

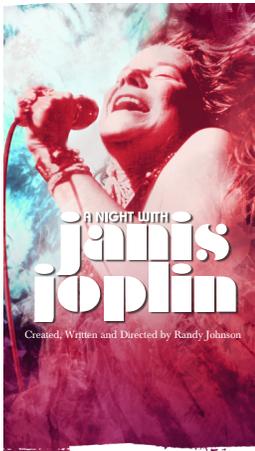
A NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN

JULY 8 – AUG 7

# The Heart of the Matter: From Joplin to Heart & Beyond

By Gretchen Douma, Arts Writer

*Used with permission from The 5th Avenue Theatre*



**With her Haight-Ashberry hippie style** and a vocal delivery inspired by the gospel, folk and R&B artists she admired (Bessie Smith, Odetta, Aretha Franklin, Etta James and Nina Simone), Janis Joplin kicked open the door for women to take their place in what was then the male-dominated realm of rock in all its evolving and splintering forms.

Joplin was nothing like the female pop artists who were charting at the time. Motown “Girl groups” of the early and mid-60s such as the Marvelettes (and of course the Supremes), capitalized on an ultra-feminine look and a slick doo-wop flavored sound that featured tight harmonies and choreographed stage moves. At almost the same time, the American Folk revival of the period saw the rise of singer-songwriters such as Joan Baez, Judy Collins, and Carol King whose work blended folk, rock, country and pop riffs to create story-songs with themes ranging from political to romantic to anthems of new feminist freedoms.

Joplin brought an electrifying sensibility to the concert stage. Fronting first Big Brother & the Holding Company and later the Kosmik Blues Band and the Full Tilt Boogey Band, she could be by turns rough or soft or outrageous and she could hold her own against the backdrop of rock’s signature heavy drums and wailing guitars. Her breakout appearance at the Monterey Pop Festival in 1967 launched her career, which ended abruptly only three years later when she died at the age of 27. Despite the brevity of her stardom, *Rolling Stone* included her on both its 2004 list of “100 Greatest Artists of All Time” and on its 2008 list of “100 Greatest Singers of All Time.”

Joplin’s influence can be felt in the musical bravado of her contemporaries Grace Slick (of Jefferson Airplane and Jefferson Starship) and Stevie Nicks of Fleetwood Mac. Says Nicks, “She was extraordinary. She had a connection with the audience that I had not seen before, and when she left the stage, I knew that a little bit of my destiny had changed... In the blink of an eye, she had changed my life.”

There is no doubt that Joplin paved the way for the rockers who came after her. From Debbie Harry of Blondie and Joan Jett & the Blackhearts to Courtney Love and Patti Smith, women were making the rock world sit up and take notice. The late ‘60s and early ‘70s also saw the discovery of powerhouse singers such as Kathi MacDonald who performed with the Rolling Stones, Ike and Tina Turner and Big Brother & the Holding Company.

In the 1970s, women were making inroads into new forms of rock including punk and heavy metal. It was Ann and Nancy Wilson and their band Heart that jumped out of the Northwest to national prominence with the release of their album *Dreamboat Annie* in 1976 and in 1977 with *Little Queen* and its charting hit “Barracuda.” Nancy Wilson cites Janis as a musical inspiration. Says Wilson, “I think she allowed women to have their pain... her amazing talent was because of the pain she had... what came out of her was almost beyond what her physical body could do.” Ann Powers, music critic for the *LA Times*, also saw the connection between Heart and Janis Joplin. “We forget how many women have really made an impact on mainstream rock... [in] hard rock, you can count them on one hand, and Ann Wilson is Number 1, along with Janis Joplin.”

As punk, grunge and later New Wave music took hold in the ‘80s and ‘90s, women were fearlessly owning styles of rock that had been considered off limits to female musicians. The Riot Grrls, a new generation of third-wave feminist women, were exploring gender politics, female empowerment and other social issues through their ‘zines, meetings, and of course their music. No doubt the most successful band of this period was Sleater-Kinney. With Carrie Brownstein and Corin Tucker on vocals and guitars and Janet Weiss on drums, Sleater-Kinney earned the accolade of “Best Rock Band of 2001” from *Time Magazine*. Weiss points directly to Joplin, recalling her emotion and passion on stage. “Maybe that’s part of being ‘bad’, walking the fine line of being consumed by it [the passion] and being powerful enough to be in charge of that sort of rawness.”

Today, girls who want to rock can look to role models of all sizes, shapes, races, and genders for inspiration. They can also remember Janis Joplin’s legacy of fearlessness and honesty, along with her own words of encouragement, “Don’t compromise yourself. You are all you’ve got.”

