



THE KIMMEL CENTER
ACADEMY OF MUSIC
MERRIAM THEATER

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Brilliant and hilarious comedian, actor, and ranter @thelewisblack brings his “It Gets Better Every Day Tour” to the Merriam Theater 3/6 for an incredible night of absurdness. More info @ kimmelcenter.org

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**THE KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS
CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED COMEDIAN AND ACTOR LEWIS BLACK
FOR HIS NEW RIOTOUS *IT GETS BETTER EVERY DAY* TOUR
MARCH 6, 2020**

**“The famously angry comic delivers night after night a hilarious evening
of scathing political and social commentary.”**

– *The Hollywood Reporter*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Philadelphia, PA, February 12, 2020) – The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus presents, in association with Live Nation, award-winning stand-up comedian **Lewis Black**, who is undoubtedly one of the most prolific and popular performers working today. He executes a brilliant trifecta as a stand-up comedian, actor, and author. Black’s *It Gets Better Every Day* Tour will be at the Kimmel Center’s Merriam Theater on Friday, March 6, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

“Lewis Black has been an established figure on the comedy scene for many years, showcasing his ingenious performances and unique style across many facets of entertainment,” said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. “We are thrilled to welcome Black’s return to our Cultural Campus as part of our growing comedy series.”

Receiving critical acclaim with his position as the “king of the rant,” Lewis Black maintains his trademark style of comedic yelling in order to skewer anything and anyone that gets under his skin. In the past, Black hosted Comedy Central’s hit series *Lewis Black’s Root of All Evil* and makes regular appearances on *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah*, delivering his famous “Back in Black” commentary segment. “Back in

Black” is one of the most popular and longest-running segments on *The Daily Show*, beginning with John Stewart’s tenure and continuing with current host, Trevor Noah. Black has earned five Grammy® nominations and two wins (2007 for *The Carnegie Hall Performance* and 2011 for *Stark Raving Mad*) for Best Comedy Album. Black was also nominated for an Emmy® in 2007 for one of his HBO specials, *Red, White and Screwed*.

While Black was in college at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he began studying playwriting. After college, Black attended Yale University where he earned an MFA degree. When Black first started his career, he was working as a playwright at a prominent theater. He served as the playwright-in-residence at the West Bank Cafe’s Downstairs Theatre Bar in Hell’s Kitchen in New York City, where he oversaw the development of more than 1,000 plays, including works by the famous *West Wing* creator, Aaron Sorkin. In the 1980s, Black left the West Bank Cafe to pursue a stand-up career full time.

In addition to his acting, Black has also written three best-selling books (*Nothing’s Sacred*, *Me of Little Faith*, and *I’m Dreaming of a Black Christmas*) and over 40 plays. Additionally, Black was voted as one of the top 100 greatest comedians of all time by Comedy Central. Black is also known for hosting the *History of the Joke*, a 2-hour comedy-documentary on The History Channel, in 2008. He returned to The History Channel in 2009 to host *Surviving the Holidays with Lewis Black*, in which he discussed the year-end pressures of Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, and New Year’s.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: **Paula Poundstone** (March 7, 2020, Merriam Theater), **MasterChef Junior Live!** (March 11, 2020, Merriam Theater), **The Chieftains: The Irish Goodbye** (March 11, 2020, Verizon Hall), and **Ilana Glazer** (March 21, 2020, Merriam Theater).

Tickets

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$39.50. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at www.kimmelcenter.org, or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. See www.kimmelcenter.org for more information

LEWIS BLACK: IT GETS BETTER EVERY DAY

Kimmel Center Cultural Campus’ Merriam Theater
March 6, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

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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