



# Let's Groove Tonight: Motown & the Philly Sound

April 11-12, 2026 | 7:30 p.m. & 2:00 p.m.

Holland Performing Arts Center

Serena Reuten, conductor | Chester Gregory, vocals | Crystal Monee Hall, vocals

Brik.Liam, vocals

a Schirmer Theatrical/Greenberg Artists co-production

Arrangements by Jeff Tyzik

KENNETH GAMBLE, LEON A. HUFF  
*As Recorded by MFSB*

MAURICE WHITE, WAYNE LEE VAUGHN  
*As Recorded by Earth, Wind & Fire*

BARRET STRONG, NORMAN WHITFIELD  
*As Recorded by Marvin Gaye*

MELVIN STEALS, MERVIN STEALS  
*As Recorded by The Spinners*

KENNETH GAMBLE, LEON A. HUFF  
*As Recorded by Lou Rawls*

BOBBY HART, TEDDY RANDAZZO,  
ROBERT WILDING  
*As Recorded by Little Anthony & The Imperials*

SMOKEY ROBINSON, RONALD WHITE  
*As Recorded by The Temptations*

THOMAS RANDOLPH BELL, PHIL HURTT  
*As Recorded by The Spinners*

LEON A. HUFF, GENE MCFADDEN,  
JOHN CAVADUS WHITEHEAD  
*As Recorded by The O'Jays*

KENNETH GAMBLE, LEON HUFF, CARY  
GILBERT  
*As Recorded by Thelma Houston*

*TSOP (The Sound of Philadelphia)*

*Let's Groove*

*I Heard It Through the Grapevine*

*Could It Be I'm Falling in Love*

*You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine*

*Hurt So Bad*

*My Girl*

*I'll Be Around*

*Back Stabbers*

*Don't Leave Me This Way*

**INTERMISSION**

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LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, WALTER  
MURPHY

*As Recorded by Walter Murphy & the Big Apple Band*

*A Fifth of Beethoven*

NORMAN WHITFIELD, BARRET  
STRONG

*As Recorded by The Temptations*

*Ball of Confusion (That's Whats the World is Today)*

THOMAS RANDOLPH BELL, LINDA  
EPSTEIN

*As Recorded by The Stylistics*

*People Make The World Go Round*

KENNETH GAMBLE, LEON A. HUFF,  
CARY GILBERT

*As Recorded by Billy Paul*

*Me and Mrs. Jones*

BERNARD EDWARDS, NILE RODGERS  
*As Recorded by Diana Ross*

*I'm Coming Out*

WALDO T. HOLMES  
*As Recorded by The Hues Corporation*

*Rock The Boat*

KENNETH GAMBLE, LEON A. HUFF  
*As Recorded by The O'Jays*

*Love Train*

JERRY COHEN, GENE MCFADDEN,  
JOHN WHITEHEAD

*As Recorded by McFadden & Whitehead*

*Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now*

ALL ARRANGEMENTS LICENSED BY SCHIRMER THEATRICAL, LLC



**Creative Team**

Robert Thompson, Producer  
Jeff Tyzik, Producer & Arranger  
Jami Greenberg, Producer & Booking Agent  
Betsey Perlmutter, Producer  
Alex Kosick, Associate Producer

**For more information on the music and artists featured in Let's Groove Tonight: Motown & the Philly Sound, use the code to access the Digital Concert Program.**



# Featured Artists



**Serena Reuten** is a German-Canadian conductor currently serving as the Assistant Conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Between 2024-2026 she will also join the third cohort of the Orchestre Métropolitain's Orchestral Conducting Academy mentorship program under the guidance of Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Recent activities include participating in the 2024 Järvi Conducting Academy in Pärnu, Estonia under the mentorship of Paavo Järvi, Neeme Järvi, and Leonid Grin. She has served as guest assistant conductor for the Toronto Symphony and National Arts Centre Orchestra,

as well as guest conductor with the Winnipeg Symphony during their annual Winnipeg New Music Festival. In 2023, she was the inaugural recipient of the Bernhard Gueller Conducting Fellowship with Symphony Nova Scotia as well as one of CBC's 30 under 30 Classical Musicians. Over the past few summers she has also attended several international conducting masterclasses, studying under such conductors as Alexander Shelley and Cristian Măcelaru.

