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***Music without Borders*** with John Thomas

World Music Series Premieres Sunday, January 24

*New virtual concerts will stream Sundays thru March 7*

*on provincetowntheater.org*

The Provincetown Theater is proud to present, fresh from his 2019-2020 Fulbright grant in Bulgaria, the renowned Cape Cod pianist and musical director John Thomas in a new musical meditation series on our website this month entitled ***Music without Borders****.* Debuting Sunday January 24, this weekly exploration into world music begins streaming every Sunday at 7pm through March 7 on provincetowntheater.org and on our YouTube channel.

For a half-hour each week, ***Music without Borders*** will engage audiences with the kind of peace, serenity and beauty offered by John Thomas’s astonishing talent at our grand piano on the Provincetown Theater stage. With a special guest or two each week, the music takes us on a boundary-free journey from classical to gospel to original to improvisation to countries near and far.

**A Statement from John Thomas:**

“I wanted to create a way to present music I recently had learned in Bulgaria. I also wanted to dive in to a ‘music without borders’ concept that involved working with some of my favorite music colleagues. A project like this needs good support and guidance, and so I thought immediately of David Drake, the artistic director at The Provincetown Theater. We were all doing our best to figure out how to continue to be creative and present theater and music in a world filled with new safety concerns.

“In all, we filmed 38 pieces of music over the course of several months. With guest musicians who are advocates of borderless music, I am so proud and pleased that we were able to offer all kinds of music for this new show: classical, original, film, gospel, improvisation, Bulgarian, Japanese, Mexican, Argentinian, Turkish.”

Guest musicians scheduled in ***Music without Borders*** include:

Jan 24 - Jazz saxophone player Ken Field.

Jan 31 - Bulgarian folk singer Elena Mancheva and wind player Justin Torrellas.

Feb 7 - Gospel singer Mozelle.

Feb 14 - Bulgarian folk singer Elena Mancheva and wind player Justin Torrellas.

Feb 21 - Classical cellist Chanthoeun Varon Collins.

Feb 28 - Jazz saxophone player Ken Field.

Mar 7 - Gospel singer Mozelle and wind player Justin Torrellas.

With a suggested donation of $15 (though any donation will be greatly appreciated),***Music without Borders***goes “live” at 7pm on Sundays from Jan 24 thru March 7 on the Provincetown Theater website's virtual programming page on provincetowntheater.org.

For updates, please follow the Provincetown Theater on Facebook and Instagram, or call 774.538.2211.

**ABOUT JOHN THOMAS:**

Johnis well known to Provincetown and Cape Cod audiences as a pianist, music director, concert producer and composer. He was the recipient of a 2019-20 grant from the Bulgarian Fulbright Commission for study, research and performance with the project title “Music without Borders: Bulgaria and America in Melody, Harmony and Rhythm”.

John has played piano at Boston’s Symphony Hall and with the Cape Symphony and performed with musicians in Provincetown, Cape Cod, Boston, New Orleans, New York City, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Mexico and Nepal. John’s music runs a wide gamut of styles: classical, New Orleans, Broadway, rhythm & blues, Balkan, Latin, original compositions and more. He composed *Pure PolyESTHER: a biblical burlesque* (with Abe Rybeck) and music for theater productions of *Camille*, *The Ash Girl* and *A Perfect Ganesh*. He wrote and performed the solo show *Spontaneous Me: A Night with Walt Whitman*, for which he also composed an original music score. He was the music director for *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, *Hair*, *Cabaret*, *The Wild Party*, *Working*, *Candide*, *Thrill Me: The Leopold & Loeb* Story, *Edgar Allan Poe’s Nevermore* and *Always… Patsy Cline*, and he has produced music events for the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival. He portrayed Manny the pianist in the Maria Callas story *Master Class*; Cosme McMoon, Florence Foster Jenkins’ flamboyant pianist, in *Souvenir*; Mashkan, the Viennese vocal coach, in *Old Wicked Songs*; and Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*. He produces *Great Music on Sundays @5*, *Celebration of Life*, and *WorldFest* in Provincetown MA. His photographs of Tibetan monasteries and street musicians of the world have been exhibited at Berta Walker Gallery. His band *Johnny & The Washashores* celebrates American and international music. His three recordings - original music titled *Composing Myself*, *Look to the Stars* with Christopher Sidoli, and *4 hands, 2 guys, 1 piano! American Music* with Paul Bisaccia – are available for digital download on iTunes, Amazon and CDBaby.

More information, including videos and audio recordings, is available at johnwthomas.com and his YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy7h55zNcv_lY_cp6HZ27Gw>).

**ABOUT THE PROVINCETOWN THEATER:**

The Provincetown Theater is owned and managed by the Provincetown Theater Foundation (PTF). A 501c3 not-for-profit performing arts center, the Provincetown Theater produces plays, musicals, readings, and other performance events year-round on Outer Cape Cod in Provincetown, MA. Sponsorships for the Provincetown Theater include the generous support of Somerset House Inn, Burns & Levinson, Gabby Hanna of William Raveis Realty, The Lexvest Group, The Boatslip, Kinlin Grover Real Estate, Seamen’s Bank, WOMR, Hook, 102.3 Dunes FM, Strangers & Saints, The Mews, Fanizzi’s, Victor’s, Lobster Pot, Budget Blinds of Mid & Outer Cape, Scott Allegretti DDS, Provincetown Film Society, Provincetown Tourism Fund, David Schoolman Trust, Cape Cod 5 Foundation, Arts Foundation of Cape Cod, Mass Humanities, Eastern Bank, TCBF, BC/EFA, Roy Cockrum Foundation, and the Palette Fund.

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