



THE MUSIC OF TINA TURNER

Saturday, June 8, 2024 - 7pm

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The Princeton Festival

Performance Pavilion
Morven Museum & Garden

THE MUSIC OF TINA TURNER

Lucas Waldin, conductor
LaKisha Jones, vocalist
Nova Payton, vocalist
Matthew Johnson, vocalist
Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Ron Kersey / Leroy Green
(arr. Matt Smith)

Disco Inferno

Sylvester Stewart
(arr. Daryl McKenzie)

"I Want to Take You Higher"

Tina Turner
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"Nutbush City Limits"

Mike Chapman / Holly Knight
(arr. Richard Maslove)

"The Best (Simply The Best)"

Willie Mitchell / Al Jackson, Jr. / Al Green
(arr. Sam Shoup)

"Let's Stay Together"

Terry Britten / Graham Lyle
(arr. Roger Müller)

We Don't Need Another Hero
(from *Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome*)

Bono / David Evans
(arr. Jan Angermüller)

"Goldeneye"

Lionel Richie
(arr. Matt Amy)

"All Night Long (All Night)"

Mark Knopfler
(arr. Daryl McKenzie)

"Private Dancer"

Jeff Barry / Ellie Greenwich / Phil Spector
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"River Deep - Mountain High"

INTERMISSION

Peter Townshend
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

Tommy: Overture

Peter Townshend
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

Tommy: "Pinball Wizard"

William Stevenson / Sylvia Moy
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"It Takes Two"

Iggy Pop / David Bowie
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"Tonight"

Jim Vallance / Bryan Adams
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"It's Only Love"

Ronnie Wilkins / John Hurley
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"Son of a Preacher Man"

Stevie Wonder
(arr. Daryl McKenzie)

"Living for the City"

Various
(arr. Bruce Healey)

Love is All You Need: A Tribute to the Beatles

Terry Britten / Graham Lyle
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"What's Love Got To Do With It"

John Fogerty
(arr. Lucas Waldin)

"Proud Mary"

**This performance is made possible in part through the generosity of
Anne VanLent and Corporate Partner Glenmede.**

GLENMEDE



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New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner
agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.



ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Lucas Waldin, conductor

Lucas Waldin is a dynamic and versatile conductor whose performances have delighted audiences across North America. He has collaborated with some of today's most exciting artists including Carly Rae Jepsen, The Barenaked Ladies, Crash Test Dummies, Ben Folds, The Canadian Brass, and Buffy Sainte-Marie, in addition to conducting presentations such as *Disney in Concert*, *Blue Planet Live*, *Cirque de la Symphony*, and the groundbreaking symphonic debut of R&B duo Dvsn as part of the global Red Bull Music Festival.

Waldin has been a guest conductor for numerous orchestras in the U.S. and Canada, including the Cleveland Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony, the Houston Symphony, the Dallas Symphony, the Grant Park Festival Orchestra, the Vancouver Symphony, the Calgary Philharmonic, the Toronto Symphony, and the National Arts Centre Orchestra.

A native of Toronto, Ontario, Waldin holds degrees in flute and conducting from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Photo by Adrian Mendoza



LaKisha Jones, vocalist

Best known to millions of TV viewers as a top four finalist during the 2007 season of *American Idol*, **LaKisha Jones** is ready to reclaim center stage in music, theatre and television.

Having worked with hit-making songwriters and producers including Tony Nicholas (Patti LaBelle, Luther Vandross), Ro & Sauce (Brandy, Ne-Yo) and Greg Curtis (Keyshia Cole, Yolanda Adams), Jones' album *So Glad I'm Me* featured a spirited mix of R&B and soul. A few noteworthy songs included the single "Same Song," penned by award-winning songwriter Dianne Warren, Whitney Houston's "You Give Good Love," the gospel song "Just as I Am," and Jones' soaring ballad to her daughter, "Beautiful Girl."

Her drive and motivation dates back to her childhood in Flint, Michigan. Raised by her mother and grandmother, Jones was exposed to music by legendary singers such as Whitney Houston, Aretha Franklin, and Patti LaBelle, with her grandmother urging the young girl to "let your voice shine" thereby prompting Jones to sing in church choirs and music programs. Joining various choral groups and a cappella choruses throughout high school, Jones entered and won the top prize at Flint's local talent contest, *The Super Show*, in 1997.

Jones then went to New York to audition for *American Idol* and segued from "Idol" to the Broadway stage for *The Color Purple* where she played "Sophia", which she alternated with R&B icon Chaka Khan, who became her mentor. Jones participated in Khan's 35th anniversary tour. Following her Broadway stint, Jones provided vocal coaching on MTV's reality competition *Legally Blonde: The Search for Elle Woods*, a show designed to find and hone Broadway's next star.

A frequent soloist with symphonies around the world, Ms. Jones has performed as a guest soloist with the National Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Utah Symphony and Opera, Evansville Philharmonic, Jacksonville Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Houston Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Winnipeg Symphony, Windham Chamber Singers, Grand Rapids Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Calgary Symphony, Battle Creek Symphony, Reno Philharmonic, Oregon Symphony, Long Bay Symphony, and the Festival Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic, among many others.



