



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 24, 2010

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David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts presents



Aug. 19 – Sept. 26
Jaeb Theater at the Straz Center
Regularly priced tickets start at \$34.50

TAMPA, Fla. — The David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts (formerly the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center) presents *Respect: A Musical Journey of Women*, back by popular demand Aug. 19 – Sept. 26, in the Jaeb Theater.

Creative Loafing said “*Respect* is terrific ... You couldn't ask for a more entertaining look at American women's history...(★★★★½),” while *The Tampa Tribune* proclaimed “*Respect*” is a must-see for theatergoers who like a musical with something to say.”

From “Someone to Watch over Me” to “I Will Survive,” *Respect* is the journey of women told through the music of the Top-40. It’s a show that is a journey from the codependence of “I Will Follow Him” to the anger of “These Boots are Made for Walking,” to the cynicism of “What’s Love Got to Do with It,” and finally to the strength of “Hero.” Combining excerpts of 60 songs with women's own stories about finding dreams, lost love, relationship issues, entering the workforce, gaining independence and more, *Respect* is an exhilarating must-see, must-hear evening of theater.

Vanderbilt University professor Dr. Dorothy Marcic created the show based on her book, “RESPECT: Women and Popular Music.” For more than the first half of the last century, the voice of women in Top-40 popular music has been one of neediness and dependency. By the end of the century, things were quite different. Popular music had come far enough that women looked for the hero within themselves, were urged to get on their feet and make it happen and were ready to stand on their own with or without a man. Messages in the music encompassed everything from “I am woman—hear me roar” to “I will survive” and encouraged women to find their own dreams.

Respect: A Musical Journey of Women will play in the Jaeb Theater, Aug. 19 – Sept. 26. Performances are Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., with matinee performances on Saturdays at 2 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. There will be no performances over Labor Day weekend, Sept. 3 – 5. Regularly priced tickets start at \$34.50 and may be purchased by calling 813.229.STAR (7827) or 800.955.1045 outside Tampa Bay, in person at the Straz Center Ticket Office or online at www.strazcenter.org. For more information about the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts and its upcoming events, please visit www.strazcenter.org.

Events, days, dates, times, performers and prices are subject to change without notice.

PAC2010-106

The David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts and its programs are funded in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts; the Arts Council of Hillsborough County and the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners; the Tourist Development Council/Hillsborough County; and the City of Tampa.