



KEB' MO' BAND BRINGS BLUES TO JORGENSEN CABARET

FRI, NOV 18, 2016 AT 8 PM / CABARET DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM

Contemporary blues artist and three-time Grammy winner Keb' Mo' brings his folksy storytelling skills, catchy guitar licks, and rich, soulful vocals to UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on Friday evening, November 18 for a performance of songs from his live double album, *Keb' Mo' Live -That Hot Pink Blues Album*, along with other selections from the song catalog that has made him an industry icon. The show will take place in Jorgensen's intimate candle-lit cabaret setting, where audience members can expect plenty of playful interaction with the award-winning musician and his band - a signature of his live concert experience. Sandwiches, deserts, alcohol, and other beverages will be available from a cash bar when Cabaret doors open at 7:00 pm. Performance begins at 8:00 pm.

"When people ask about my musical influences, I tell them I grew up in the 60s in Compton, and I listened to groups like The Drifters, Temptations, and all the old school stuff. But I also liked Jimmy Hendrix, The Beatles, Led Zepplin, and Dylan, along with Marvin Gaye and Smokey Robinson. And, for as long as I can remember, B.B. King was always in the background. Later, when I toured with Papa John Creach, I became exposed to rock and jazz. So I have this eclectic mix of music," says Keb' Mo'.

After Papa John Creach died, Keb' Mo' says he started listening to country music.

"From around '76 to '78 it was all country. I just immersed myself in country music because I thought the writing was so clever," says Keb' Mo'. "I thought if I could put together the funk that I know and the groove that I know, and then put those country lyrics together with it, that would be cool. So I started attempting to do that and I didn't really find my identity until the early 80s when I encountered the blues. When I added the blues to it I started to find my footing."

Asked to describe which musical genre the Keb' Mo' sound fits into, the talented singer/guitarist/songwriter smiles and says:

"I'm too heavy for the blues, I'm too bluesy for jazz, I'm too funky for folk, and I'm too city for country. So I am what I am."

Keb' Mo' s career took off in 1994 with the self-titled release under his newly-coined "Keb' Mo'" moniker, showing he was a musical force to be reckoned with. During a run of 11 album releases, he earned 3 Grammy Awards and a producer/engineer/artist Grammy Certificate for his track on the 2001 Country Album of the Year, *Timeless: Hank Williams Tribute*.

Keb' Mo' has received 8 additional Grammy nominations including Country Song of the Year for "I Hope," co-written with The Dixie Chicks, and 3 for his 2014 release, *BLUESAmericana* including Americana Album of the Year. Keb' Mo' has also been awarded 11 Blues Foundation Awards and 6 BMI Awards, 5 of which are from his theme song for the hit television show, *Mike and Molly*. The list of artist collaborations comprises a veritable who's who in the music

Quick Reference

Cabaret Event
Keb' Mo' Band

Date
Fri, Nov 18, 8:00 pm

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

Tickets
\$30-\$45

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:
Christina Capehart
Publicist
The PR Group
727-447-4992 x210
christina.capehart@theprgroup.com

Quick Reference

Cabaret Event

Keb' Mo' Band

Date

Fri, Nov 18, 8:00 pm

Place

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

Tickets

\$30-\$45

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.

KEB' MO' BAND, continued

industry and includes Bonnie Raitt, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, Jackson Browne, Natalie Cole, Lyle Lovett, Melissa Manchester, Timothy B. Schmit, Marcus Miller and many more. His songs have been recorded by B.B. King, Joe Cocker, Buddy Guy, Solomon Burke, Robert Palmer and Zac Brown Band.

This year 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 (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.

#