Nova Payton, vocalist

Chances are that you've heard the amazing soprano voice of **Nova Y. Payton** in internationally staged musicals, on PBS in one of the specials with The American Pops Orchestra or *3 Mo' Divas* or in countless regional theatre productions across the country. Boasting a prolific catalog of artist collaborations, the former American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA) student has shared the stage with Stevie Wonder, Roberta Flack, Levi Kreis, Bobby McFerrin, John Michael Higgins, Yolanda Adams, Betsy Wolfe, Michael Uris, Anthony Hamilton, and Michelle Williams. She has also opened for heavyweights like Ashford and Simpson, Will Downing, Stephanie Mills, Melba Moore, The Chi-Lites and the Dramatics. Nova has performed in over 150 major cities in the US, as well as Canada, Japan, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, and Europe.

Nova has been recognized with nominations and awards for her talents. She starred in a soul-stirring rendition of Effie White in *Dreamgirls*, which earned her the 2006 Barrymore nomination for Outstanding Leading Actress in a Musical. The DVD / CD for *3 Mo' Divas* received a 2010 NAACP nomination for Outstanding Duo, Group or Collaboration. In 2012, Nova was honored as the recipient of the Helen Hayes Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Resident Musical for her portrayal of MotorMouth Maybelle in *Hairspray*. For her performance as Effie White in *Dreamgirls* during the 2012-2013 season at Signature Theatre, Nova was nominated for the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Resident Musical. In 2015, Nova was nominated for Best Supporting Actress (Musical) for her role in *Elmer Gantry*. She was also nominated in 2018 for Lead Actress (Musical) in *Caroline, Or Change* and Supporting Actress (Musical) in *Ragtime*.

Other honors have come in the form of singing for President Biden and Vice President Harris and performing the National Anthem at the dedication of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial live as the world watched on C-SPAN. Nova has also appeared on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon* accompanying artist Glen Hansard. Most recently, Nova starred in *Grace The Musical*, *The Color Purple*, *Into The Woods*, and *Fela!*

Photo by Chris Mueller



Matthew Johnson, vocalist

The multi-talented **Matthew Johnson** is an actor, singer, dancer, and musician who has performed with the likes of Pharrell, John Legend, Jennifer Lopez, Childish Gambino, and Stevie Wonder. His musical theater roots were cultivated at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, and through his mentor, Debbie Allen, who helped mold him into the triple threat performer he is today. Matthew has done vocal arrangements for the GRAMMY Awards® as well as performed at the Emmy Awards and the Billboard Awards. He honed his skills as a vocal chameleon on some of the world's most watched television shows such as *American Idol*, *The Voice*, *The X Factor*, and *Late Night with James Corden*. He's shared the stage and studio with some of Hollywood's biggest names including Kelly Clarkson, Sam Smith, Demi Lovato, and Jennifer Hudson. On the big screen, Matthew stars as Mack in Warner Bros.' *Christmas on the Square*, starring Dolly Parton and Christine Baranski, which won an Emmy Award in 2021.

Photo by Hannibal Matthews

Program continued...

MUSICIAN ROSTER

Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Rossen Milanov, Edward T. Cone Music Director, ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY

Kenneth Bean, Georg and Joyce Albers-Schonberg Assistant Conductor, ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY

June 8, 2024

VIOLIN I

Matthew Hakkarainen**

Concertmaster

The George W. Pitcher Chair,

ENDOWED IN PERPETUITY

Cheng-Chih Kevin Tsai

The Yvonne Marcuse Chair,

in memory of Mark M. Rutzky

Linda Howard

VIOLIN II

Michelle Brazier**

The B. Sue Howard Chair

Giancarlo Latta

Cheng-Hsun David Tsai

VIOLA

Chieh-Fan Yu**

The Harriet & Jay Vawter Chair

Jacqueline Watson

CELLO

Madeline Fayette**

The Julian Grant & Peter Lighte

Family Chair

Elizabeth Loughran

BASS

John Grillo*

The Stephanie & Robert Wedeking Chair

Dan Hudson

FLUTE

Scott Kemsley**

The Lunder/Ezekowitz Family Chair

Hilary Jones

OBOE

Lillian Copeland*

The Cynthia & Rob Hillas Chair

Matthew Maroon

CLARINET

Yoonah Kim**

The Richard J. & Neil Ann S. Levine Chair

Gi Lee

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Noah Vece**

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Greg Thymius**

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

John DiSanto**

BASSOON

Brad Balliett*

The Cynthia & Rob Hillas Chair

Hanul Park

HORN

Steven Harmon*

The Dr. Michael L. Barnett Chair

Jonathan Clark

Colby Kleven

Kaleb Lewis

TRUMPET

Jerry Bryant*

The Donna & Donald Deieso Chair

Thomas Cook

Kenny Leeper

TROMBONE

Connor Rowe**

The David A. Tierno Chair

Lars Wendt

The Lor & Michael Gehret Chair

James Rogers

TUBA

Jonathan Fowler*

TIMPANI

William Wozniak**

The Anne VanLent Chair

PERCUSSION

Phyllis Bitow*

The Lunder/Ezekowitz Family Chair

Greg Giannascoli

DRUMSET

Clint DeGanon**

ELECTRIC GUITAR

Jack Cavari**

ELECTRIC BASS

Jeffrey Carney**

PIANO

Tom Cuffari**

The Princeton Symphony Orchestra is a member of the League of American Orchestras. Named musician chairs are made possible through meaningful gifts to the Orchestra's endowment and innovation funds.

* Principal player

** Guest principal player