



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Primary Contacts: Lindsey Walsh, Director of Marketing, lwalsh@chagrinarts.org
Karen Lazar, Executive Director, klazar@chagrinarts.org
Chagrin Arts Office 440.247.9700

Chagrin Arts Presents Judy Garland Tribute Concert with Joan Ellison on April 29

CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO – The third program of Chagrin Arts’ 2018 Performing Arts Series “The Classics” will play homage to Judy Garland. The program, titled “All Happiness, Judy Garland,” will take place on Sunday, April 29 at 3:00 PM at the Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Center, located at 400 E. Washington St., Chagrin Falls, Ohio. The 2018 Performing Arts Series is presented in partnership with Sapphire Creek Winery & Gardens.

“Forget your troubles, c’mon Get Happy” as Joan Ellison shines a spotlight on the musical and personal life of Judy Garland from her early years at MGM to her dramatic comeback as a concert artist and triumphant return to the big screen in *A Star Is Born*. It’s Saturday night, October 24th, 1953 and Jane Telling is giving her “Goodbye to Hollywood Concert.” During her sixteen years in the MGM music department, she’s seen it all, she sings it all...and she shares it all.

The parade of hit tunes performed in authentic arrangements based on the originals includes “Get Happy,” “The Trolley Song,” “If You Feel Like Singing, Sing,” “The Man That Got Away,” “The Joint Is Really Jumpin’ in Carnegie Hall,” “You Made Me Love You,” “Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart,” “Rock-a-Bye Your Baby,” “The Palace Medley,” and “Over the Rainbow.” Joining Joan Ellison will be pianist Jason Aquila.

Tickets range from \$5-\$32 and may be purchased by phone at (440)247-9700 or online at ChagrinArts.org. Additionally, group discounts will be available for parties of 10 or more; call (440) 247-9700 for details.

These songs, and others that will be heard during the 2018 Performing Arts Series, are considered classics – they have withstood the test of time and have become of great significance, connecting one to the past, as well as to one another. Join Chagrin Arts as we explore the “classic connection” and reflect on the memories that make these songs part of our own musical legacy.

To explore these connections, Chagrin Arts is asking patrons to share their memories that relate to each specific program (i.e. Why do you love Judy Garland? Where did you first hear her music? etc.) The memories will be compiled into a book to be shared at future events. To share a memory, please email Chagrin Arts at info@chagrinarts.org.

PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

“All Happiness, Judy Garland” Featuring Joan Ellison

Sunday, April 29 at 3:00 pm

Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Center – 400 E. Washington St., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

MORE

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TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Tickets are \$5 for students age 25 and under, \$25 for general section seating, and \$32 for preferred section seating. Tickets may be purchased by phone at (440) 247-9700 or online at ChagrinArts.org.

ABOUT JOAN ELLISON

Joan Ellison has been praised for her "vocal prowess...[and] organic grasp of the classic songs" by Michael Feinstein, and described as bringing “a keen blend of vocal splendor and verbal crispness to every musical moment” and “possess[ing] a crystalline voice that never stops” (Donald Rosenberg, *The Plain Dealer*).

Her long-time immersion in the popular vocal styles of the 1920s to the 1960s includes transcribing over 250 piano and vocal arrangements note-for-note from classic recordings and copying/restoring missing pieces on several of Judy Garland's original orchestrations. This intimate understanding of retro musical and vocal styles brings distinct freshness and authenticity to her interpretations of classic American standards. She was recently invited by Michael Feinstein to serve as Editor of the Judy Garland Carnegie Hall Concert Restoration Project for the Judy Garland Heirs Trust.

Last season, Joan made her NYC solo cabaret debut at Feinstein’s/54 Below in *Get Happy! Judy Garland 1944-’54*, of which *Cabaret Scenes Magazine* wrote: “New York deserves to see and hear more of Joan Ellison.” The show reprised at BLU Jazz+, *The Bop Stop*, and *Nighttown*. Other performances included a Sinatra & Garland Celebration with the Bemus Bay Pops Orchestra (NY), a “Swingin’ Holiday” concert with the Canton Symphony, “Gotta Sing, Gotta Dance” featuring Judy Garland songs with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra at Severance Hall, and an all-Garland concert with the Ohio Valley Symphony. January-February 2016 found her playing the role of Ms. Garland in the first U.S. professional regional production of *The Boy From Oz* at TheatreZone in Naples, FL, as well as reprising her show, *Love Finds Judy Garland*.

In July 2015, Joan released a critically-acclaimed second album, “Retrophonic Gershwin,” featuring her arrangements based on original recordings of the 1920s, '30s, and '40s. Recorded at Oberlin's Clonick Hall and mixed and mastered by Grammy-winning engineer Robert Friedrich, it also features singer Mark Flanders and duo-pianists.

MORE



Joan earned an M.M.T. and a Bachelor of Music degree in vocal performance from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where she was elected Pi Kappa Lambda. She currently serves as the first Teacher of Popular Voice at The Cleveland Institute of Music and a Visiting Guest Artist (singing teacher) with the Case Western Reserve University/Cleveland Play House M.F.A. Acting Program. She is a member of Actors' Equity Association.

Learn more about Joan Ellison by visiting JoanEllison.com

ABOUT CHAGRIN ARTS

Founded in 2007, Chagrin Arts is a community 501(c)(3) organization whose goal is to enrich life through the presentation of inspiring performances and stimulating conversations. The organization's most visible programs are its *Chautauqua-in-Chagrin™* lecture series and *Performing Arts Series*.

The *Chagrin Arts 2018 Performing Arts Series* receives public support with local tax dollars from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, to preserve and enrich our region's artistic and cultural heritage. Additional sponsorship provided by the Ohio Arts Council, Sapphire Creek Winery & Gardens, Huntington Bank, Chagrin Valley Times, The Inamori Center for Ethics and Excellence at CWRU, and Electronic Merchant Systems.

ABOUT SAPPHIRE CREEK WINERY & GARDENS

Sapphire Creek Winery & Gardens was inspired by California wine country. Sapphire Creek seamlessly integrates the outdoors with its glass-based design and fully integrated outdoor spaces. The expansive windows bestow natural light and provide unparalleled woodland views. Sapphire Creek Winery is open to the public for wine tastings and dinner and also available for private events, corporate functions and weddings. Whether you are planning a gathering for 20 or an upscale event for 300 (and anything in between), Sapphire Creek Winery will deliver an exquisite experience. For more information about Sapphire Creek Winery & Gardens, please visit Sapphire-Creek.com

TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about Chagrin Arts, or the 2018 Performing Arts Series, call Chagrin Arts at (440) 247-9700.

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ATTACHED PHOTOS

1. JudyGarland_WalkofFame
2. JoanEllison