

**For immediate release**

**We are so very excited about bringing our show celebrating Chicago music and clubs to the Fabulous Skokie Theatre!**

**For interview and/or story requests, to reserve seats, or any press questions please contact Suzanne Petri: 312.437.4611**

**[suz@suzannepetri.com](mailto:suz@suzannepetri.com) and**

**visit [www.SuzannePetri.com](http://www.SuzannePetri.com) and [www.SuzBo.com](http://www.SuzBo.com) for further information.**

*SuzBo Entertainment Inc Presents*

## **Torch, Sass and Swing!**

**The Clubs and Artists Who Made Chicago Great**

**Award Winning Performer Suzanne Petri  
Musical Director Bobby Schiff, Bassist Jim Cox  
& Robert Breuler as our guide**

**Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**8pm**

**Skokie Theatre**

**Address: 7924 Lincoln Ave, Skokie, IL 60077**

**Phone: (847) 677-7761**

**\$25 Tickets**

**<https://skokietheatre.org/suzanne-petri.html>**

# TORCH, SASS AND SWING!

At The Skokie Theater!

The Clubs and Artists Who Made Chicago Great

Award Winning Cabaret Artist

**Suzanne Petri**

Friday, July 20th

**Skokie Theatre**

7924 N. Lincoln Ave.

Skokie, IL 60077

847-677-7761

8pm

\$25

Back By Popular Demand

featuring:

**Bobby Schiff**

**Jim Cox**

**Bob Breuler**

and special guests



*"Gutsy...in the Julie Wilson mode."*

Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune

SUZANNE PETRI.COM

[www.SUZBO.COM](http://www.SUZBO.COM)

Torch songs, smoky clubs and great music... We share fantastic stories of the great Chicago clubs such as Mr. Kelly's, The London House, Chez Paree and The Happy Medium.

Join us as we explore the music of 50's, 60's and 70's and the artists who played them: Ella, Sarah, Barbra, Sophie Tucker, Bette Midler, Oscar Brown Jr., Nat "King" Cole and of course our special tribute to the one and only Julie Wilson!

Featuring the Great American Songbook: Rodgers and Hart, Porter, Gershwin, Billy Strayhorn, Oscar Brown Jr., Hoagy Carmichael and more.

*"... the fervor of Petri's delivery, the color of Breuler's reading and the atmospheric jazz accompaniment of pianist Bobby Schiff and bassist Jim Cox conjure an era. "*

*Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune*

*"One of Chicago's greatest singers" Rick Kogan*

*"There is nobody better...the finest voice going" Michael Roberts*

“Suzanne Petri happens to be the exception that proves the rule, her work at once dramatically penetrating and musically evocative and formidable actor-narrator Robert Breuler.”

Howard Reich, Chicago Tribune

The Audiences Rave!

“Thank you for a wonderful evening, Suzanne. Your trip down Rush St. was a wonderful tribute to era of great entertainers.” David Marienthal

"I very much enjoyed and think it should have a nice life, not only in Chicago but also NY and other places." John McDonough

“Suzi what a great concept for a show! Those of us who remember Rush Street and all the wonderful clubs that made up the glamour of Chicago were extremely entertained by your presentation! Wonderful show.”

“A combination of Julie Wilson, Lauren Bacall, Gwen Verdon, and throw in a little Bette Midler....now you have

“Great show Suz! And Bob was delightful and funny!” Cathy Schenkleberg

“Congrats to Suzanne Petri for all the panache and experience displayed onstage at Davenport's Piano Bar and Cabaret last night with her trip to bygone Chicago nightspots "Torch, Sass and Swing".“ Jeff Dean

#### THE ARTISTS:

**Suzanne Petri** From stage to TV, from nightclubs to concert halls such as *New York's Jazz at Lincoln Center*, Suzanne has established herself as one of the Windy City's premier entertainers. Suzanne has performed to SRO crowds at some of the Chicago area's top stages including *Pritzker Pavilion Millennium Park, Park West, Drury Lane Water Tower, Davenport's, Maxim's, Katerina's* and *Toulouse on the Park*. The nationally recognized cabaret diva, Suzanne has been featured at the *Chicago Humanities Festival* and the *Mabel Mercer Foundation's Cabaret Conventions* in New York City and Chicago. Her one-woman cabaret shows have won rave reviews and critical acclaim including several “*Ten Best Shows of the Year*” citations by both *After Dark Chicago* and *Cabaret Hotline Online*. Suzanne is President Emeritus and a Founding Member of the Chicago Cabaret Professionals. Petri has appeared in acclaimed stage productions such as *Becky Shaw, Oklahoma! Hank Williams Lost Highway* and *Zorba*; motion pictures such as *Milwaukee, Minnesota* with *Bruce Dern* and *Randy Quaid*, Disney's *Just Visiting* with Christina Applegate and Indy film *Lac Du Flambeau*; TV roles on *Early Edition, Evil Has A Face* with *Sean Young* and she has appeared in many Bernie Sahlins productions including *Lysistrata, Bertha the Sewing Machine Girl* and *Under Milk Wood*. A proud ensemble member of American Blues Theater she has produced, directed and appeared on dozens of Chicago stages including *The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, Windy City Playhouse, Victory Gardens* and *Northlight Theatre*.

