



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter @TheJudyCollins will dazzle audiences with “Love Letters to Stephen Sondheim” at the @KimmelCenter on 10/17. More info @ kimmelcenter.org

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**KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS
RENOWNED SINGER JUDY COLLINS IN
LOVE LETTERS TO STEPHEN SONDHEIM
OCTOBER 17, 2019**

"Her voice projects a potent range and embracing warmth" – *THE GUARDIAN*

"Known for her crisp, clear, almost ethereal voice" - *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*

"Immensely satisfying " - *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, September 9, 2019) – The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus welcomes Grammy® Award-winning singer-songwriter **Judy Collins** for a celebration of Broadway’s most esteemed composer with ***Love Letters to Stephen Sondheim*** on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kimmel Center’s Merriam Theater.

“Judy Collins mystical voice has captivated the worlds of both Broadway and popular music for decades,” said Ed Cambron, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “In creating this album, she drew inspiration from her biggest success, her recording of Sondheim’s ‘Send in the Clowns.’ The result is a beautiful mélange of two musical icons that brings our Philadelphia audience an unparalleled level of excellence from the highest-caliber starlet.”

Judy Collins is known for her eclectic palette as a solo artist, melding folk, rock, classical, and jazz into a singular aesthetic. Her recording of Stephen Sondheim's "Send in the Clowns" from her best-selling album *Judith* charted on the Billboard Pop Singles chart in 1975 and again in 1977, spending 27 non-consecutive weeks on the chart and earning Collins a Grammy® Award Nomination for Best Pop Vocal Performance Female and a Grammy® Award for Song of the Year.

Her iconic 55-album body of work thrived in the music industry for half a century, garnering several top-ten hits as well as gold and platinum-selling albums. The award-winning singer-songwriter is esteemed for her imaginative interpretations of traditional and contemporary folk standards and her own poetically poignant original compositions.

Contemporary and classic artists such as Rufus Wainwright, Shawn Colvin, Dolly Parton, Joan Baez, and Leonard Cohen honored her with the album *Born to the Breed: A Tribute to Judy Collins*. In 2017, her rendition of the song "Amazing Grace" was selected for preservation in the National Recording Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or artistically significant."

In addition to her astounding musical legacy, Collins has been socially active throughout her career. She is a representative of UNICEF and an advocate for mental health and suicide prevention. The Americana Music Association presented Collins with the "Spirit of Americana/Free Speech" Lifetime Achievement Award for her activism and musical abilities.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***A Night with Janis Joplin*** (September 24, 2019, Merriam Theater), ***PHILADANCO GENESIS*** (October 5 – 6, 2019, Merriam Theater), ***Mandy Patinkin in Concert: Diaries with Adam Ben-David on Piano*** (October 30, 2019, Verizon Hall), and ***An Evening with Sutton Foster*** (November 22, 2019, Merriam Theater).

JUDY COLLINS: LOVE LETTERS TO STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Kimmel Center Cultural Campus' Merriam Theater

October 17, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$29.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See www.kimmelcenter.org for more information.

The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1 million guests per year and includes the **Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**, the **Academy of Music**, and the **Merriam Theater**- representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: **The Philadelphia Orchestra**, **Opera Philadelphia**, **Pennsylvania Ballet**, **The Philly POPS**, **PHILADANCO**, **The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia**, **The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society**, and **Curtis Institute of Music**. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially-responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride,

integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is our proud sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2019-2020 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit www.kimmelcenter.org.

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For photography, please visit <https://kcpres.smugmug.com/>