



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 30, 2018

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CATCO celebrates Harlem Renaissance centennial with Broadway Hit, *Eubie!*, Sept. 7-15

Revue features music of famous jazz/swing musician Eubie Blake

Eubie! took Broadway by storm when it premiered in 1978. This revue features the music of famous jazz/swing musician and composer Eubie Blake with 23 of his best songs, including 12 songs from the landmark 1921 production of *Shuffle Along*, among the first Broadway musicals written and directed by African Americans. Show song titles include *Daddy*, *Low Down Blues*, *I'm Just Simply Full of Jazz*, *My Handyman Ain't Handy No More*, and *Gee, I Wish I Had Someone to Rock Me in the Cradle of Love*.

"CATCO can't wait to share *Eubie!* with central Ohio audiences this fall as part of the centennial celebration of the Harlem Renaissance," said Steven C. Anderson, CATCO producing director and director of *Eubie!* "It's not only a celebration of one the country's most talented composers, lyricists and pianists, but also a showcase of local talent," Anderson said.

The *Eubie!* cast features six local artists, including two members of the Expanding Your Horizons arts incubation program at the Lincoln Theatre, Kenneth Eaddy and Christina Turner. The 4-year-old program supports emerging central Ohio artists. All cast members are new to the CATCO stage.

With its production of *Eubie!*, CATCO joins a diverse central Ohio group of creators, artists, educators and organizations that are presenting programming – visual arts, exhibits, music, written and spoken word, performing arts, film/video and other events – during the next several months to celebrate the Harlem Renaissance and its worldwide cultural arts influence. To learn more about upcoming community events, visit www.cbusharlem100.org

In addition to *Eubie!*, CATCO has unveiled a digital timeline – <http://featured.catco.org/cbusharlem100timeline/> – called "Long Street to Harlem," which highlights significant milestones of the Harlem Renaissance nationwide, as well as those that occurred simultaneously in Columbus' King-Lincoln District. "The timeline was made possible due to the generous support of PNC Arts Alive and will live long after the centennial celebration," Anderson said.

CATCO also is partnering with the Columbus Landmarks to present two additional events to celebrate the Harlem Renaissance. An Opening Night Salon at the c1895 Garden Manor Friday, Sept. 7, and a walking tour of the King-Lincoln District Saturday, Sept. 15. For more details, visit www.catcoistheatre.org; to purchase tickets, call 614.469.0939.

CATCO will perform *Eubie!*, conceived and originally directed on Broadway by Julianne Boyd, and produced on Broadway by Ashton Springer, at the Lincoln Theatre, 769 E. Long St. Tickets

range in price from \$20 to \$40.

Cleveland native **Eaddy** is a company member of Thiossane West African Dance Institute (TWADI). This year, he acted in Onyx Production's *The Colored Section* and Maroon Arts Group's *Inside the Riot*. **Turner** is a longtime stage performer and professional vocalist, as well as a professional model and blogger. Acting credits include Effie in *Dreamgirls*.

They are joined by **Shauna Marie Davis**, who most recently appeared in *Priscilla, Queen of the Dessert* at Evolution Theatre as a Diva; **Ryan Patrick Jones**, a pianist, vocal arranger and choral singer, whose credits include *Hairspray*, *Sister Act*, *Hair* and *Smokey Joe's Café*; Los Angeles-based **Antonio LeRoy King**, whose acting credits include *Company* and *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Phoenix Theatre, and *The Little Mermaid*, *Witness Uganda* and *Stuart Little* at the Indiana Repertory Theatre; **Alex Landexter**, whose acting credits include *The Fantasticks*, *Seussical*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Addams Family*, *Side Show* and *Rent*; and **Gabrielle Solange**, a singer/songwriter/producer, who has shared her music with international audiences under Sony Records and now creates new music and performs locally while running her musician vocal coaching business.

