



Pacific Symphony Pops underwritten by
 the Sharon and Tom Malloy Family

MICHAEL CAVANAUGH PERFORMS THE MUSIC OF ELTON JOHN

Friday, Apr. 19, 2024 @ 8 p.m.
 Saturday, Apr. 20, 2024 @ 8 p.m.

Richard Kaufman, conductor
 Michael Cavanaugh, vocalist
 Whitney Claire Kaufman, vocalist
 Nelson Kole, piano
 Bernie Dresel, drum set
 Pacific Symphony

We are pleased to welcome and congratulate
Maestro Al Spector, who placed the winning bid at our
 Annual Gala Live Auction to conduct Pacific Symphony
 performing Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever* on
 Saturday, April 20th.

PROGRAM

MANCINI

March from
The Great Waldo Pepper

Mr. Lucky Theme

"Charade"

Whitney Claire Kaufman, vocals

"Crazy World" from
Victor Victoria

Whitney Claire Kaufman, vocals

The Pink Panther

SOUSA

Stars & Stripes Forever
 (April 20 only)
 Al Spector, conductor

MANCINI

Arr. Pat Williams

"Two for the Road"

Whitney Claire Kaufman, vocals

"Moon River" Closing from
Breakfast at Tiffany's

Whitney Claire Kaufman, vocals

"Sons of Italy" from
Beaver Valley '37 Suite

—INTERMISSION—

The Music of Elton John
 Starring Michael Cavanaugh

Selections to be
 Announced from the Stage



ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

Richard Kaufman has devoted much of his musical life to conducting and supervising music for film and television productions, as well as conducting film and classical music in concert and on recordings.



He is in his 32nd season with Pacific Symphony where he was recently given the permanent title of Principal Pops Conductor Laureate. Kaufman is in his 19th season with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the concert film series, CSO at the Movies. He holds the permanent title of Pops Conductor Laureate with the Dallas Symphony.

Kaufman regularly appears as a guest conductor with orchestras throughout the world, conducting a wide variety of musical genres, and often conducts entire film scores live to film. The 2023-24 concert season includes return engagements with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (two appearances), The Cleveland Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony, Edmonton Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra in Dublin, The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (in concert and recording). He will also make his conducting debut with the Tonkünstler Orchestra in Austria.

Kaufman received the 1993 GRAMMY® Award in the Best Pop Instrumental Performance category, and has recorded with the London, Nuremberg, and New Zealand Symphony Orchestras, and with the Brandenburg Philharmonic Potsdam. He has conducted for a who's-who of performers including Andy Williams, Nanette Fabray, the Beach Boys, and Amy Grant.

Kaufman joined the music department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, and for almost two decades, supervised music for all of MGM's television and animation projects, receiving Emmy nominations for the animated series *The Pink Panther* and *All Dogs Go to Heaven*. As a studio violinist, he played violin on numerous film scores including *Jaws*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Saturday Night Fever*, and in a moment of desperation, *Animal House*. Kaufman has also coached various actors in musical roles, including Jack Nicholson, Dudley Moore, and Tom Hanks.

As a studio violinist, Kaufman performed on numerous film and television scores, and recorded and performed with artists including John Denver, Andy Williams, Burt Bacharach, the Carpenters, Ray Charles, and Frank Sinatra.

Born in Los Angeles, Richard Kaufman began violin studies at age seven, was a member of the Peter Meremblum California Junior Symphony, the YMF Debut Orchestra, and the Fellowship program at Tanglewood. A graduate of California State University, Northridge, Kaufman received the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University. He also composed the Alma Mater and Fight Song for CSUN.

His wife, Gayle, is a former dancer-actress in film, television, and on Broadway, and his daughter, Whitney, is a successful singer and actress.

Richard Kaufman is proud to be represented by Opus 3 Artists.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Michael Cavanaugh is the new voice of the American Rock & Roll Songbook and a charismatic performer and musician made famous for his piano/lead vocals in the Broadway musical *Movin' Out*.