Serena recently completed her graduate studies in orchestral conducting at the Eastman School of Music with Neil Varon. Also active in Rochester's broader musical community, she served as the director of the New Horizons String Ensemble at the Eastman Community Music School and worked with ensembles such as OSSIA, the Eastman Chamber Orchestra, and the Eastman Graduate Composers Sinfonietta. Serena holds degrees in flute performance from the University of Ottawa and University of Montreal, and in her spare time enjoys learning languages and dancing.



**Chester Gregory** is an award-winning Broadway actor, singer, and recording artist, renowned for his extraordinary vocal talent, commanding stage presence, and deep emotional resonance. With starring roles in iconic productions such as *Hairspray*, *Dreamgirls*, *Sister Act*, *Disney's Tarzan*, and *Motown: The Musical*, Chester has become a dynamic force in musical theater and live performances, captivating audiences with a unique energy that resonates across both grand Broadway stages and intimate concert settings.

His breakthrough role as legendary singer Jackie Wilson in *The Jackie Wilson Story* earned him widespread acclaim and a personal standing ovation from Michael Jackson. Known for blending soul, storytelling, and precision, Chester brings authenticity to every performance, whether delivering an electrifying showstopper or a heartfelt ballad.

A recipient of the NAACP Theatre Award, Joseph Jefferson Award, and Black Theatre Alliance Award, Chester has performed across the U.S., gaining recognition not only for his vocal abilities but also for his emotional depth and stage presence. His influence extends beyond live performances through his social media, where he engages millions, sharing his artistic journey, humor, and passion for wellness.

Chester Gregory is available for theatrical performances, symphonic collaborations, special events, and concerts. With an unwavering commitment to excellence, he ensures every performance is an unforgettable experience.

Chester's social media presence reaches millions across platforms, where he shares humor, wellness, and the arts. Stay connected with Chester on social media @chestergregory for updates, and visit [ChesterGregory.com](http://ChesterGregory.com) for more information.

# Featured Artists



**Crystal Monee Hall** is a powerhouse singer/songwriter, actress, and vocal director/arranger/producer whose career spans roles on Broadway (*RENT*), TV (HBO's *High Maintenance* and *Walker*), movies (Disney's *WISH*), and sold-out tours with Ben Platt and Mickey Hart (Grateful Dead). She has collaborated with an array of top artists, from providing backing vocals for Oleta Adams and Patti Austin, to performing with Thomas Rhett at Madison Square Garden and being featured in Cynthia Erivo's PBS special. A recipient of The Lilly Awards' Go Write a Musical award, and the Black

Theatre Coalition's inaugural Composer Fellowship award, Hall's songwriting has been showcased in Kristin Chenoweth's live concerts, and her latest EP *If You Breathe* has been praised by *Billboard Magazine*. Crystal is the composer of the new musical *3 Summers of Lincoln*, which premiered at La Jolla Playhouse in 2025.



Cultivated in diverse backgrounds and raised in the church with his mother as head of the choir, **Jacoby Brik.Liam Williams** was exposed to different genres of music that influenced his current sound. Brik.Liam was born in Petersburg, Virginia, and reared in Germany and Houston, TX. His frequent relocation is a result of his military family upbringing. His early introduction to music helped shape his outlook on music and creativity. Now as an artist, Brik.Liam is in a league of his own, fusing classic soul vibes like the sound of Marvin Gaye with the urban contemporary music fans are accustomed

to today.

The stage name Brik.Liam is a two-part compilation: Brik—a synonym search of his favorite color red and Liam—an abbreviation of his last name. Brik.Liam also has a signature image of a floating, red balloon that helps fans to identify his work in any setting. Brik's perspective on artistry and his contribution to the music industry today can be described as *poetic* and *unconventional*, which adds to his unique appeal.

Brik.Liam's career has evolved to greater success in recent years. He has released albums, performed with some of the industry's brightest talent, and showcased his music across the globe. Brik has performed in places like London and the Republic of Congo. Notably, Brik has toured the United States as an opening performer for Grammy-winning artist PJ Morton during the 2018 More Gumbo Tour and the 2019 Paul Tour. Since then, Brik.Liam also completed a solo tour in Russia and released his EP *What's The Matter, Brik*.

*My goal in creating music and art is to make people feel understood, heard, and to make better choices and find happiness.*

**This printed program is a condensed version.**

For more info about the orchestra, guest artists, and the full program notes, download the

Omaha Symphony app or scan this QR code with your mobile device.  
*Para leer la información en español, utilice nuestro programa digital.*

\*program subject to change

