



Please come on out to see 'Cabaret'

Beth Speaks for Herself

Friday, February 23, 2018 at 6:47 pm

By Beth Urech



"When is your next concert?" is the question Ronald Maltais is asked frequently as he strolls up Bridge Street or around the Plaza.

That's not surprising because Ron has brought many interesting music and dance events to Las Vegas recently.

So what's the answer? Let's begin with a fundraiser for Ron's Meadow City Academy of Music.

As a special treat, you'll get to meet Liza Minelli at the entrance. She will be signing autographs and belting out, "Willkommen, Bienvenue, Welcome!"

Sunday, March 23, Master Classical Guitarist Roberto Capocchi will perform at Maltais's home for a fundraiser.

I remember hearing Roberto at the Castaneda and was mesmerized. Since space is limited, this concert is by invitation only; however, I'm mentioning it to emphasize Ron's ongoing commitment to The Meadow City Academy of Music.

Next up is a recital with gifted flutist Mary Kay Robinson and Ronald Maltais in the Plaza Hotel Ballroom. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

French and American pieces will be featured including a piece composed by Ron and premiered by Mary Kay and him.

Switching now to dance: This spring Emmy Grimm of Emi Arte Flameno will once again offer flamenco lessons for youth and adults. Last year, after the final session, when Emi brought professional musicians from Santa Fe, students young and old had the opportunity to dance with live musicians. Olé!

Maltais founded the Meadow City Academy of Music to present New Mexican musicians and dancers, and he has succeeded brilliantly. Including Ron's chamber music and de Profundis as well as the well-received concert with local-boy-made-good Marcos Vigil, Ron calculates more than 35 musicians and dancers have performed in Las Vegas for audiences totaling several hundred.

Moving ahead, this visionary is now offering vocal scholarships to two West Las Vegas students. The scholarships will be underwritten by Southwest Capital Bank.

What an opportunity to be coached by a professional the caliber of Maltais! Please support the Meadow City Academy of Music. In addition, why not dust off that sax and join the Highlands Jazz Ensemble or warm up your voice and sing in Highlands Concert or Madrigal Choir.

For sure, you should stop by Borrachos every other Wednesday to hear Mark's jazz band Contrafact, including an occasional solo by yours truly.

As the "philosopher" Sally Bowles sang of her dear departed friend Elsie: "Start by admitting from cradle to tomb, it isn't that long a stay. Life is a cabaret, old chum."

So come to the cabaret!

What: Screening of the 1972 film Cabaret starring Lisa Minelli and Joel Grey

When: Wed., Feb 28 at 8 p.m. and Thu., March 1 at 8 p.m. (After the 5 p.m. showing of Black Panther.)

Where: Indigo Theatre on Bridge Street

Cost: \$10 per ticket.

Beth Urech is a contributing writer, traveler, and artist of the spoken word, performing both nationally and internationally. She lives in Chicago and Las Vegas, N.M., with her husband, Mark, and dog, Java. Follow Beth at bethurech.wordpress.com. She may be reached by email at beth@bethurech.com.