Suzanne has released her critically acclaimed debut studio CD *Das Grand Tour* and 2 live CD's, "A *Marvelous Party!*" and "*Marlene Muzik Live At The Skokie Theatre.*" Her recordings are available online from *CD Baby.com*, Suzanne's web site, as well as digitally at *itunes.com and more.*

**Robert Breuler** One of Chicago's most respected actors joins Suzanne in one of their many collaborations, including their 30 year marriage and *SuzBo Productions'* "*Duo: 1 is 1, 2 is Math*" their original musical, recently presented at *Steppenwolf Theatre.* From his first role at Joe Papp's New York Public Theatre where he played Kress in David Rabe's *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel* to *Mornings at Seven* at Drury Lane Water Tower, he has played over one hundred roles, including Big Daddy in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*; Moe in *Riverview* and Dean Strauss in *Spinning Into Butter*, at the Goodman. Bob is a member of the Steppenwolf acting ensemble where he has performed in over 40 roles in 31 years. Some favorites: Botvinnic in *A Walk in the Woods* by Lee Blessing, Father Lux in *Our Lady of 121<sup>st</sup> Street*, Pa Joad in the *Grapes of Wrath*, Charlie "Blackie" Blackwell in John Olive's *Killers* which he directed at the Mary Arrchie Theatre. Favorite plays: *Cherry Orchard*, *A Lesson Before Dying*, *The Time of Your Life*, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Infidel*, and *Molly Sweeney.* Television credits: *Prison Break*, *Early Edition*, *NYPD-Blue*, *The Untouchables*, *Angel Street* and in made-for-TV movies such as *Open Admissions*, *The Father Clements Story*, and *Keeper of the City* with Lou Gossett Jr. Films include *The Crucible*, *Trial by Jury*, *The Company*, *Love and Action in Chicago*, *Miles from Home*, *A Piece of Eden*, and *Suspended Animation.* He recently performed at Millennium Park where he was in Studs Terkel's *Will the Circle be Unbroken?* One of his favorite roles was with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra where he played The Devil in Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale.* On Broadway he has been in *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Song of Jacob Zulu*, *Carousel* and *Death of a Salesman.* He is a recipient of the William and Eva Fox Fellowship Grant.

**Bobby Schiff, Musical Director** On the Chicago and Los Angeles music scenes for over 35 years, Bobby Schiff has led orchestras and bands, performed on piano and keyboards, directed, composed and arranged for and with the best. Mel Torme, Peggy Lee and Bobby Rydell, are just a few of the premiere entertainers and musicians he's worked with in the U.S. and internationally. Bobby has been playing piano and keyboards professionally since he was in high school. His classical training in piano performance and composition began at age five. A true music professional, Bobby has served for many years as a National Trustee and National Vice-President of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (The Grammys). He is currently serving as Vice President of the Association of Professional Orchestra Leaders. He also maintains his memberships in ASCAP and ASMA. On a day to day basis, Bobby is working primarily in Chicago as one of the nation's premier vocal arrangers and accompanists. Playing, arranging and producing albums for numerous independent artists; he also performs with his own jazz trio at several Chicago venues. For the past three years Bobby has been Music Director for the Women of Southport Jazz Festival in Chicago. He leads several of his own successful events bands; Phoenix, The Bobby Schiff Band and the Bobby Schiff Jazz Trio, and he is a mainstay in the R&B events band Funk Among Us.

**Jim Cox** (Bass) grew up in Champaign, Ill., where he attended the University of Illinois and earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance on the double bass. Upon graduating he toured with Earl "Fatha" Hines for three years, then settled in Chicago, where he has since worked full-time in the music industry. Jim has performed with

numerous notable jazz artists, including Judy Roberts, Red Rodney, Randy Brecker, Louie Bellson, Rosemary Clooney, Eliane Elias and famed pianist Marian McPartland. Jim's extensive discography includes projects across a wide range of musical styles: jazz, bluegrass, klezmer, folk, and New Age. He teaches string bass at three Chicago area colleges as well.



photos by Jennifer Girard