

WAYNE HOSFORD – Press Kit

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Wayne Hosford

is an award-winning and critically acclaimed entertainer, singer, musician, comedian, actor and composer. Whether he performs in a theatre, on the concert stage, in an intimate cabaret, at a major music festival, or for a corporate or private event, audiences and the media alike give this extraordinary artist rave reviews.

In addition to his original songs and unique comedy, his vast repertoire spans the Great American Songbook, Broadway, Adult Contemporary, and American Popular Song from the 1960's, 70's and 80's. Wayne conceives, writes and performs his individualized shows for any performance venue, whatever the occasion.

Wayne's tours and performances abroad have encompassed Brazil (**Manaus Opera House**), England (**Royal Albert Hall, Pizza On The Park, The Annual Chelmsford Spectacular**), France (**Festival d'Art et de Musique, St. Claud**), Poland (**Krakow Conservatory**), and Sweden (Umeå, Luleå, Östersund).

In North America, he has been honored to perform solo for U.S. President **George H. W. Bush**, Canadian Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney, John Spencer-Churchill, Duke of Marlborough**, U.S. Senators **Mitch McConnell, Edward M. Kennedy, and Alan Simpson**, as well as Governors **Jeb Bush and John Kasich**. Wayne has appeared on the bill with a variety of performers including **Christine Andreas, Len Cariou, Ann Hampton Callaway, Michael Feinstein, Dorothy Loudon, Marilyn Maye, Jay Mohr, T. Oliver Reid, Neil Sedaka, Carol Woods, and Amra-Faye Wright**. As an accompanist on piano, he has appeared with **Brent Barrett, Brian Bedford, C&W artist Faith Hill and Cloris Leachman**.

Wayne's New York debut Off Broadway was in *Cabariety* at **Saint Peter's Theatre**, soon garnering engagements with the legendary **Julie Wilson** in the *Cabaret Comes To Carnegie* series and the renowned **Gold Star Sardine Bar** in Chicago; with recording and cabaret stalwart **Margaret Whiting** in the long-standing Manhattan **92nd Street Y's Lyrics and Lyricists** series (Johnny Mercer); and with cabaret star **Steve Ross** and jazz bassist/singer **Jay Leonhardt** at the **Metropolitan Museum of Art Concert Series**. Wayne headlined with cabaret veteran **William Roy**, singing and playing duo-piano in *Endangered Elegance*, featured at **Michael's Pub** (CD: *Endangered Elegance* - Nonga Records), and the **American Cabaret Theatre Festival**.

Additional New York City credits include performances at **The Beacon Theatre, The Ballroom** (CD: *Julie Wilson and Wayne Hosford Live at the Ballroom* - Nonga Records), **Bobo's** (MAC Award nomination-Best Singer/Instrumentalist), **Carnegie Hall, Danny's Skylight Room** (*Back Stage Bistro Award*; MAC Award nomination-Best Newcomer), **Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Russian Tea Room, Sardi's, Steve McGraw's, Symphony Space, Tavern On The Green, The Town Hall, The Triad**, and legendary comedy landmark **The Village Gate**.

Wayne was featured at **Spoletto Festival USA** for six performances of *A Passionate Persuasion*, his solo tribute to the songs of **Peter Allen**, and has become a regular performer in the **Royal Room** of Palm Beach's **Colony Hotel** since his debut there in 2009. In addition, a host of Concert and Cabaret series around the U.S. have featured Wayne's shows: *A Broadway Sampler I and II, The Gold Standard, A Johnny Mercer Songbook, Simply Sinatra, Wayne, Women and Song, Socking It To The Sixties* and *A Seventies Sojourn*, the last two celebrating the diverse and memorable songs of those decades.

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Because of the special material he can cleverly write and entertainingly perform from a client's given information, Wayne's long list of business and personal accounts presently encompasses three continents across the world and, in addition to countless individual clients, includes several major corporations such as **The American Cancer Society, The American Red Cross, The Coca-Cola Company, and Lilly Pulitzer, Inc.** He has been a featured solo entertainer for both the **Democratic and Republican National Conventions** in two separate presidential election years. Wayne has also performed on the high seas with Holland America Line and Norwegian Caribbean Line.

Wayne's appearances at renowned social, sporting and country clubs include New York City's **Friars Club, Harvard Club, Metropolitan Club, National Arts Club and Players Club**; Locust Valley's **Piping Rock Club**; Cape Cod's **Wianno Club**, Nantucket's **Westmoor Club**; Princeton's **Bedens Brook Club**, Minneapolis-St. Paul's **Wood Hill Country Club**, Dallas' **Petroleum Club**, Atlanta's **Cherokee Club** and **Piedmont Driving Club**; Palm Beach's **Bath and Tennis Club, Beach Club, Club Colette, Everglades Club, Mar-a-Lago Club, Palm Beach Country Club** and **Sailfish Club**; and, to its north and south, **Hobe Sound Yacht Club, Jupiter Island Club, Gulf Stream Bath and Tennis Club, Key Largo Anglers Club**, and Coral Gables' **Riviera Country Club**.

