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PENINSULA SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES SPECIAL GUEST FOR ANNUAL GALA

Patricia Ward Kelly to Present Multimedia Presentation On Gene Kelly

LOS ALTOS, Calif., (November 22, 2015) - Peninsula Symphony is pleased to announce Patricia Ward Kelly, widow of the late Hollywood star Gene Kelly, as their special guest for its annual gala. Entitled "On the Town with Peninsula Symphony," this season's fundraising event will be held at the Palo Alto Event Center on February 20, 2016 starting at 5:30PM.

Kelly was only 26 years old when she met her husband while working on a documentary for the Smithsonian back in 1985. With his energetic, athletic dancing style and likable persona, Gene Kelly was one of the most beloved of actors during the Golden Age of Hollywood, starring in some of the most iconic film musicals in history. He is also regarded as one of the most innovative film choreographers of all time. Patricia Ward Kelly later became his personal biographer and eventually his wife in 1990.

In recent years, Patricia Ward Kelly has been touring with the one-woman show she created, Gene Kelly: The Legacy around the country. It includes clips, photos and nostalgic tales about the star of such classics as American in Paris (1951), On the Town (1949) and Singin in the Rain (1952). Her appearance at the Peninsula Symphony's event will include some of these featured classics as she shares Gene's passion for classical music and how his love of symphony inspired his many endeavors as an iconic and inspirational actor/dancer/singer. Live musical numbers will be performed by the symphony's musicians during this special event.

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“Music influenced him, inspired him, and in many ways, defined him,” said Kelly, who once told The Hollywood Reporter that “Gene wanted to be known more as a creative artist behind the camera than as someone up on the screen”.

Tickets are \$125 per person or \$1,000 for a table of 10 people. “On the Town with Peninsula Symphony” attendees will also have the opportunities to bid on one-of-a-kind, “experiential” items while enjoying a full sit-down dinner, first-class entertainment and more. For tickets and more details, contact Sheri Frumkin, Managing Director, at (650)941-5291 or go online at www.peninsulasymphony.org/gala.

ABOUT PENINSULA SYMPHONY

Founded in 1949, the mission of the Peninsula Symphony is to enrich the lives of people in our community with inspiring, innovative, high-quality musical presentations at affordable prices, and to promote music education through engaging programs for children and adults. The Symphony is celebrating its 67th season under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Mitchell Sardou Klein.

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