

DETROIT

MUSIC OF THE MOTOR CITY

FEATURED PERFORMERS



SATE



HAILEY GILLIS



TRAVIS KNIGHTS



ANDREW PENNER

MUSICIANS



JOE BOWDEN
Drums



JACOB GORZHALTSAN
Reeds



RAHA JAVANFAR
Bass



JOEL JOSEPH
Keys



ANDREW MCANSH
Trumpet

A SEGAL CENTRE PRODUCTION

FROM THE ORIGINATING PRODUCER OF
COME FROM AWAY



GROW

BOOK BY MATT MURRAY
MUSIC BY COLLEEN DAUNCEY
LYRICS BY AKIVA ROMER-SEGAL

DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY TRACEY FLYE
MUSIC SUPERVISION AND ORCHESTRATION BY WAYNE GWILLIM
MUSIC DIRECTION BY JONATHAN CORKAL-ASTORGA

BACKSTAGE SUPPORTERS
BROCCOLINI
 NATIONAL BANK

May 24
– June 14
2026

A SEGAL CENTRE PRESENTATION OF A SOULPEPPER CONCERT



FROM THE CREATORS OF *THE SECRET CHORD:*
A LEONARD COHEN EXPERIENCE



DETROIT

MUSIC OF THE MOTOR CITY

CREATED BY ANDREW PENNER, FRANK COX-O'CONNELL, & TRAVIS KNIGHTS
WRITTEN BY ERIN BRANDENBURG WITH FRANK COX-O'CONNELL & TRAVIS KNIGHTS

DIRECTED BY FRANK COX-O'CONNELL
MUSIC DIRECTED BY ANDREW PENNER

PRODUCTION SPONSOR
ALDO

April 12
– May 3
2026

DETROIT

MUSIC OF THE MOTOR CITY

CREATIVE TEAM



ANDREW PENNER
Creator and Music Director



FRANK COX-O'CONNELL
Creator and Director



TRAVIS KNIGHTS
Creator



ERIN BRANDENBURG
Writer



NOAH FEAVER *
Lighting Designer



ANDRES CASTILLO-SMITH
Sound Designer



FRANK DONATO *
Projection Designer



EMILY SOUSSANA
Associate Lighting Designer



MICHAEL WANLESS
Associate Sound Designer



NICOLE EUN-JU BELL
Associate Projection
Designer



TAMMY VUCKOVIC
Stage Manager



SCARLETT LARRY
Assistant Stage Manager

*Indicated designers on this production are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, Local ADC659.



Welcome to the show!

Detroit gave the world some incredible music. Songs that filled dance floors, crossed generations, and still sound just as good today.

Tonight is a celebration of that sound. Music that was made to move people. It is my sincere wish that you are moved tonight.

And honestly, experiences like this are why theatres exist in the first place. A great band, a room full of people, stories to discover, and songs everyone seems to know by heart.

Thank you for being here and for helping keep this theatre a vibrant cultural home for our community.

Have the best time tonight. And if you find yourself dancing in your seat, you're doing it right.

Lisa

LISA RUBIN
Artistic and Executive Director

SCAN HERE TO
SUPPORT THE SEGAL CENTRE!
YOUR CONTRIBUTION KEEPS THE MAGIC ALIVE!



THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS, SPONSORS, AND COMMUNITY
PARTNERS THAT HELP MAKE THE SEGAL CENTRE'S
THEATRE MAGIC HAPPEN!

WWW.SEGALCENTRE.ORG/EN/OUR-SUPPORTERS

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DIRECTOR OF THE ACADEMY Liana Wiener

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DEVELOPMENT OFFICER Alice Wu

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ASSOCIATE PRODUCER Paul Brian Imperial
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TECHNICAL COORDINATOR & HEAD TECHNICIAN, STUDIO Natalie Demmon
HEAD CARPENTER Joseph Baron
ASSOCIATE HEAD CARPENTER D. Brideau
HEAD SCENIC PAINTER William Patrick
HEAD OF PROPS Fruzsina Lanyi
HEAD OF WARDROBE Louise Bourret
HEAD TECHNICIAN, THEATRE & HEAD OF LIGHTING Andrea McMillan
ASSOCIATE HEAD TECHNICIAN AND LIGHTING Sarah Pattloch
HEAD OF SOUND Evan Brown
SOUND ASSOCIATE Jeremy Barrs
HEAD OF VIDEO Chris Wardell
CASTING Rachelle Glait

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Gideon Arthurs

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HEAD OF WARDROBE Ellie Koffman

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Dr. Beth-Ann Cummings, Dr. Mark Karanofsky,
Dr. Michel Samra & Dr. Jonathan Young

SPECIAL THANKS
Beau Dixon, Sam Hale, and Anna Spencer

SCAN HERE TO READ
BIOS AND MORE ONLINE!



NETWORK: SEGAL PUBLIC
PASSWORD: ARTIRL2526

THE RUNNING TIME IS
90 MINUTES WITH NO INTERMISSION

Soulpepper is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT) and engages, under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, actors and stage managers who are members of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association. The musicians engaged in this production are under the Toronto Musician's Association (TMA) Concert agreement with Soulpepper Theatre.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



When I lived in Montreal, I had a loud neighbour. He drove me crazy. He'd have parties and clomp around upstairs, and I'd just seethe. Until one Sunday afternoon he was blasting The Stooges and instead of banging on the ceiling, I went up and knocked on his door.

We ended up talking about the record for a while. I got to know him a little, it turned out we were both drummers, and he was having a hard go. After that he got a bit quieter... for a while. But at least when the parties started up again, I could place a face to the sound. I didn't want to join in, but it wasn't just noise anymore - there was a person there. A struggle. A story.

Now I should confess that I'm a dual citizen, and I've been worrying a lot these days about our neighbour. Worrying about my family. I'm open to getting my elbows up, but I do find it hard to simply plug my ears. And scrolling, obviously, does not help.

But listening - listening to the music you'll hear tonight - really has. We've found that the sounds coming out of Detroit radio through the twentieth century offer a surprising amount of insight into this moment.

We turned our ears to Detroit for several reasons. Many of us, as musicians, had formative experiences there. And in all of Detroit's remarkably diverse music - Motown, blues, rock and pop, techno, hip-hop - you can hear a kind of radical joy born out of struggle. Factories. Migration. Ford's dream of removing the human from the machine. Humanity persisting elsewhere. Upheaval. Reinvention.

Detroit's past shines a light on today - not just because Michigan so often decides the American presidency. But because Detroit is a city that has already lived through a version of the future America now seems to be approaching. Its story - of dehumanizing systems pushed to a breaking point - can offer a useful lens.

And the sound that comes out of that story - the joy rising from bleakness, the determination to dance anyway - can offer a little hope. A little humanity. And maybe a way into this "ball of confusion," as The Temptations once called it.

FRANK COX-O'CONNELL
Director and Creator