



A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul Starring Damien Sneed and Karen Clark Sheard at the Florida Theatre on February 19, 2021

Jacksonville, Fla. (June 15, 2020) – The Florida Theatre is pleased to welcome A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul starring Damien Sneed and Karen Clark Sheard on Friday, February 19, 2021.

With a legendary career spanning several generations and a multitude of genres, Aretha Franklin truly earned her title, "The Queen of Soul." Wrought in the Baptist congregations of Detroit, Franklin's expressive and powerful vocals, complemented by skillfully executed yet profound piano melodies, propelled her to international stardom in the sixties. Beloved by musicians and listeners alike, Aretha is recognized as the most successful female recording artist in history with 112 charted singles on *Billboard*, 18 GRAMMY Awards, and over 75 million records sold.

Aretha Franklin continued to perform well into the later years of her illustrious life. During this time, musician, vocalist, and composer **Damien Sneed** toured along with Aretha, developing a strong mentee relationship with the soul legend. In **A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul**, Sneed pays homage to the monarch herself with fresh renditions of her most cherished hits including "Respect," "Knew You Were Waiting," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "Precious Memories," "Think," "Until You Come Back to Me," "Daydreaming," "Freeway," "Natural Woman," and others. Backed by an accomplished cast of jazz, gospel, and soul musicians and vocalists, Damien Sneed's multimedia tribute will be a tender and spiritual reflection upon the life of an iconic industry titan.

Joining the tour will be four-time GRAMMY Award-winner and multiple Stellar and GMA Dove Award winner **Karen Clark Sheard**. A gospel music legend and a part of a musical dynasty, Clark Sheard is renowned throughout the music industry for her signature, one-of-a-kind multi-octave vocal range and ability. Her musical style with the legendary Clark Sisters and as a solo artist has inspired a host of today's brightest pop divas including Beyoncé, Mariah Carey, Missy Elliott, and Faith Evans, among countless others.

In April 2020, Lifetime honored the Clark Sisters in a biopic titled, *The Clark Sisters: The First Ladies of Gospel*, which details their humble beginnings, struggles to find their place, to later becoming the best-selling Gospel group in the music world. The movie features re-recordings of some of The Clark Sisters biggest hits like "You Brought The Sunshine."

The historic, nonprofit Florida Theatre is sponsored by Community First Credit Union. For a complete list of upcoming events or to buy tickets visit the Theatre's official website, floridatheatre.com.

EVENT: A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul
DATE: Friday, February 19, 2021
TIME: 8:00 p.m.
TICKET PRICE: \$39.00 - \$49.00
MEMBER PRESALE: Monday, June 15, 2020 at 10 a.m.
E-CLUB PRESALE: Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 9 a.m.
PUBLIC ON SALE: Friday, June 19, 2020 at 10 a.m.
WEBSITES: www.iamkarenclarksheard.com; www.damiensneed.com; www.floridatheatre.com
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