

# Memorandum



Date: March 11, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor 

Subject: South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center  
Status Report

CRC  
Agenda Item No. 7(D)

The second season of the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center (SMDCAC) commenced on October 1, 2012. For the three month period following the start of season two, SMDCAC held 51 events among the three performance venues (Mainstage, Black Box and Lab Theater) hosting over 18,000 patrons and guests. The Center continues to emphasize its goals of presenting artistically excellent work and developing strong community outreach components in everything that it does. To-date ticket sales have more than doubled from last season.

For the month of January, SMDCAC presented world music by Pedro Alfonso and Friends, *Flamenco: Spanish Heritage* (January 4-5) and acclaimed national jazz singer Rene Marie (January 25-27), for the Center's Cabaret Series, sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay. On the Mainstage for January was the famed group of dancer-illusionists MOMIX who presented their nature-themed show *Botanica* (January 19). Grammy-award winning a cappella singers Sweet Honey In The Rock performed the evening of January 26. A pre-show reception hosted by Dress For Success honored graduates of this empowerment program and offered the opportunity for the graduates to meet and greet the singers of Sweet Honey In The Rock. The Center also presented *Freckleface Strawberry*, a family series musical theater production based on actress Jullianne Moore's acclaimed book for children.

WLRN public radio conducted artist interviews with both Sweet Honey In The Rock and Rene Marie to promote the shows to the public in advance of the performances. WDNA jazz radio station also conducted an interview with Rene Marie.

MOMIX performers gave a free master class for dancers on the morning of January 19 as part of SMDCAC's education and outreach program.

To kick off the New Year, the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center offered free fitness and movement classes for the community in yoga, hip hop, kick boxing, modern dance and belly dancing. Reservations for these free classes reached capacity within a few days and were enthusiastically received by the community.

For the month of February, SMDCAC presents an exciting and diverse array of artists. The Actors' Gang, under the artistic direction of actor and director Tim Robbins (*Bull Durham*, *Shawshank Redemption*) will travel from Los Angeles to perform *Tartuffe*, the classic comedy by Molière (February 8 and 9). Also showing in February are Haitian American musician Daniel Bernard Roumain performing with members of the Detroit-based Sphinx Symphony Orchestra (February 16) and The Birdland Big Band, one of the top jazz groups from New York (February 17).

In February the Cabaret Series features a Tango show by Latin musician Pedro Alfonso (February 1 and 2) and a flamenco and jazz fusion performance by Siempre Flamenco (February 22-24).

For a complete listing of upcoming events, please visit the Center's website, [www.smdcac.org](http://www.smdcac.org).

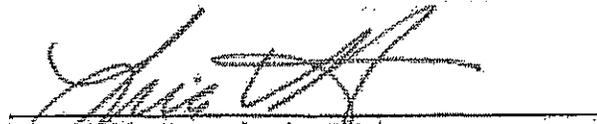
## BACKGROUND

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is located on S.W. 211 Street in Cutler Bay and is a multidisciplinary arts center designed to showcase the performing arts. The design team was led by architectural and engineering firm Arquitectonica International, Inc. and also included theater consultant Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc.; acoustical and sound and communications consultant Artec Consultants, Inc.; and arts management consultant AMS Planning & Research Corp.

The Center's 966-seat state-of-the-art Theater Building includes a fly tower, orchestra pit, front of house spaces (box office, lobby, restrooms, concessions, etc.), back of house support spaces (dressing rooms, storage and work areas, administrative offices, etc.) and a multi-purpose rehearsal space. The separate Activities Building of the Center houses an informal performance space, and smaller multi-purpose spaces for lectures, classes, or community gatherings. The Center's two buildings are joined by an outdoor promenade leading to a gently-sloping lawn for outdoor concerts and festivals along the Black Creek Canal.

Through Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places Program, the Center has major public art works created by Miami artist Robert Chambers. An innovative light piece illuminates the translucent inner lobby wall with changing light designs created by computer-programmed LED fixtures. In addition, the lobby features two marble sculptures also created by Robert Chambers.

This season Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay has generously sponsored the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center's Cabaret Series.



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Lisa M. Martinez, Senior Advisor  
Office of the Mayor

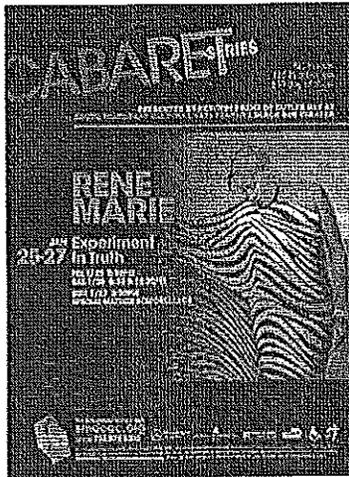
South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center  
Sample Marketing Materials



Sweet Honey In The Rock Billboard



Tartuffe Print Ad



Rene Marie Cabaret Poster