

PSO POPS!
Presents
The Broadway Concert
Featuring
Barbara Cook

In a rare Princeton engagement accompanied by the Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Lee Musiker, *conductor, piano*

Saturday, February 7, 2009, 8:00 pm
Richardson Auditorium, Princeton, NJ

Tickets: \$90, 70, 45, 25
Information: (609) 497-0020

Princeton, NJ, January 19, 2009 ... Saturday, February 7th at 8:00 pm Broadway's legendary lyric soprano Barbara Cook will light up the stage at Richardson Auditorium in a rare Princeton engagement accompanied by the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, led by the brilliant pianist, arranger, and conductor Lee Musiker. The concert will include works by Bernstein, Hammerstein, Rodgers, and Sondheim, featuring favorites from *South Pacific*, *Showboat*, *Into the Woods*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, and more. A beloved singer considered "Broadway's favorite ingénue" during the heyday of the Broadway musical, Barbara Cook has been dazzling audiences throughout her second career as a concert and cabaret artist. With a voice remarkably unchanged after a career of more than five decades, Ms. Cook, with her "silvery soprano, purity of tone, and warm presence" has attracted a devoted following and the admiration of her peers and colleagues.

A longtime favorite at New York's Café Carlyle, Barbara Cook has made multiple solo appearances at Carnegie Hall, and performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Albert Hall in London. Her growing list of honors includes the Tony, Grammy, Drama Desk and New York Drama Critics Circle Awards, her citation as a Living New York Landmark and her induction into the Theatre Hall of Fame. In 2006 New York's Metropolitan Opera Company presented Ms. Cook in a solo concert debut, making her the first female pop singer to be presented by the MET in the company's 123-year history. In 2007, Miss Cook achieved yet

another career high when she celebrated her 80th birthday in concert with the New York Philharmonic at Avery Fisher Hall. Due to popular demand two encore performances of the critically acclaimed concert played to sold-out houses.

Described as “Ageless and amazing” by the *New York Times*, Barbara Cook’s stature as a singer is summed up beautifully in a review by Sheridan Morley of *The Spectator* and *The International Herald Tribune*: “I have been lucky enough to have been hanging around the New York and London cabaret world for about as long as Barbara Cook has, but I have only ever in my life heard two singers who could match her lyric for lyric: one was Mabel Mercer and the other was Judy Garland.” And in March, 2004, Stephen Holden of the *New York Times* wrote: “There may be no more compelling exemplar of artful vocal simplicity than that of Barbara Cook who conveys wisdom and compassion through singing. It’s inspiring to observe how a mingling of desire, memory and hard-won joy with a voice that won’t quit can coalesce into the equivalent of musical wisdom.”

This special pops concert by the Princeton Symphony Orchestra is presented in association with Mr. and Mrs. William Scheide, Nina Wainwright and Thomas Sowanick, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Paneyko, Mr. and Mrs. John Wellemeyer, and Mr. and Mrs. B. Thomas Byrne. The PSO is grateful for their sponsorship.

Lee Musiker, *pianist, conductor*

Pianist, conductor, music director, arranger, and orchestrator **LEE MUSIKER** brings a wealth of experience to the podium through his association with the premiere artists in the jazz, classical, Broadway, and pop genres.

A Steinway Artist, he has performed with the New York Philharmonic, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theater, New York Pops, Boston Pops, Hollywood Bowl, and the London Symphony Orchestra. As a solo pianist and with the Lee Musiker Trio, he has performed in the United States and Europe where critics have called him “absolutely brilliant...masterful and exciting...Lee accompanies with ineffable grace and sensitivity...a remarkably empathetic and inventive virtuoso making him one of the most in demand collaborators today.”

A native New Yorker and fourth generation musician, Mr. Musiker received degrees from the Manhattan School of Music, the Eastman School of Music, and further studies at The Juilliard School. For the past twenty-five years, Mr. Musiker has enjoyed a rich and diverse musical life collaborating with vocalists Tony Bennett, Mel Torme, Barbara Cook, Maureen McGovern, Audra McDonald, Kristin Chenoweth, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Joel Grey, Rita Moreno, Renee Fleming, Dawn Upshaw, Kathleen Battle, Denyce Graves, Nathan Gunn, Sylvia McNair, Julia Migenes, Ann Hampton Calloway, Natalie Cole, Diana Krall, k.d Lang, Michael Bubl , Paul McCartney, Billy Joel, Norah Jones, Cyndi Lauper, Chaka Khan, and Jewel (for which he received a Platinum album). He has also worked with instrumentalists Buddy Rich, Doc Severinson, Wynton Marsalis, Chris Botti, John Pizzarelli, Bob Brookmeyer, Bob Mintzer, and Joshua Bell.

Since 2001, Mr. Musiker has been touring with the legendary Tony Bennett, and most recently, was the music director/pianist for the multiple Grammy and Emmy Award-winning album and television special *Tony Bennett: Duets—An American Classic*.

Ticket Information

Tickets are available by calling the PSO at 609-497-0020. Special group sales pricing for the Broadway Concert is available from the PSO office. Complete season information can be found on PSO's website, www.princetonsymphony.org. Tickets can also be purchased through the Richardson Auditorium box office by calling 609-258-5000. Richardson Auditorium is wheelchair accessible. Large print programs are available.

##