

SPOTLIGHT ON STAGE

The Broward Center becomes a wonderland of fantasy as 'Cirque Dreams Holidayze' lights up the stage

Since 1993, the Cirque Dreams performances have entertained more than 50 million people all over the world under the artistic direction of founder Neil Goldberg. Cirque Dreams shows have appeared in theatres, casinos, theme parks and on Broadway. Neil Goldberg has garnered international acclaim from every newspaper, TV show and the morning Fox News Program, "Fox & Friends," among so many others. The Neil Goldberg Foundation was established in 2009 to enrich the lives and careers of talented young people with performance opportunities.

Cirque Dreams, an American theatrical production company, brings its entertainment brand to Fort Lauderdale for eight delicious, charming, sparkling and talent galore performances. The Broadway hit is so full of energy, stuffed with a great deal of holiday cheer and unbelievable acts. Neil Goldberg, creator of the Broadway hit presents the holiday season show with an international cast of more than 30 multi-talented and brilliantly costumed artists who come to life and perform astonishing, unbelievable feats. Experiences include: gingerbread men who flip in mid air while toy soldiers march on thin wires, snowmen perform daring balancing acts while dancing puppets and reindeer soar high above a scene of holiday wonderment. An original music score with no shortage of holiday favorites and a setting of gigantic gifts, colossal candy canes and a wonderland spectacle to be enjoyed by every child and adult. Everyone of the circus acts are a pleasure to watch. Even the Christmas ornaments come to life.

Tickets priced from \$29.25 to \$69.25 are



ELEANOR HANNAN

now on sale for this outstanding extravaganza at the box office. Opening December 27, 2011 through January 1, 2012. Evening performances are Tuesday to Friday at 8 p.m. Saturdays at 7 p.m. Matinees are Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. The Broward Center is located at 201 Southwest 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call: (954) 462-0222.

TONY AWARD MUSICAL "MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET" MAKES MIAMI PREMIERE AT ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER:

The International smash hit musical "Million Dollar Quartet" begins on December 4, 1956 when an auspicious twist of fate brings Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley together. Sam Phillips, the "Father of Rock N' Roll" who was responsible for launching the careers of each icon, brought the four legendary musicians together at the Sun Records storefront studio in Memphis, Tennessee for the first and only time. The result of that evening became known as one of the greatest Rock N' Roll jam sessions in history. The show features a songbook that naturally includes most of the favorite chart toppers such as: "Blue Suede Shoes," "Folsom Prison Blues," "Great Balls of Fire," "Hound Dog" in addition to many country songs and spirituals like: "Peace in the Val-



"Million Dollar Quartet."

ley and "Down by the Riverside" at the main song of the play written by Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux and directed by Eric Schaeffer that is full of explosive vitality is the theme song: "Million Dollar Quartet."

Portraying these icons are Derek Keeling as Johnny Cash, Cody Slaughter as Elvis Presley, Martin Kaye as Jerry Lee Lewis, Lee Ferris as Carl Perkins and Kelly Lamont as Dyanne. Christopher Ryan Grant will play the "Father of Rock N' Roll," Sam Phillips and eight musicians include the entire company. Any music loving audience will enjoy "Million Dollar Quartet" for the same reasons they've been rushing to see "Jersey Boys," making this musical as equally entertaining.

Tickets start at \$25 and up at the Arsht Center box office, located at 1300 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami. Performances run from December 17 2011 to January 1, 2012. For all additional information and show times, call: (305) 949-6722 Or visit the web-

site on-line at: www.arshtcenter.org.

LAWRENCE BRANCHETTI KNOWN AS THE GOLDEN VOICE AND LONG TIME RESIDENT OF MIAMI SHORES RECEIVES U.S. COMMERCE AWARD FOR ENTERTAINMENT: Lawrence Branchetti, born and

raised in Pittsburgh, has taken on the responsibility to carry on the memory of Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin's music. He has appeared on local and international TV shows and has been included as a regular with the Denny Farrell Big Band Show from Chicago. Lawrence is an American entertainer who also sings

the classic songs of Gershwin, Cole Porter, Henry Mancini, Johnny Mercer and many other composers. When he performs, he transmits rich images of harmony, great warmth and a constant rapport with his audience, a gift capable of a truly great artist. He is now heard on 87 radio stations throughout the United States.

For many years Branchetti has given his time and talent to support many fundraising events for various charities. He is truly a great American who deserves this prestigious award for his efforts in helping to bring some happiness to those in need. For booking information, contact Larry by email at: lizprod@aol.com.

"See You at the Theatre"
Contact Eleanor at ESuntimes@aol.com

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