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<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe Presents The Fab Faux

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center presents **The Fab Faux** on Saturday, July 20 at 8:00pm. “This will be a night of exemplary music—they’re not your average tribute band,” said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “As *Rolling Stone* magazine put it, they’re ‘the greatest Beatles cover band — without the wigs...[they] invigorate the artistry of even the Beatles’ most intricate studio masterpieces with top chops and Beatlemaniac glee.’”

With a commitment to the accurate reproduction of The Beatles’ repertoire, The Fab Faux treat the seminal music with unwavering respect, and are known for their painstaking recreations of the songs (with emphasis on the later works never performed live by the Beatles). Far beyond a cover band, they play the music of The Beatles so impeccably that one must experience it to believe it. Imagine hearing complex material like “Strawberry Fields Forever” or “I Am the Walrus” performed in complete part-perfect renditions; or such harmony-driven songs as “Because,” “Nowhere Man,” and “Paperback Writer” produced not only note-for-note, but with extra vocalists to achieve a double-tracked effect.

The musical virtuosity of The Fab Faux — in actuality five of the hardest working musicians in NYC — completely up-ends the concept of a Beatles tribute band. Far beyond being extended sets of cover versions, their astounding shows are an inspired re-discovery of the Beatles’ musical magic, as The Fab Faux tackles the group’s most demanding material live onstage in a way that has to be experienced to be believed.

Approaching the songs with the intent of playing them live as accurately in musical reading and in spirit as possible, The Faux's breathtaking performances tend to dispel all concertgoers' previous notions of a Beatles tribute act. "The Fab Faux have the hardest job in the history of rock and roll and they pull it off damn well. All rock bands want to be like the Beatles; these guys have the nerve to BE the Beatles. Amazingly, they're so good at it you learn new things about the originals," said Dave Marsh, legendary rock critic and Sirius Radio Host.

The Fab Faux are a labor of love that was born in 1998 when neighbors Jimmy Vivino, Music Director/Guitarist/Arranger for *Conan with Conan O'Brien* and long time music partner of Levon Helm, John Sebastian, Laura Nyro, and Max Weinberg (to name a few), and Will Lee (who's played with all four Beatles), bassist for Paul Shaffer's CBS Orchestra on the *Late Show With David Letterman* kicked around the idea during an elevator ride in their NYC building. Rounding out the line-up are lead-singing drummer/producer Rich Pagano (Rosanne Cash, Patti Smith, Ray Davies, etc.), guitarist Frank Agnello (Marshall Crenshaw, Phoebe Snow, etc.) and ace keyboardist/guitarist Jack Petruzzelli (Rufus Wainwright, Patti Smith, Joan Osborne Band, etc.). All five principals contribute vocals, making the Faux's soaring harmonies as resonant as their multi-instrumental chops.

The Faux's high energy shows have generated serious buzz not only at top NYC venues including sold out shows at Radio City Music Hall, The Beacon Theater, Hammerstein Ballroom, and Webster Hall —with Beatles fans, movie stars, and world class musicians in attendance — but at major dates in Los Angeles, Atlanta, Las Vegas, Park City, Utah (Sundance), Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, and Toronto. They've headlined four of the last five years at Liverpool's annual Beatle Week, playing before 35,000 Beatle fanatics — while in England, they had the rare honor of recording an original song at Abbey Road Studios — and also delighted the masses performing live on the *Howard Stern Show* and *The Mark And Brian Show*. Benefit and corporate dates have included events for JVC, the N.B.A., and the Michael J. Fox Parkinsons Research Foundation. TV appearances

include *Late Show with David Letterman* and *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*.

“It’s not just a cover band,” says the Faux’s Pagano. “This is the greatest Pop music ever written, and we’re such freaks for it.” Vivino adds, “It’s constant archaeology.”

Tickets

Tickets to The Fab Faux are \$60 to \$80. The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6:00pm and three hours before show times. A limited number of \$15 tickets are available for patrons ages 30 and younger to performances at the Mahaiwe through Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

About the Mahaiwe

Located in downtown Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center is the year-round presenter of world-class music, dance, theater, classic films, “Live in HD” broadcasts, and arts education programs for the southern Berkshires and neighboring regions. The intimate jewel box of a theater opened in 1905 and has been in continuous operation for over 100 years. In 2005, the theater experienced a renaissance as a beautifully restored 681-seat venue to offer a broad range of cultural and community events. Today’s “Mahaiwe Mix” of diverse, high quality programming strives to provide meaningful, memorable entertainment for all ages and interests.