



Quick Reference

Cabaret Event

The Acoustic Living Room
Songs & Stories with
Kathy Mattea feat. Bill Cooley

Date

Sat, Feb 11, 8 pm

Place

Jorgensen Center
for the Performing Arts
2132 Hillside Road
UConn campus, Storrs, CT

Tickets

\$45/40, \$35, \$30

Box Office

860.486.4226
Mon–Fri, 10 am–5 pm

The Box Office window is also
open for walk-up ticket sales
90 minutes before showtime.

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACT:

Leann Sanders
Marketing Coordinator
Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts
860-486-5795
leann.sanders@uconn.edu

JORGENSEN CABARET TO HOST *THE ACOUSTIC LIVING ROOM: SONGS AND STORIES WITH KATHY MATTEA* FEATURING BILLY COOLEY

Sat, Feb 11, 2017, 8 pm / Cabaret Doors Open at 7 pm

Grammy Award-winning country recording artist Kathy Mattea and her longtime friend and collaborator, Nashville guitarist Bill Cooley, will invite audience members into *The Acoustic Living Room* when they take the stage at UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday evening, February 11th to share songs and stories dear to their hearts. The duo will perform acoustic arrangements of many of Mattea's chart-topping classics including "Eighteen Wheels and a Dozen Roses" and her Grammy-winning "Where've You Been?", as well as an eclectic handful of tunes from her extensive song catalog plus a sprinkling of brand new material. The intimate evening of music, which will include plenty of audience interaction, will take place in Jorgensen's cozy, candle-lit cabaret setting where concertgoers can enjoy beverages, sandwiches, and deserts from a cash bar. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Performance at 8:00 pm.

Mattea says that for about six months, she and Cooley, her guitar player for 26 years and one of Nashville's top sidemen, sat in her living room and worked on the songs that would eventually become part of *The Acoustic Living Room* tour.

"We had enough respect for this music to spend the time with it and dig into it," says Mattea. "We pushed the edges of our work, but I needed people to tell me if it was any good, so we started testing the waters and people seemed to really enjoy it and we really enjoyed it."

Mattea says that the *Acoustic Living Room* is different night-to-night, and, in addition to straight folk music, the show features a bit of blues and jazz plus "a few little surprises" along with lots of interaction with the audience.

"This tour is inviting the audience into the process of songs and stories," says Mattea. "It's kind of fun to surprise an audience and myself. I think the audience appreciates the honesty. Sometimes there's a magic in the imperfection, because at the end of the day I think people want something real."

Kathy Mattea's 18 albums are woven through with bluegrass, gospel, and Celtic influences, and have garnered multiple CMA (Country Music Association), ACM (Academy of Country Music), and Grammy Awards. A genuine storyteller, she draws inspiration from her Appalachian roots. After a decades-long string of country-pop releases, in 2008 the artist caught critics off guard by recording an album of old-timey Appalachian mining songs called *Coal*. Her latest album, *Calling Me Home*, was penned as a love letter to her home state of West Virginia and delves even deeper into her Appalachian heritage.

For more information about the artists and the Acoustic Living Room tour please visit www.mattea.com.

Jorgensen was voted Best College or University Performing Arts Center in the Hartford Courant's CTNow, as well as Connecticut Magazine's Best of Performing Arts Venues

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KATHY MATTEA & BILL COOLEY, continued

(College) for 2016. Established in December of 1955, Jorgensen has grown to become the largest college-based presenting program in New England. Each season Jorgensen enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, and area residents with 30 to 35 diverse performances from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming, and contemporary entertainment. Dedicated to University of Connecticut president Albert N. Jorgensen, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts continues to follow his vision of the University as the state's educational and cultural leader.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets are available now online. Prices are: Floor Table seats - \$45; Floor Riser Seats - \$40; Mezzanine - \$35; Balcony - \$30; Students & Youth Under 18 - All seats \$20.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events, or order online at jorgensen.uconn.edu. Convenient \$5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is available in Lots 9, F, and L. For a detailed parking map, go to park.uconn.edu.

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