



Richard Hopkins
Producing Artistic Director

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**ROCK & ROLL REIGNITED OPENS FST'S
2022 SUMMER CABARET SERIES**

(Sarasota, FL) — Florida Studio Theatre (FST) kicks off its Summer Cabaret Series with *Rock & Roll Reignited With Not Fade Away*, a new, high-energy revue reinvigorating Rock & Roll classics with sizzle, showmanship, and style. Performed by Not Fade Away, a live, four-piece band fresh off their national tour, *Rock & Roll Reignited* features almost two dozen songs from the '50s and '60s, including "It's So Easy," "Johnny B. Goode," and "A Little Less Conversation." Created by **Jared Mancuso** with musical arrangements by Mancuso and **Nick Gallardo**, this fiery music revue begins playing June 14 in FST's Court Cabaret. Tickets are now on sale at FloridaStudioTheatre.org or at 941.366.9000.

Rock & Roll Reignited is part of a three-show subscription package. Also included in the Cabaret subscription package is ***The Jersey Tenors - Part II***, a new show by the popular group, The Jersey Tenors, celebrating artists from the stage to the screen, and ***New York State of Mind: All the Hits of Billy Joel With The Uptown Boys***, a high-energy tribute to "The Piano Man," himself. Subscriptions for all three Summer Cabaret shows can be purchased for as little as \$49 at (941) 366-9000 or FloridaStudioTheatre.org.

Leading *Rock & Roll Reignited* is Jared Mancuso, an actor and musician who, since 2013, has performed nationally as Buddy Holly in several productions of *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* to much critical acclaim.

"I had been doing productions of *Buddy* and other tribute shows that covered the music of Holly, Ritchie Valens, The Big Bopper, and the like, but they weren't scratching this creative itch I had," said Mancuso, who, as a professional musician, has released three solo albums. "I wanted to create something original where the songs were amped up and revitalized. I was worried that, if I didn't find a new way to share this music that I loved, it was going to die out."

This inspired Mancuso to create Not Fade Away in 2016, and since then, the musical group has performed at over 150 sold-out venues across the country. In *Rock & Roll Reignited*, the band will deliver animated, contemporary renditions of Rock & Roll classics by such artists as Elvis Presley, The Beatles, and Roy Orbison while still preserving the emotion behind and spirit of each song.

All four band members make their FST debuts with the theatre's presentation of *Rock & Roll Reignited* this summer.

Nick Gallardo, who created the musical arrangements with Mancuso, has performed internationally as part of the musical tribute show *December '63*. He is an established concert entertainer, performing in such shows as *Forever Everly*, *Valens to Valli*, and *Luck and Ricky LIVE!*.

Joining Gallardo and Mancuso onstage are **Aurora DuBois** (Bass) and **Mike Gallardo** (Drums). A few years ago, DuBois was inspired to play bass after watching a video recording of one of Radiohead's albums. Since then, she has become a skilled bass player and has started three different bands, each specializing in a different musical genre.

FST's presentation of *Rock & Roll Reignited* marks the first time that Mike Gallardo will perform with Not Fade Away, though he is a member of another band, Nightstand, which will soon release its debut album.

FST's presentation of *Rock & Roll Reignited* is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The production is also supported by The Shubert Foundation, Sarasota County Tourist Development Tax Revenues, and The Exchange.

ABOUT FLORIDA STUDIO THEATRE

Florida Studio Theatre (FST) is Sarasota's contemporary theatre. Founded in 1973, FST has grown to a village of five theatres located in the heart of Downtown, Sarasota. Each theatre is small in size and large in impact— providing intimate and engaging settings for high-quality, professional performances.

Today, FST has established itself as a major force in American Theatre. FST is the largest subscription theatre in the state of Florida and among the largest in the country, serving more than 230,000 live attendees each year across its six core programs: Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, Children's Theatre, The FST School, and New Play Development.

Even with its growth, Florida Studio Theatre remains firmly committed to making the arts accessible and affordable to as many people as possible. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Richard Hopkins, FST develops theatre that speaks to our living, evolving, and dynamically changing world. Hip and historical, entertaining and challenging, we are the theatre where the street meets the elite — where everyone is welcome to engage in the art of theatre.

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