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The Count Basie Orchestra with Diane Schuur and New York Voices

THE COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA

In the history of jazz, there is only one bandleader with the distinction of having his orchestra still performing sold-out concerts all over the world, with members personally chosen by him, for nearly 30 years after his passing. Pianist/bandleader Count Basie remains an American institution personifying the grandeur and excellence of jazz. The 18-member Count Basie Orchestra has won 18 Grammy Awards and every respected jazz poll in the world, performed for kings and queens, appeared in movies, TV shows and at every major jazz festival and concert hall in the world. Some of the greatest soloists, composers, arrangers, and vocalists in jazz history, including Lester Young, Billie Holiday, Frank Foster, Thad Jones, Sonny Payne, Freddie Green, Snooky Young, Frank Wess, and Joe Williams, became international stars once they began working with the orchestra. Directed by Scotty Barnhart, the Count Basie Orchestra continues Basie's history of stomping and shouting the blues and refining those musical particulars that enable the deepest and most moving of swing.

DIANE SCHUUR, VOCALS

One of contemporary jazz's leading vocalists, Diane Schuur is as eclectic as she is brilliant. With a distinguished Grammy-winning recording career spanning three decades, she explores almost every corner of the 20th-century musical landscape. Notable collaborations include Barry Manilow, B.B. King, Ray Charles, and Jose Feliciano, among others, resulting in numerous #1 *Billboard* recordings. Schuur has appeared on many television specials, has performed at The White House on multiple occasions, and performed for Stevie Wonder at the Kennedy Center Honors.

NEW YORK VOICES

Known for their close-knit voicings, inspired arrangements, and unparalleled vocal blend, New York Voices' chameleon-like musicianship enables them to move seamlessly from setting to setting. Rooted in jazz, Brazilian, R&B, classical, and pop music, they mix traditional sensibilities with more than a dash of the unexpected. They have appeared with Bobby McFerrin, George Benson, Jon Hendricks, Annie Ross, The Manhattan Transfer, the Boston Pops, the Metropole Orchestra, Ivan Lins, Paquito D'Rivera, and many others. Like the great jazz vocal groups that came before them — Lambert, Hendricks and Ross, Singers Unlimited and The Manhattan Transfer — they are dedicated to passing on this musical legacy for generations to come.