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FLAT ROCK PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

DONNY EDWARDS AS ELVIS

*Donny Edwards returns to the Leiman Mainstage for four performances only
in this Authentic Heart & Soul Tribute to The King.*



Photo by Treadshots.com

Flat Rock, NC (February 12, 2020) – Flat Rock Playhouse continues their 2020 season and Music on the Rock® series with **Donny Edwards as Elvis**. A Flat Rock Playhouse favorite, Donny returns to the Leiman Mainstage to perform his highly acclaimed tribute to the King of Rock ‘n’ Roll. See Donny perform all your favorites like “Hound Dog,” “Burning Love,” “Jailhouse Rock,” and more! **Donny Edwards as Elvis** runs for only four performances March 4th - 6th.

Donny Edwards is the best Elvis performer in the business. A respected veteran performer, Donny is an official Las Vegas casino headliner act! He is the only Elvis tribute artist to perform his show on the estate grounds of Graceland since 1977.

“When developing our Music on the Rock® series for this year we kept our 'Putting on the Hits' season-theme at top of mind,” says Flat Rock Playhouse’s Producing Artistic Director, Lisa K. Bryant. “We wanted to feature artists who people love and music that people of all ages have enjoyed for decades. Not only is the music of Elvis iconic and nostalgic, but Donny himself has become a favorite on the Rock since his first show in 2015. We are excited to have him return to the Leiman Mainstage and perform a tribute show that is always a hit with audiences.”

Alex Shields will serve as Music Director, Arranger, and Keys. Joining **Donny Edwards** on stage are **Paul Babelay, Ryan Guerra, Daniel Iannucci, Chris Imhoff, Mike Miller,** and **Wes Parker** on drums, guitar, bass, trumpet, trombone, and saxophone respectively. **Wendy Jones** and **Joe Greatorex** will provide additional vocals.

Adam Goodrum will serve as Production Manager with **CJ Barnwell** as Lighting/Projections Designer and **David Gerena** as Sound Designer.

Donny as Elvis is brought to you in part by Media Sponsor **WTZQ** and Hearing Loop Sponsor **Asheville Head, Neck, and Ear**.

TICKETS AND SCHEDULE

Donny as Elvis will run for four performances only, March 4th - 6th at the Leiman Mainstage in Flat Rock. Performances on Wednesday and Thursday at 2 PM, Thursday at 7:30 PM, and Friday at 8 PM. Tickets start at \$29.75 and can be purchased by calling the Playhouse Box Office at 828-693-0731, toll-free at 866-732-8008 or online at www.flatrockplayhouse.org.

The Flat Rock Playhouse Leiman Mainstage is located at 2661 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

PHOTOS AVAILABLE

High-resolution production color photos will be available for media use by request.

TV CAMERA FILMING

Filming a short segment of this production during rehearsals or Opening Night for press use may be arranged.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews with the cast and artistic staff are available.

FLAT ROCK PLAYHOUSE

In 1937, a group of struggling performers, led by Robroy Farquhar, organized themselves as the Vagabond Players. The Vagabonds worked in a variety of places over the course of three years, and in 1940 found themselves in the Blue Ridge region of Western North Carolina. The local and tourist community welcomed them with open arms when they presented their first summer season of plays in a 150-year-old grist mill they converted into The Old Mill Playhouse at Highland Lake. So successful was that summer, they returned in 1941. After WWII, the Vagabond Players reorganized, came back to the region and opened a playhouse in nearby Lake Summit. The Lake Summit Playhouse thrived during the post-war years and soon the Vagabond Players were looking for a larger and permanent home. In 1952, the troupe of performers, and a newly formed board of directors, made an offer to buy an 8-acre lot in the Village of Flat Rock. This new home made the Vagabonds “locals” and a rented big top gave birth to Flat Rock Playhouse. As the beautiful Western Carolina region continued to grow, so did the Playhouse and in 1961, by Act of the North Carolina General Assembly, Flat Rock Playhouse was officially designated The State Theatre of North Carolina. What began as a few weeks of summer performances in 1940 is now a nine-month season of plays including Broadway musicals, comedy, drama, and theatre for young audiences. The Playhouse’s dual mission of producing the performing arts and providing education in the performing arts includes a professional series; a summer and fall college apprentice and intern program; and Studio 52, year-round classes and workshops in theatre and film for students from kindergarten through adults. Flat Rock Playhouse now hosts over 105,000 patrons annually and is a significant contributor to the local economy and the Arts in North Carolina.

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