Lorii Williams-Wallace will serve as choreographer for *Eubie!* She trained or danced with Imuzi Ikaya, Toledo Ballet, Toledo Performing Arts Company, Revatio Rice & Company and Bottom of the Bucket Dancers. After studying dance therapy at the University of Toledo, and training with the late Geraldine Blunden of Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, she moved and danced with The Seattle/Tacoma Performing Arts Company. During the last 10 years, she has successfully worked with more than 90 Ohio churches, schools, companies, and organizations creating numerous community-wide workshops and arts programs. She is currently the assistant artistic director and dance teacher at APlus Arts Academy and creative director of Tapestry PAC.

Anderson's directing credits include plays as diverse as the central Ohio premiere and first non-touring production in Ohio of *Fun Home*, *Aspects of Love*, *Educating Rita*, world premiere of *Henry Ford's Model E, I Do! I Do!*, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, *An Act of God*, *Mothers and Sons*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *The Elephant Man*, *Avenue Q*, and the highly acclaimed production of Doug Wright's *I Am My Own Wife*. He has also directed *Candide* and *Hair* at The Ohio State University Theatre Department; *Love! Velour! Compassion!* and *The Taste of Sunrise* at CATCO; *Big River* and *Pippin* at Actors Theatre; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at New Harmony Theatre; and *Greater Tuna*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Assassins* at the former Players Theatre Columbus where he served as Associate Producing Director.

Ticket prices are Wednesdays, \$20; Thursdays, \$30; Sunday, \$35; and Fridays and Saturdays, \$40. Student tickets can be purchased for \$15 for any performance based on availability and valid I.D. All tickets can be purchased at the box office at 39 E. State St. next to the Ohio theatre, by calling 614.469.0939, visiting ticketmaster.com or calling or visiting any central Ohio Ticketmaster location.

Performances are in the Lincoln Theatre, 769 E. Long St.

Eubie! was made possible by PNC Arts Alive and Nationwide; CATCO also would like to thank Donna and Larry James for their support of this production.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' 34th season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education

excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Helen E. Sandfort Arts-in-Education and Florence E.K. Hurd Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO and CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library; and media sponsor is WOSU public media. CATCO is Kids' presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit catcoistheatre.org.

CATCO's remaining shows for the 2018-19 season are:

- ***Breaking The Code***
Co-Production with Evolution Theatre Company
By Hugh Whitemore
Oct. 24.-Nov. 11, 2018
Van Fleet Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***The Christmas Schooner***
Co-Production with CATCO is Kids
Book by John Reeger, music and lyrics by Julie Shannon
Nov. 28-Dec. 16, 2018
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
- ***Every Brilliant Thing***
By Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe
Jan. 23-Feb. 10, 2019
Studio Two, Riffe Center
77 S. High St.
- ***Life Sucks.***
By Aaron Posner
Adapted (sort of) from Anton Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*
March 20-April 7, 2019
Studio One, Riffe Center
77 S. High St.
- ***Holmes and Watson***
By Jeffrey Hatcher
May 29-June 16, 2019
Van Fleet Theatre, CPAC

CATCO is Kids remaining shows for the 2018-19 season are:

- ***The Lion King Kids***

Music and lyrics by Tim Rice and Elton John
Additional music and lyrics by Will Van Dyke, Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin
and Hans Zimmer
Book by Roger Allers and Irene Mecchi
Nov. 10-11, 2018
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.

- ***The Christmas Schooner***
Co-Production with CATCO
Book by John Reeger, music and lyrics by Julie Shannon
Nov. 28-Dec. 16, 2018
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Sunshine***
Book by Jennifer Draganski and Sean Hartley
Lyrics by John O'Neil and Sean Hartley
Music by John O'Neil
Based on the book by Ludwig Bemelmans
Jan. 11-20, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Babe The Sheep Pig***
By David Wood
Based on the book by Dick King-Smith
March 1-10, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Seussical Kids***
Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty
Music by Stephen Flaherty, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
March 23-24, 2019
Shedd Theatre, CPAC
549 Franklin Ave.
- ***Haroun and the Sea of Stories***
Co-production with Columbus School for Girls
Adapted by David Tushingham and Tim Supple
Based on the book by Salman Rushdie
May 3-12, 2019
Agnes Jeffrey Shedd Theater, Columbus School for Girls
56 S. Columbus Ave.

About CATCO

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit

catcoistheatre.org. Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

CATCO Mission Statement

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.