## A NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN

*A Night with Janis Joplin* is a musical journey celebrating Janis and her biggest musical influences—trailblazers like Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Odetta, Nina Simone and Bessie Smith—who inspired one of Rock ‘n’ Roll’s greatest legends. Join the excitement of *A Night with Janis Joplin*, the show hailed by critics across the country that has audiences leaping to their feet and dancing in the aisles to great hits like “Summertime,” “Piece of My Heart,” “Cry Baby,” and “Me and Bobby McGee.” The unmistakable voice filled with raw emotion and tinged with Southern Comfort made her a must-see headliner from Monterey to Woodstock.

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### SPECIAL EVENTS & INFORMATION!

**Opening Night of *A Night With Janis Joplin*  
Tuesday, July 12 at 7:30 pm**

Join us before the show for live music in the café with Erin Harkes. Then stay and celebrate with us after the show with desserts from Bella Napoli Bakery and a champagne toast with Maggie and the cast!

**Chef's Table • Tuesday, July 19**

Join us before the show for light fare from The Merry Monk. Live music from the Heavenly Echoes, with Earl Thorpe, who opened for Janis Joplin at the Aerodome on June 26, 1970.

**Behind-the-Scenes • Sunday, July 31**

Join us before the show for light fare from Cider Belly Doughnuts at 12:30, followed by a short discussion with Maggie Mancinelli-Cahill at 1:00 pm.

**There are two Wednesday 2 pm matinees for *A Night with Janis Joplin*: Weds. July 20 and August 3. Join us for an afternoon of rock'n'roll. Escape the summer heat and enjoy our air-conditioned theatre for a matinee performance!**

## PEEK BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE 2016–2017 KEYBANK SEASON AT THIS YEAR'S SNEAK PEEK

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016**

Members get to peek behind the scenes at the 2016-2017 KeyBank Season at this year's Sneak Peek—Monday, September 19, 2016. Each year the Sneak Peek has been our way to introduce members to the upcoming season. Attendees are cast in snippets from each show to present to the entire group and the evening always ends in laughter. **Join us at the \$300 level or higher to join in the fun!** Contact our Development Dept. at 518.462.4531 or at [development@capitalrep.org](mailto:development@capitalrep.org) for more information.

## MEMBERSHIP

Ticket sales alone only cover a portion of the costs to run Capital Repertory Theatre. You can help ensure live theatre for the Capital Region and help us bridge the gap by making a pledge of support to the Annual Fund.

For more information on membership, please contact Carrie Kirkaldy • 518.382.3884 x 172 or email [development@capitalrep.org](mailto:development@capitalrep.org)

## PARKING

### HASSLE-FREE PARKING FOR CAPITAL REPERTORY THEATRE!

Summer is a busy time in downtown Albany, and we want to make it as easy as possible for you to park and get to the theatre on time. Here are some great options for parking near theREP:

*All patrons regardless of performance dates and times are welcome to pull up in front of the theatre to drop off anyone who needs special assistance or a shorter walk to the front door.*

**Free Parking:** Ample street parking is available after 5 pm on weekdays and all day on weekends near theREP.

**Quackenbush Garage (Orange Street between Broadway and Water St.):** free parking from 5 pm–12 am Monday–Friday! (closed on weekends)

**\*Alive@Five Parking is on us!** Capital Rep will validate your parking for Alive @ Five Thursdays (the garage is charging a \$5 special event charge). Download and print passes for free parking during Alive @ Five on the following dates: July 14, 21, 28 and August 4. You can also call the Box Office at 518-445-7469 to request one be mailed to you, or pick one up from the Box Office two hours before curtain.

**Riverfront Garage (Columbia St. between Broadway and Water St.):** free parking from 5 pm–5 am, Monday–Friday, and 24 hours on weekends.

*Alive@Five Thursdays street closures make it more challenging to park in the Riverfront Garage. We recommend using the Quackenbush Garage (see above for parking validation information). For additional information about road closures and parking restrictions during Alive@Five, visit: <http://alloveralbanys.com/archive/2016/06/07/alive-at-five-2016-road-closures-parking>.*

**Free Parking at the Quackenbush Garage For Wednesday 2 pm Matinee Performances (July 20 and August 3).** Capital Rep will validate your parking for these two performances only beginning at 1pm.

*Download and print the parking pass to present to the garage attendant. You can also call the Box Office at 518-445-7469 to request one be mailed to you, or pick one up from the Box Office two hours before curtain.*

**Discounted Parking for REP Patrons:** The management of the closest parking lot to the REP welcomes patrons to park. Located directly across from the theatre, the parking lot at the corner of N. Pearl and Sheridan (the "Church" lot) is offering patrons discounted parking (\$5). Your ticket reminder email will include a "coupon" that must be displayed on your dashboard to receive the reduced rate. If you happen to forget to print your ticket reminder email, simply come into the Box Office before your performance to pick up a printed coupon. Coupons are only valid the day of your performance. There will be a lot attendant present to answer questions and confirm your reduced rate. Our renewed relationship with the management of this lot provides another easy, hassle-free parking option for our patrons.

Many surface lots near theREP may be charging for parking throughout the summer for various special events. Plan early, map your route, and discover all the great FREE parking available near theREP.

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