

## Oklahoma City Philharmonic opens 2011-12 pops series with 'Mysterioso'

BY RICK ROGERS rrogers@opubco.com 0  
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Most dreams remain unfulfilled because people don't have the courage to act on their impulses. David Sandy is not one of those people. A magician turned producer, Sandy wanted to create a production that combined the elements of music and magic.

Some might consider the connection between the two as tenuous at best. But think of all the songs that reference the world of magic: "Do You Believe in Magic," "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered" and "That Old Black Magic."

Three years ago, Sandy approached noted pops conductor Jack Everly with his idea. After many discussions, considerable planning and finding the right mix of music, "Mysterioso" received its debut in October 2009 and became an instant hit.

The Oklahoma City Philharmonic kicks off its 2011-12 pops season this week with "Mysterioso," a program that bears the subtitle "A Pops Concert of Music, Magic, Mayhem and Mirth!" Joining Everly for this foray into the world of magic are magician and illusionist Joseph Gabriel, the comedy duo Les Arnold and Dazzle, quick-change artists David and Dania, and vocalist Christina Bianco.

Longtime pops audiences may remember Everly from his other concerts that have played Oklahoma City, including "Pops Goes Vegas," "The Music of the Baby Boomers" and "Hooray for Hollywood."

While Everly and his National Symphonic Pops Consortium were intrigued by Sandy's proposal, the conductor knew very little about what goes into making a successful evening of magic. Sandy, in turn, was equally unfamiliar with the symphonic music world.

"The biggest concern I had with 'Mysterioso' was keeping the orchestra in the foreground," Sandy said recently. "I didn't want this to be just another magic show with an 80-piece backup band. So we've put together a terrific overture that sets the stage for what's about to happen.

"The concert will have everything from the 'Spellbound Concerto' to some light, campy stuff like the theme from 'I Dream of Jeannie.' Other music we've incorporated into medleys, which gives audiences little snippets of magic-themed music. 'Mysterioso' really turned out to be a good blending of both arts."

Sandy's work as a magician and promoter also helped him attract some of the most popular and well-respected magic acts on the performing circuit. Sandy said all of these artists are tops in their field.

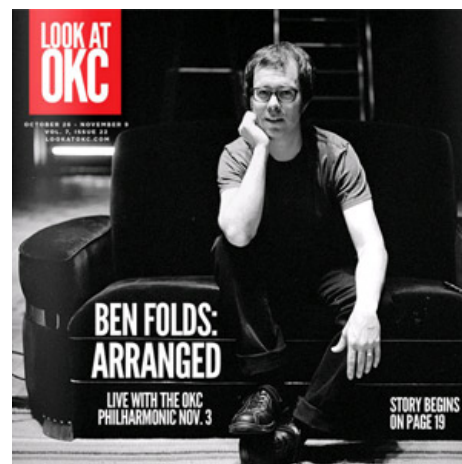
"I wanted to create a good texture for this show, so we went after people whose performing styles were completely different," Sandy said. "Joseph is a classic magician, David and Dania were the quick-change artists who made it so big on 'America's Got Talent,' and Les Arnold and Dazzle are some of the funniest people you'll ever see.

"We've discovered with this show that audiences don't really know what to expect, so we give them something familiar to start with and then take them on a really fun roller-

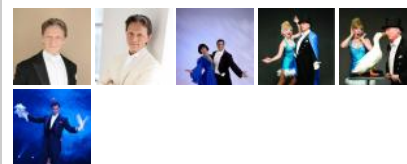
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...s Concert of Music, Magic, Mayhem and Mirth!" guest conduct the Oklahoma City Philharmonic...



Oklahoma City Philharmonic opens 2011-12 pops series with 'Mysterioso'

When: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.  
Where: Civic Center Music Hall, 201 N Walker.


Mates Of State	Cains Ballroom Tulsa, OK	Tuesday 11/1/2011 7:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
Five Finger	Diamond Ballroom Oklahoma City,	Wednesday 11/2/2011	<a href="#">view</a>

coaster ride. The fact that it's so visual means that your attention is kept from beginning to end. It's really a fun evening."


IN CONCERT

"Mysterioso"

<b>Death Punch</b>	OK	6:30 PM	<a href="#">tickets</a>
<b>Warren Haynes Band</b>	Cains Ballroom Tulsa, OK	Wednesday 11/2/2011 7:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>All Time Low</b>	Cains Ballroom Tulsa, OK	Thursday 11/3/2011 7:30 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Ben Folds</b>	Civic Center Music Hall Oklahoma City, OK	Thursday 11/3/2011 8:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Ghostland Observatory</b>	Cains Ballroom Tulsa, OK	Friday 11/4/2011 7:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Reba McEntire</b>	Bank Of Oklahoma Center Tulsa, OK	Friday 11/4/2011 7:30 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Gaither Vocal Band</b>	Mabee Center Tulsa, OK	Saturday 11/5/2011 6:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Ghostland Observatory</b>	Cains Ballroom Tulsa, OK	Saturday 11/5/2011 7:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>
<b>Dwight Yoakam</b>	Winstar Casino Thackerville, OK	Saturday 11/5/2011 8:00 PM	<a href="#">view tickets</a>




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