

ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

13/14 Season SEP-DEC





The Pearlman Sisters

Devotedly, Sincerely Yours: The Story of the USO

Written, compiled and performed by **Samantha Joy Pearlman**

Artistic Directors **Samantha Joy Pearlman, Lindsey Hope Pearlman**

Producer **Lindsey Hope Pearlman**

Director **Kate Galvin**

Choreographer **Jenn Rose**

Musical Supervisor **Jamison Foreman**

PROGRAM

There will be no intermission.

Friday, October 18 at 8 PM

Saturday, October 19 at 2 PM* & 8 PM

Harold Prince Theatre

These performances are part of the By Local Series and are supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The Pearlman Sisters is a theatre company comprised of...well, the Pearlman Sisters: Lindsey Hope and Samantha Joy. We got our start making shows for family holidays in our grandparents' living room. Now, we want to make original, playful theatre about our American experience. We work to make a difference in the world around us.

Samantha Joy Pearlman (Writer/Louise Buckley/Co-Artistic Director) is honored to be telling Louise's story at the beautiful Annenberg Center. After discovering an archival collection of USO material at the New York Public Library for Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, Samantha created this piece as her senior thesis project at Wesleyan University, earning her an honors accreditation. It has now evolved into an exciting, original theatrical work, which she hopes to bring to more venues and audiences across the country. An actress, singer, and playwright, she came to the City of Brotherly Love to complete the acting apprenticeship at the historic Walnut Street Theatre for their 2011-2012 season, where she performed over 250 times for over 57,800 students in the Delaware Valley. Since then, she has appeared in *Miss Nelson is Missing!*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Alexander...Very Bad Day* on the Walnut's mainstage, *Spring Awakening* (Thea) at Theatre Horizon, *Into the Woods* (Little Red) at 11th Hour Theatre Company and *Boeing Boeing* (Jacqueline). Other credits include the Cabaret Fellowship at the 2011 Cabaret & Performance Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, CT, *The Buddy Holly Story* (Maria Elena/Snowbird) at the Ivoryton Playhouse and *Richard III* (Queen Elizabeth/Prince Edward). Thank you to Kate, Jamie and Jenn for believing in this project and me, Lindsey for being my lifelong collaborator, Charlie for your unconditional love and Madison for this incredible opportunity. Love to Mom, Dad and Max. For my grandmothers.

Lindsey Hope Pearlman (Co-Artistic Director) is a director, actor, writer, producer and clown. She is a proud founding member of The Pearlman Sisters, for whom she produced a sold-out run of *Devotedly, Sincerely Yours: The Story of the USO* in the 2012 Philadelphia Fringe Festival. Favorite projects include: *Leap of Faith* (SDC Observer), *All In The Timing* (SDC Observer), *A Panda Suit*, *Pythagoras and Plenty of Puns* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2013) and *Rainbow Funk Squad*. She is also a founding member of Up & Down Theatre Co. and recently completed a Southwest tour of their original satirical cabaret, *Winning the Future*. You can catch her performing throughout the five boroughs of NYC with the educational touring company Wildlife Theater, sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society. She is a graduate of the London International School of the Performing Arts (LISPA) and received her B.A from Hamilton College.

Kate Galvin (Director) is thrilled to be back in the USO after last fall's successful Fringe run! Recent projects include *Doubt* (TriArts Sharon Playhouse), *The Odd Couple* (Flat Rock Playhouse), *Vincent in Brixton* (Walnut Street Theatre), *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* (11th Hour Theatre Company), *Princess Ida* (Univ. of the Arts), and *Proof* (Walnut/National Tour). Kate was the Casting Director at the Walnut Street Theatre for many years and is now a member of 11th Hour Theatre Company in Philadelphia. She is co-creator of the musical *Austentatious*, which has been produced in London, Philadelphia, New York and Calgary, and is published by Playscripts, Inc. Kate holds degrees in Musical Theatre from NYU and Goldsmiths College-University of London.

Jenn Rose (Choreographer) is a choreographer and teaching artist based in the Philadelphia area. She has choreographed numerous regional theatre productions with some of her favorites being *Spring Awakening*, *Honk!*, *Spelling Bee* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Jenn has collaborated and created new works for Ballet Fleming, 213 Productions and Loose Screws Contemporary Tap Company. Her work has been recognized with three Barrymore nominations, funding from the Joyce Theatre and two Broadway World Philadelphia awards. Jenn is currently teaching contemporary, tap and dance theatre classes to students of all ages. Her most recent project is *Christmas Dreams*, an 80-minute feature dance film. Up next: *The Apple Tree* at Drexel University and *Ain't Misbehavin'* at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Jenn is grateful to be inspired every day and looks forward to what is yet to come.

Jamison Foreman (Musical Supervisor) is an actor, composer and musical director. He is a proud graduate of the Brind School at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. His original musical, *Realm of the Unreal*, was produced by the University of the Arts, and also participated in the 2009 Philly Fringe Festival.

PROGRAM NOTES

Devotedly, Sincerely Yours: The Story of the USO is inspired by the lives of female USO entertainers, as well as the radio broadcasts designed to entertain the US servicemen during World War II. *Devotedly, Sincerely Yours* is also inspired by, or takes texts from, Louise Buckley, Grace Drysdale, Maxine Andrews, Ann Miller, Lena Horne, Judy Garland, Arch Oboler, Robert B. Westbrook, Tampax Incorporated, Woman Power Campaigns, the National Center for PTSD, *Four Jills and a Jeep*, the USO Camp Show Inc. "Guide to the Foxhole Circuit," *Command Performance*, *Mail Call*, BBC Radio Broadcasts and the USO Camp Show Inc. Publicity Records (1941-1945), among others.

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