A professional actor since age 12 (Jim Hawkins, *Treasure Island*, Atlanta's **Alliance Theatre**), Wayne's work in theatre has been divided between performing, most recently in *Our Sinatra* at the **Stage Door Theatre** in Fort Lauderdale; *Triple Espresso* (Hugh Butternut) at the **New American Theatre** in Rockford, Illinois; *The 1940's Radio Hour* (Neal Tilden) at the **Asolo Theatre** in Sarasota; and musical direction, for *Forever Plaid* at **Pennsylvania Centre Stage**; *The Straight Man*, winner of the Norfolk New Play Festival at Roanoke's **Mill Mountain Theatre**; associate musical director for *Take Note* and *Scores of Friends*, at San Francisco's **Alcazar Theatre** and Fort Lauderdale's **Broward Performing Arts Center**; and composing, Off Broadway, for the **Irish Repertory's** *Alive, Alive, Oh!*, for which his underscoring for the pantomimes of theatre, film and television great **Milo O'Shea** won two ASCAP awards; for New York's **Judith Shakespeare Theatre Company's** production of *The Comedy of Errors* (set in the roaring twenties); and *Maestro*, an original musical written with **Sharon Tipword**.

Wayne has written and/or sung several jingles that have been broadcast on radio and television, as have some of his original songs. His academic training includes applied piano and voice since childhood, a BA/BM double-major in music education and music theory/composition at the **University of Miami**, a BFA major in musical theatre at **Webster Conservatory of Theatre Arts** in Saint Louis, and further composition at **Georgia State University**.

Wayne Hosford's Press Quotes

"A one-in-a-million talent...possessing an energy and freshness that's dazzling...patently brilliant...Hosford's singing and playing put him near the top of his profession."

New York Post

"Wayne Hosford performs with such compelling intensity and verve that he gives a new definition to the endangered genre of cabaret singer...Hosford is the consummate storyteller; an articulate, intelligent actor who happens to sing and accompany himself on the piano brilliantly...after the opener, he commanded the house."

Charleston Post and Courier

"Piano Man Wayne Hosford is attracting a glittery crowd...among his fans: the fabled chanteuse Julie Wilson, Chita Rivera, Alexis Smith and hubby Craig Stevens."

Liz Smith, Syndicated Columnist

"Most impressive...subtle interpretation...varied, unpredictable... Hosford personalized every piece he sang and played."

Dallas Morning News

"Super...exciting...uninhibited...uncommon vigor..."

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

"I've never been so excited by a new talent in my life."

Back Stage

"You'll love Wayne...he brought the house down....humorous and sometimes poignant...gorgeously expressive...fabulous...fantastic....fun, fun, fun!"

The Palm Beach Post

"**Hosford Wows Colony Crowd**...a singer and pianist extraordinaire...nothing if not versatile...moving from the sublime to the hilarious...amazingly inventive...a stirring performance...the evening was a delight!"

The Palm Beach Daily News

"Hosford's improvisational skills are astounding...an innovative musical mind...with a wicked sense of humor...and whether he's winging a comic opera in which he sings all the parts himself or even doing a stand-up monologue, he's absolutely original and screamingly funny."

Agent & Manager

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“Hosford displays a keyboard wizardry that obviously reflects considerable classical training. Too, proving himself even more of a threat, he has an excellent singing style...the finale made for a hushed moment that riveted the enrapt audience.”

New York Native

“A dynamic performer, Wayne took hold and didn't let go until after the fourth curtain call.”

Warner Robins Sun

“Especially memorable...all the stage presence in the whole imaginative world.”

Macon Telegraph

“A superb singer/instrumentalist...it's pure pleasure to be able to sit back and just enjoy...an unequivocal delight...Hosford is so adept with Peter Allen's poignant music and lyrics, that many of those who did manage to squeeze into Steve McGraw's saw him as the perfect keeper of the flame.”

CAB Magazine

“Hosford could be the next Danny Kaye if he has a mind to.”

Performer's Cues

“Whether singing or playing, this young man is a striking talent.”

Coral Gables Times/Guide

“Milo O'Shea, Kitty Sullivan and Wayne Hosford form an unbeatable trio...Hosford is particularly good as the title character from The Playboy of the Western World.”

Vineyard Gazette

“Pianist/singer Wayne Hosford grounds the show with fluid, expressive piano and a jaunty singing style. When he says he's having some fun up there, you can believe him.”

Miami New Times

Wayne Hosford's Quotes from Performers

"In the current crop of young pianists and singers, I can think of no one more entertaining than Wayne Hosford. His broad range explores the gamut...his irrepressible enthusiasm is firmly backed up by his thoroughly musical craftsmanship."

Bobby Short

"In a word, marvelous."

Len Cariou

"Wayne is a truly gifted, clever and funny modern-day Victor Borge who sings and plays wonderfully. He makes me smile."

Chita Rivera

"An extraordinary talent. I marvel at his quick mind! A fine composer and winning performer, Wayne is both versatile and vulnerable. I think he's dynamite!"

Julie Wilson

"He joked as he swept the stage with an old broom, then he sat down to play and sing. We knew right then we had a star on our hands."

Margaret Whiting

"Wayne has compelling stage presence. He plays amazing piano and sings every color of emotion along the way. He's a natural who has gone on to combine artistry and technique into a definitive style."

Lana Cantrell

"Wayne's damn good. What's more, he's not like the rest of the crowd."

Sylvia Syms

"Wayne is an outstanding talent who should be heard."

Barbara Carroll

"A truly astonishing singer and pianist, equally adept as either who will dazzle you with his zany, anarchic humor one moment and melt your heart the next."

Steve Ross