Handpicked by Billy Joel to star in *Movin' Out*, Cavanaugh evokes a style rivaling the Piano Man. He appeared in the show for three years with over 1,200 performances and received multiple accolades. The show culminated in 2003 with both GRAMMY® and Tony award nominations.

Cavanaugh began playing at age seven, when his parents bought their first piano. Encouraged by family and friends, and inspired by his hero Billy Joel, Michael formed his first band at age 10 and began playing local functions, fine-tuning the craft that would become his chosen career. His first full-time gig as a musician was an extended engagement in Orlando, Florida, at a piano bar called Blazing Pianos. In January of 1999, Michael received an offer that would unknowingly change his life: an opportunity to play Las Vegas at the famed New York, New York Hotel and Casino. It was there that Billy Joel spotted Michael and joined him on stage one fateful night of February 2001. It only took two songs before Billy Joel was convinced that he had found his new Piano Man: Michael Cavanaugh. Cavanaugh closed up shop at New York, New York and moved to New York City to work alongside Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp to shape the Broadway Musical that would be called *Movin' Out*. In the lead role, he received both Tony and Grammy nominations.

With the close of *Movin' Out* at the end of 2005, Cavanaugh began touring in his own right, creating a show that reinterprets the modern pop/rock songbook. He soon became one of the hottest artists in the private events market, and he continues to perform worldwide for company and charity events as well as sporting events including many PGA tour events, the SuperBowl, and the Indy 500. His interpretation of the modern rock/pop songbook led to Billboard calling him "The New Voice of the American Rock and Roll Songbook," and he was recognized by Reuters as "Entertainer of the Year" for the private events market.

It wasn't long before symphony orchestras discovered Cavanaugh's talents and audience appeal. He accepted his first orchestral booking, *Michael Cavanaugh—The Songs of Billy Joel and More*, which debuted in April 2008 with the Indianapolis Symphony and continues to tour today. In October 2008, he signed with Warner/ADA to distribute his first CD, *In Color*. In June 2010, he debuted his second symphony show in the Generations of Rock series titled *Michael Cavanaugh: The Songs of Elton John and More* and then debuted his third symphony



show, *Singers and Songwriters: the Music of Paul Simon, Neil Diamond, and James Taylor*, in 2012. In 2015, he debuted his fourth symphony show: *Rockin' Christmas with the Pops*. He continues to tour all four symphony productions along with performing with his band in performing arts centers and other public venues.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Whitney Claire Kaufman made her Symphony debut at age seven singing in the children's chorus in the West Coast premiere of music from John William's *Home Alone* with Pacific Symphony.



After receiving a B.F.A. in theatre performance from Chapman University, she spent two years with the North American Tour of the Broadway smash-hit *Mamma Mia!* Her performance as Sophie garnered this review from the *Boston Globe*: "With her pure, clear voice, gentle or forceful as called for, but always beautifully placed – she really deserves to vault straight to Broadway. Plus, her acting is as compelling as her singing."

She has performed as principal guest soloist with more than 30 symphony orchestras spanning the globe including the Malaysian Philharmonic in Kuala Lumpur, the Calgary Philharmonic, the Atlanta Symphony, the Blossom Festival Orchestra, the Florida Orchestra, the Dallas Symphony, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in Australia, and the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center. She has spent several seasons touring with "Disney in Concert" bringing the magical music of the films of Walt Disney to audiences all over the world, and was chosen to sing the world concert premiere of a deleted song from *Mary Poppins* in the Sherman Brothers tribute concert "A Spoonful of Sherman" put on by the Golden State Pops Orchestra.

Kaufman's favorite theatrical appearances include *Cabaret*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Marisol*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, and The Los Angeles Theatre Ensembles' original production of *Wounded* that was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. TV credits include *General Hospital* and the hit ABC series *Modern Family*. As both a singer and voice-over performer in film and television, she has been heard on productions including *That Championship Season*, *The Secret of NiMH 2*, and two MGM animated series: *All Dogs Go to Heaven* and *Noddy*. She can be heard on the GRAMMY®-nominated recordings of songs written by Oscar-winning composer Dimitri Tiomkin.