



Virginia Arts Festival presents

Holiday Spectacular *'Tis the Season to Swing*

Featuring

Rob Fisher, music director

Nadia and Christine DiGiallonardo, singers

With The Festival Five

Saturday, December 4 at 8:00 pm

Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia Beach

Like a champagne toast in song, like a gift you can't wait to open, Virginia Arts Festival's Holiday Spectacular *'Tis the Season to Swing* on Saturday, December 4 is destined to be an annual tradition for residents and visitors in Virginia Beach. Designed to appeal to audiences of all ages, this sparkling annual holiday concert is a great way to gather family and friends, business travelers, and tourists for an unforgettable show at Virginia Beach's premier entertainment venue, the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts. **Tickets are on sale now at vafest.org.**

Broadway's Nadia DiGiallonardo (*Waitress, Pippin, Hair*) reunites with sister Christine DiGiallonardo (*My Fair Lady, Candide, Guys and Dolls*) join Hampton Roads native and prominent Broadway conductor Rob Fisher (*Chicago, An American in Paris*) for an unforgettable holiday celebration. Fan favorites for years on public radio's "A Prairie Home Companion," the DiGiallonardo Sisters and Rob Fisher know their way around a song and have a gift for making it fun. Featuring holiday music, from Broadway to country, and singing-in-church to classics to old-time radio, backed by a festive five-piece combo (the Festival Five) led by Rob Fisher. Guaranteed to kick off the holiday season in style and send you home humming!

As the Virginia Arts Festival looks ahead to the 2022 and the upcoming 25th Anniversary season, The Holiday Spectacular will remind audiences of the Festival's 25-year reputation as the region's most trusted presenter of great performances.

Tickets available at vafest.org or by phone at 757-282-2822.

About Rob Fisher

One of the most sought-after music directors on Broadway, conductor Rob Fisher is a creator and long-time music director of the legendary, Tony Awards-honored *ENCORES!* concerts in New York; Grammy-winning music director of the long-running Broadway hit *Chicago, the*

Musical; and Founder and Director of the Coffee Club Orchestra, an audience favorite on public radio's *Prairie Home Companion*. A longtime friend and favorite of Virginia Arts Festival audiences, Rob has created, hosted, and conducted concerts with Broadway stars Kristin Chenoweth and Kelli O'Hara, and directed the sold-out 2018 Sandler Center show with Brooke Shields celebrating "Bernstein on Broadway."

About Christine DiGiallonardo

Christine DiGiallonardo is a New York-based vocalist whose performances range from early-music chamber ensembles to jazz and rock bands. She has performed in NY City Center's Encores! productions of *High Button Shoes*, *I Married An Angel*, *Me And My Girl*, *Brigadoon*, *The New Yorkers*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Lady, Be Good!*, *On Your Toes*, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* and *Fiorello!* Her voice can be heard on cast albums for *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, *Lady, Be Good!*, *Brigadoon* and *The New Yorkers*. Concert credits include *Candide*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Guys & Dolls* (Carnegie Hall) as well as *Carousel* (Live from Lincoln Center with the NY Philharmonic) where she played the role of Arminy Livermore, *West Side Story* (Verizon Hall) as Francisca, and *My Fair Lady* (NY Philharmonic).

She was a featured soloist on *A Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor for 7 years until his retirement in 2016 and continues to perform with Garrison in his solo shows around the country. Christine also sings with her sisters, Daniela and Nadia, as The DiGiallonardo Sisters. They have recorded two albums together, "Shout, Sister, Shout!" and "No Fighting On Christmas", available on iTunes. She is also a company member of Blake Allen's "An Evening With..." series, a bimonthly concert at NYC's Green Room 42 that honors singers and songwriters of the beginning-middle part of the 20th century. In addition to concerts and theater, Christine's voice has also been featured on many commercial jingles, including spots for Aquafresh, Mr. Clean, Playtex, and Febreze. Graduate of Vassar College.

About Nadia DiGiallonardo

Nadia DiGiallonardo is a NYC-based music director, arranger, and singer. She is currently the Music Supervisor and Arranger for the upcoming musical *The Devil Wears Prada*, with music by Elton John. She was the music director/conductor for Diane Paulus's Broadway production of *Waitress* at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre and is thrilled to be reprising that role as part of the re-opening of Broadway this fall! As a member of the original creative team, Nadia collaborated with Sara Bareilles and the *Waitress* band to develop the score of the show. Nadia was also the music supervisor and dance arranger for the Broadway revival of *Pippin*, and the music director/conductor for the Broadway revival of *Hair*. It was Rob Fisher's mentorship that gave Nadia the opportunity to work on *Hair*, and also opened the door for Nadia and her sisters to have the incredible experience of being a part of *A Prairie Home Companion* for the last few years of its run. With Rob Fisher, Garrison Keillor, and the amazing musicians of the APHC band, The DiGiallonardo Sisters released their album *Shout, Sister, Shout!* Nadia is also currently working on Diane Paulus's revival of *1776*, as well as co-orchestrating *Afterwords* for Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre, and co-producing the music for the animated series *Central Park*. She graduated Vassar College Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in Urban Planning and lives in Harlem with her two sons, Jack and Charlie.

About the Virginia Arts Festival

Since 1997, the Virginia Arts Festival has transformed the cultural scene in southeastern Virginia, presenting great performers from around the world to local audiences and making this historic, recreation-rich region a cultural destination for visitors from across the United States and around the world. The Festival has presented numerous U.S. and regional premieres, and regularly commissions new works of music, dance, and theater from some of today's most influential composers, choreographers and playwrights. The Festival's arts education programs reach tens of thousands of area schoolchildren each year through student matinees, in-school performances, artists' residencies, master classes and demonstrations. ###

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