

LINCOLN
CENTER
presents

American Songbook

February 6, 2008

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THE INCOMPARABLE K.D. LANG on February 26, 27, 28
CHRISTINE EBERSOLE AND BILLY STRITCH on February 29
PATTI SMITH closes series on March 1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Three of the most indelible female voices in American music close out the final week of Lincoln Center's *American Songbook* series' 2008 season.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, February 26, 27 and 28, 8:30 pm: **k.d. lang** could have the most extravagantly



praised voice performing today. Her duets with Tony Bennett are legendary, and she is a multiple Grammy Award winner for her albums *Shadowland*, *Ingenue*, and *A Wonderful World* (with Bennett). Originally a country star in her native Canada, lang's impeccable musical taste and soaring vocals lend themselves to an astonishing array of material, from Nashville tearjerkers to torch songs to cow-punk tunes to sultry, grown-up pop. Her newest album, *Watershed* – eleven new songs written and produced by lang – shows her at the very top of her game.

Friday, February 29, 2008, 8:30 and 10:30 pm: The name **CHRISTINE EBERSOLE** has come to define Broadway star. This actress and singer won raves and standing ovations, along with the 2007 Tony Award for Best Leading Actress in a Musical, for her haunting portrayal of "Big Edie" and "Little Edie" Beale in *Grey Gardens*. She previously won the Tony Award for her role in the 2001 revival of *42nd Street*, and has captivated audiences with her roles in *Steel Magnolias*, *The Best Man*, and *Dinner at Eight*. Ebersole also has had an active acting career in film and television, but it is



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Broadway that captures her heart and sets free her glorious voice. With Music Director **BILLY STRITCH**, Ebersole brings to *American Songbook* a new show guaranteed to thrill.

Saturday, March 1, 2008, 8:30 pm: Singer, songwriter and poet **PATTI SMITH** defies categorization and convention.



Universally regarded as one of rock and roll's most influential musicians, her debut album *Horses* in 1975 fused rock with proto-punk and spoken poetry and is considered one of rock's greatest debuts. In the years since Smith has maintained her reputation for innovation and an electrifying performance style, and in 2005 she was awarded the rank of Commandeur of Arts and Letters from the French Ministry of Culture and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007. Her *Songbook* show will be a tribute to the women who inspired her as a young woman: her mother, the singers Chris Connor and June Christy, and others. As currently planned, it will include standards, original songs and poetry.

American Songbook is presented in the spectacular Allen Room of Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center. The Allen Room possesses one of New York's greatest settings – a stunning vista of Central Park and the Manhattan skyline provides an evocative backdrop for the performers.

Lincoln Center's *American Songbook* 2008 – Week Four
February 26 – March 1, 2008
At the Allen Room, Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center
Broadway at 60th Street

Tuesday, February 26; Wednesday, February 27; Thursday, February 28, 2008 at 8:30 pm

k.d. lang, with opening act Dustin O'Halloran

Tickets: \$50, 75, 100, 150

Friday, February 29, 2008 at 8:30 and 10:30 pm

Christine Ebersole and Billy Stritch

Tickets: \$45, 60, 75, 90

Saturday, March 1, 2008 at 8:30 pm

Patti Smith

Tickets: \$45, 60, 75, 90

PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE AT: www.LincolnCenter.org/aboutLC/media_home.asp

Since it was launched in 1998, *American Songbook* has been dedicated to celebrating the extraordinary achievements of the popular American songwriter from the turn of the 20th century to the present day. Spanning all styles and genres from Tin Pan Alley and Broadway to the eclecticism of today's songwriters working in pop, cabaret, rock, folk and country, *American Songbook* traces the history and charts the course of the American song from its past and current forms to its future direction.

Artists who have appeared on the *American Songbook* series include Andy Bey, Betty Buckley, Ann Hampton Callaway, Calexico, Liz Callaway, Neko Case, Rosanne Cash, Michael Cerveris, Kristin Chenoweth, Peter Cincotti, Eric Comstock, Victoria Clark, Mos Def, Sutton Foster, Mary Cleere Haran, Darius de Haas, Fred Hersch, Jane Krakowski, Judy Kuhn, LaChanze, Rebecca Luker, Patti LuPone, Nellie McKay, Marin Mazzie and Jason Danielely, Audra McDonald, Jane Monheit, Megan Mullally, Tonya Pinkins, John Pizzarelli, Steve Ross, Stephin Merritt with The Magnetic Fields, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Bernadette Peters, Sufjan Stevens, Elaine Stritch, The Fountains of Wayne, They Might Be Giants, Rhonda Vincent and the Rage, Deborah Voigt, Lillias White, and Dar Williams. The series has also presented concerts highlighting the music of composers and lyricists such as Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, Harold Arlen, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, Jason Robert Brown, William Bolcom and Arnold Weinstein, John Bucchino, Michael John LaChiusa, Cy Coleman, Ricky Ian Gordon, Adam Guettel, Frank Loesser, Andy Razaf, Richard Rodgers, Arthur Schwartz, Duncan Sheik, Stephen Sondheim, Stew, Billy Strayhorn, Jule Styne, Jimmy Van Heusen, and David Zippel.

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TICKETS can be purchased online at Lincoln Center's website LincolnCenter.org, via CenterCharge at 212-721-6500, at the Avery Fisher Hall Box Office, or at the Frederick P. Rose Hall Box Office.