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(Images of Michael Feinstein are available for download in the Photo Library)

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN PERFORMS 'THE GERSHWINS AND ME' WITH HIS BIG BAND AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL FRIDAY, JULY 12 AT 7:30 PM

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (April 9, 2013) - Vocalist and pianist Michael Feinstein performs his "The Gershwins and Me" show with his big band at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco Friday, July 12 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are on sale now through <u>sfsymphony.org</u>, by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco. The concert is part of the Symphony's *Summer & the Symphony* series.

Feinstein's July 12 performance with his big band is a celebration of the musical legacy of George and Ira Gershwin. Feinstein, a celebrated vocalist, pianist, cabaret entrepreneur, and spokesman for the preservation of the American Songbook, shares both the music of Gershwin and his personal stories from his recent book *The Gershwins and Me*, which reflects upon his six-year collaboration with Ira Gershwin. Feinstein is a two-time Emmy award nominee and a five-time Grammy® award nominee. His fifth Grammy award nomination was in 2009 for *The Sinatra Project*, his Concord Records CD

celebrating the music of "Ol' Blue Eyes." *The Sinatra Project, Volume II: The Good Life* was released last year. His Emmy nominated TV special, *Michael Feinstein -- The Sinatra Legacy*, aired across the country, and his PBS series *Michael Feinstein's American Songbook* was the recipient of the ASCAP Deems-Taylor Television Broadcast Award. The series returned in 2012 for a second season, which is now available on DVD. For his nationally syndicated public radio program *Song Travels*, Feinstein interviews and performs alongside music luminaries such as Bette Midler, Neil Sedaka, Liza Minnelli, Moby, Rickie Lee Jones, David Hyde Pierce, and more.

His recent book *The Gershwins and Me*, which is combined with a new CD of Gershwin standards performed with Cyrus Chestnut at the piano, was published in October 2012. Recently, he released the CDs *The Power of Two*, a collaboration with *Glee* and *30 Rock* star Cheyenne Jackson, and *Cheek To Cheek*, recorded with Broadway legend Barbara Cook. His newest recording is *We Dreamed These Days*, featuring the Carmel (IN) Symphony Orchestra; Feinstein co-wrote the title song with Dr. Maya Angelou.

Feinstein's roots are in Columbus, Ohio, where he started playing piano by ear as a 5-year-old. After graduating from high school, he worked in local piano bars for two years, moving to Los Angeles when he was 20. The widow of legendary concert pianist-actor Oscar Levant introduced him to Ira Gershwin in July 1977. Feinstein became Gershwin's assistant for six years, which earned him access to numerous unpublished Gershwin songs, many of which he has since performed and recorded.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN AND HIS BIG BAND

"The Gershwins and Me"

Friday, July 12 at 7:30 pm Davies Symphony Hall 201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

Michael Feinstein piano and vocals and his big band

Editors, please note: The San Francisco Symphony does not perform on this concert.

Tickets: \$20-88. Tickets are available at <u>sfsymphony.org</u>, by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.

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