1," which managed to win over critics even as they acknowledged the distraction of witnessing his prickly genius subsumed in corrosive sophistry and paranoia. (Pitchfork called it "a risible and intermittently lovely 28-song collection.") The setlists on European dates include promising moments from all over his discography, including "In the Afternoon," "Days Like This," "Precious Time" and "Into the Mystic." Tickets cost \$235, \$185, \$145, \$105 and \$55 at MyHRL.com.

— Ben Crandell

Classical music

Florida Grand Opera, 'A Streetcar Named Desire'

7:30 p.m. Feb. 3, 5, *Broward Center in Fort Lauderdale*. Tickets and subscriptions: FGO.org.

One of the oldest performing arts organizations in the state with a history that traces back nearly 80 years, Florida

Grand Opera opens the 2021-2022 season with a classic nearly the same age, "A Streetcar Named Desire." This production of the André Previn opera, based on Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize-winning 1947 play, will feature FGO favorite and Miami native Elizabeth Caballero as the tortured Blanche DuBois and acclaimed New Zealand-born baritone Hadleigh Adams as the brutish Stanley Kowalski (stepping in for Steven LaBrie, now touring with Il Divo).

Lang Lang, 'Goldberg Variations'

8 p.m. Thursday, March 10, *Arsh Center in Miami*. Tickets: ArshCenter.org.

Nearly two years removed from a pandemic-postponed attempt at this highly anticipated performance, classical-piano rock star Lang Lang will finally scale the kaleidoscopic challenges of Johann Sebastian Bach's iconic "Goldberg Variations" for a South Florida audience. With Lang Lang at the controls of this enigmatic score, composed by Bach for the harpsichord in 1743 and built on the beguiling elasticity of a single, simple tune, this concert may be one of the season's most thrilling evenings of music in any category.

Florida Grand Opera, 'Fellow Travelers'

7:30 p.m. April 23, 2 p.m. April 24, 7:30 p.m. April 26 and April 28, *Lauderhill Performing Arts Center*. Tickets: FGO.org.

A political thriller and love story set against a backdrop of the 1950s McCarthy-era witch hunts and the "lavender scare" that pursued gay employees of the federal government, Gregory Spears' "Fellow Travelers" is an opera of bold originality. Based on a 2007 novel of the same name by Thomas Mallon, "Fellow Travelers" explores a dark underbelly of American history, confronting questions about morality, tyranny and disinformation. In the work's 2018 New York premiere, the New York Times' Anthony Tommasini applauded Spears' risk taking and innovation, and the richly evocative music that carries his "wrenching, and sadly timely, opera."

Fire, Handel's 'Messiah'

7:30 p.m. April 29, *First United Methodist, Coral Gables*; 7:30 p.m. April 30, *All Saints Episcopal Church, Fort Lauderdale*; 4 p.m. Sunday, May 1, at *St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, Boca Raton*

South Florida's Grammy-nominated choral ensemble has always had a special way with Handel's iconic masterpiece, the standing ovation for its powerful centerpiece "Hallelujah" chorus is a local tradition. But even more special this season: Under the direction of conductor and founder Patrick Dupré Quigley, the ensemble will perform "Messiah" in its entirety for the first time since 2004. Tickets and subscriptions: SeraphicFire.org.

— Ben Crandell