

For Immediate Release



The Annual 42nd Street Moon Fundraising Gala!
YOU'VE GOT POSSIBILITIES!
CELEBRATING THE MUSICALS OF THE 1960s and
AN 80TH BIRTHDAY SALUTE TO SPECIAL GUEST CHARLES STROUSE
(COMPOSER OF BYE BYE BIRDIE, ANNIE, APPLAUSE)
FEATURING BROADWAY LEADING LADIES : NANCY DUSSAULT
ANDREA McARDLE, LELAND PALMER, AND SUSAN WATSON
MONDAY, JUNE 30TH, 2008 – ALCAZAR THEATRE

For tickets call 415/255-8207

SAN FRANCISCO, May 20, 2008— 42nd Street Moon begins its 16th season of uncommon musicals with a gala concert at the Alcazar Theatre on Monday, June 30, 2008. “You’ve Got Possibilities!” celebrates the great musicals of the 1960s, and will offer a special 80th birthday salute to the prolific Award-winning composer **Charles Strouse**, who will be in attendance. Great Broadway songs from the era will also be sung by special guest stars **Klea Blackhurst, Nancy Dussault, Andrea McArdle, Linda Posner (Leland Palmer), and Susan Watson**, plus favorites who have appeared on the 42nd Street Moon stage. The evening also marks several reunions: Susan Watson, Andrea McArdle, and Leland Palmer all starred in Charles Strouse musicals early in their careers, and Palmer and Watson were featured together in *A Joyful Noise* in 1965.

Charles Strouse won his first Tony for his first Broadway musical, *Bye Bye Birdie* in 1960, and went on to write musicals like *Golden Boy* starring Sammy Davis, Jr., and *It’s a Bird, It’s a Plane, It’s Superman* (which introduced the song “You’ve Got Possibilities), *Rags*, and *Nick and Nora*. He won his second Tony for *Applause* (1970), and his third for *Annie* (1977), which also garnered two Grammy Awards. Film scores included *Bonnie and Clyde*, *There Was a*

Crooked Man, and *The Night They Raided Minsky's*, among many others. In addition, he wrote numerous songs running the gamut from pop to hip-hop, as well as orchestral works, chamber music, piano concertos and opera. In July, Strouse's memoir, *Put on a Happy Face – A Broadway Memoir*, will be published by Sterling Publishing.

Nancy Dussault is best known for her co-starring role with the late Ted Knight in “Too Close for Comfort.” She has starred in numerous Broadway shows, including *The Sound of Music*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *Into the Woods* and more recently *Sunday in the Park with George*.

Andrea McArdle was the original *Annie* on Broadway, and at the time was the youngest performer ever to be nominated for a Tony Award. She went on to star in *Starlight Express*, *State Fair* and *Beauty and the Beast* on Broadway, and now performs frequently in concert and in cabaret to great acclaim.

Linda Posner's Broadway credits (as Leland Palmer) include *Bajour*, *A Joyful Noise*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Applause* and *Pippin*, receiving two Tony nominations along the way. Movie buffs will remember her from *Valentino* and from Bob Fosse's *All That Jazz* in which she played a central character modeled on Fosse's wife, Broadway star Gwen Verdon. This gala marks Posner's first stage appearance since her retirement from show business in 1977.

Bye Bye Birdie was the Charles Strouse musical in which Susan Watson began her Broadway career. She also starred as Nanette in the 1971 revival of *No, No, Nanette!*, and appeared in *Carnival*, *The Fantasticks*, *Ben Franklin in Paris* opposite Robert Preston, and she was the first Laurey to play the role and dance the ballet herself in a Lincoln Center revival of *Oklahoma!*

Klea Blackhurst, an internationally popular cabaret and concert singer, starred in Cole Porter's *Red Hot and Blue!* for 42nd Street Moon in 2005, and has been featured in several of their previous galas. She tours frequently with *Everything the Traffic Will Allow!*, her salute to Ethel Merman.

The gala begins at 5:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction, and the performance follows at 7 p.m. The Alcazar is located at 650 Geary Street. Tickets at \$100 (\$75 tax deductible) may be purchased through the Box Office at 415/255-8207.

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