Artis—Naples

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic

Live in Central Park [Revisited]:
James Taylor
Wednesday, March 11, 2020 · 6pm and 8:30pm
Daniels Pavilion

Lee Lessack
Johnny Rodgers
Joe Ravo
Julie Jacobs
Paul Shewchuck

On July 31, 1979, James Taylor performed in front of 250,000 fans in Manhattan’s Central Park. Relive that experience with a concert that pays homage to the unique artistry and indelible music that was celebrated on that monumental night.

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.
Johnny Rodgers is an internationally celebrated singer-songwriter, pianist, Broadway veteran and recording artist who is described by Stephen Holden of *The New York Times* as an entertainer “who has show business in his bones” with “fused elements of Billy Joel, Peter Allen and Johnny Mercer.”

As an ambassador of American Music, Rodgers dazzles audiences with his Americana mélange of original songs and classic favorites. He tours for the U.S. State Department to places such as the Middle East, North Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific islands. Rodgers has toured Russia and performed with the Moscow Symphony Orchestra, with Igor Butman and his jazz orchestra, for the U.S. Embassy Independence Day Celebration, and at the Grodno Jazz Festival in Belarus.

Rodgers has been music director and accompanist for Liza Minnelli performances and tours and starred in and wrote the song *I Would Never Leave You* for Minnelli’s Tony Award-winning *Liza’s at the Palace*, filmed and released by PBS. Rodgers has earned Nightlife, Bistro and MAC awards for his critically lauded performances at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel, Feinstein’s at Loews Regency and other premiere clubs. His songwriting has been recognized with Billboard and ASCAP Foundation awards.

Lee Lessack’s graceful, lyric baritone vocals and sophisticated and engaging persona have made him a shining star on the international concert scene. *Billboard Magazine* calls his singing “vocal romanticism of a high order.”

He has toured extensively in the United States and Europe and has released eight recordings since 1995, the latest being *Live in Central Park [Revisited]: Simon and Garfunkel* with Johnny Rodgers. His repertoire includes favorites from the classic and new Great American Songbook, as well as French artists such as Charles Aznavour and Édith Piaf. In 2005, he released the album *In Good Company* to great acclaim. Intimate and impeccably produced, the album features outstanding duets with such music notables as Michael Feinstein, Maureen McGovern, Amanda McBroom, Ann Hampton Callaway and Stephen Schwartz. *In Good Company* earned a MAC Award and Bistro Award for Best Recording of the Year.

In 1996, Lessack founded LML Music, which now has a catalog of over 100 of the country’s top live recording artists and performers. In 2008, he founded LML Music Presents, representing performers for concert bookings internationally. His clients include theater icon Chita Rivera as well as songwriter Amanda McBroom and jazz bird Jane Monheit.
An American in Paris
In Concert

Naples Philharmonic
Jack Everly, principal pops conductor

Experience the 1951 classic Oscar-winning film starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron on the big screen as the Naples Philharmonic plays Gershwin’s timeless music live.

Tuesday-Friday, March 17-20 · 8pm
Saturday, March 21 · 2pm and 8pm
Hayes Hall

Buy tickets now: artisnaples.org · 239-597-1900
Distinguished by their rich harmonies, this gifted three-man band harkens back to super-groups like The Eagles and Simon & Garfunkel. The Sweet Remains starred in NIFF 2019’s musical comedy/drama *The Independents*, the story of three struggling singer-songwriters whose fateful meeting rekindles each musician’s dreams of success.

**The Sweet Remains**  
**Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11 · 6pm**  
Daniels Pavilion

*The Independents* film screening  
**Thursday, April 9 · 6pm**  
Daniels Pavilion

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