

program notes 2024/25 SEASON

Symphony of Illusions

with Michael Grandinetti

September 28-29, 2024

Holland Performing Arts Center

Ernest Richardson, conductor | Michael Grandinetti, illusionist

JOHN STAFFORD SMITH

The Star-Spangled Banner

EDVARD GRIEG

In the Hall of the Mountain King from Peer Gynt, Op. 46

JOHN WILLIAMS

Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

JOHN WILLIAMS

Nimbus 2000 from Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

JOHN WILLIAMS

Adventures on Earth from E.T. (The Extra-Terrestrial)

JOHN WILLIAMS

The Sorcerer's Stone from Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

JOHN WILLIAMS

Rey's Theme from Star Wars: The Force Awakens

JOHN WILLIAMS

Scherzo for X-Wings from Star Wars: The Force Awakens

JOHN WILLIAMS

Raiders March from Raiders of the Lost Ark

INTERMISSION

IGOR STRAVINSKY

Infernal Dance from The Firebird (1919)

JOHN WILLIAMS

Yoda's Theme from Star Wars

HECTOR BERLIOZ

March to the Scaffold from Symphonie fantastique

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Clair de lune

JOHN WILLIAMS

The Knight Bus from Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

MAURICE RAVEL

The Enchanted Garden from Mother Goose Suite

ARAM KHACHATURIAN

Sabre Dance from Gayane

JOHN WILLIAMS

Harry's Wondrous World from Harry Potter and

the Sorcerer's Stone

Featured Artists







Ernest Richardson, conductor

Ernest Richardson is in high demand as conductor, composer, arranger, organizational leader and inspirational speaker. His versatility finds him within one season conducting Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* or Broadway artists in the works of Leonard Bernstein, a live-to-movie production of *Harry Potter*, facilitating strategic decision-making for leading arts organizations, or training young musicians for the passionate, persistent pursuit of perfection.

He has been at the forefront of symphonic video/live music productions, conducting live-to-movie scores of the *Harry Potter* series with CineConcerts, *Indiana Jones*,

Jurassic Park, Back to the Future, Pirates of the Caribbean, Singin' in the Rain, Casablanca, Ratatouille, Star Trek (2009), the Charlie Chaplin silent film The Gold Rush, and Star Wars.

In addition to his post in Omaha, Richardson holds the position of music director and principal conductor of the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. During his tenure, the organization has grown from a community orchestra to a resident professional orchestra, attracting the finest musicians from the Front Range of Colorado. He is also the founding artistic director and CEO of the Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory.



Michael Grandinetti, Illusionist

Named by Entertainment Weekly as "a great magician who can truly communicate with a TV audience," Hidden Remote as "a fan favorite with charisma and an easy rapport with an audience," and Digital Journal as "one of magic's best loved magicians, the one to watch," Michael Grandinetti is not your ordinary magician.

With performances on national and international television, in stadiums, arenas, casinos, and theaters around the country, with Oscar-winning composers and symphony orchestras, for NFL and NBA halftime shows and major sporting events, in large-scale parades, for Fortune 500 companies, and even at The White House, Michael has made a name for himself around the world as a talented and innovative illusionist.

Over the past 20 years, Michael has been driven to make magic contemporary and to give it a wide, mainstream appeal. He has had starring roles on NBC's *The World's Most Dangerous Magic II*, The CW's *Masters of Illusion*, and POP's *Don't Blink*, and his magic has been featured on the Emmy-nominated FOX series *Bones*, *The Today Show*, *Access Hollywood*, *Entertainment Tonight*, *The Hollywood Christmas Parade*, *The Bold and the Beautiful*, *SportsCenter*, *NBA on TNT*, and *FOX & Friends*. Michael has also appeared as a guest on radio shows across the country and in media including *Parade Magazine*, *Entertainment Weekly*, AXS.com, *Hidden Remote*, *Starpulse*, *The Huffington Post*, *MAGIC Magazine*, *Young Hollywood*, *Pittsburgh Magazine*, *The Beverly Hills Times Magazine*, *Go! Magazine*, *DC Life Magazine*, *Tucson Living*, and with multiple appearances on The Marilu Henner Radio Show.

Michael was recently featured on CNBC's *Make It*, a series about people who have achieved success in challenging industries, as well as on the cover of *TV Times* magazine, released nationally in newspapers across the U.S.