

Thursday Evening, April 5, 2007, at 8:00
Isaac Stern Auditorium / Ronald O. Perelman Stage

the music of
Bruce Springsteen

Featuring:

Joseph Arthur

The Bacon Brothers

Badly Drawn Boy

Uri Cane

Steve Earle

Elysian Fields

Juliana Hatfield

Robin Holcomb

Holmes Brothers With Young Peoples' Chorus of New York City

Some Jersey Boys featuring Bobby Valli, Dave & Eddie Brigati,

and the Duprees

Jewel

Low Stars

Jesse Malin

Marah

North Mississippi All-Stars

Odetta

Josh Ritter

Ronnie Spector

M. Ward

Pete Yorn

Produced by Michael Dorf

*A Benefit for Music For Youth—
UJA-Federation of New York's
initiative to support music education for
underprivileged young people.*



PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

From the Chair of Music for Youth

Dear Friends,

As chair of UJA-Federation of New York's Music for Youth initiative, I am thrilled to welcome you to tonight's tribute to one of the world's greatest songwriters and performers, Bruce "The Boss" Springsteen.

Over the next few hours, you will have the pleasure of hearing selections from his incredible body of work performed by a diverse and extraordinarily talented group of artists.

By your presence, you are supporting the important work of Music for Youth. Over the past decade, Music for Youth has made financial grants of more than \$2.5 million, and this year, we will make an additional \$400,000 in grants to music-education programs for underprivileged young people.

Thanks to your generosity, Music for Youth will continue to realize its mission.

With warmest regards,

Charles Feldman
Chair
Music for Youth

From the Executive Producer

This tribute series honors great songwriters and performers who have stood up to the test of time. From Joni Mitchell and Bob Dylan in 2006 to our first tribute this year—Bruce Springsteen—we have celebrated artists who have contributed songs into the great American songbook. These are my American idols.

What is most impressive about the process of selecting the diverse talent to perform—all, in their own right, great songwriters and performers—is the tremendous respect they show to the honoree.

The number of artists who wanted to be on the stage tonight is too large to mention. The outpouring of musicians who all have felt touched and inspired by The Boss was overwhelming.

Tonight, we have assembled an eclectic offering from folk, rock, blues, jazz, pop, world, and dance music. They are interpreting Bruce's great craftsmanship in their unique style and sound. But, in the end, no matter what the style, it is Bruce's genius that shines through.

With great respect,

Michael Dorf
Executive Producer

Bruce Springsteen



When Bruce Springsteen finally broke through to national recognition in the fall of 1975 after a decade of trying, critics hailed him as the savior of rock 'n' roll, the single artist who brought together all the exuberance of '50s rock and the thoughtfulness of '60s rock, molded into a '70s style. He rocked as hard as Jerry Lee Lewis, his lyrics were as complicated as Bob Dylan's, and his concerts were near-religious celebrations of all that was best in music. One critic became so enamored that he quit reviewing to become Springsteen's manager.

Springsteen landed on the covers of *Time* and *Newsweek* in the same week, and his album, *Born to Run*, became a hit. He jumped to arena status as an incredible live act turned on by the records and shows.

Bruce Springsteen has remained an established star with a career that has produced one of the best-selling albums of all time, sold-out stadium shows, Grammy awards, an Oscar, and a group of imitators who constituted their own subgenre of popular music.

Growing up in southern New Jersey, Springsteen turned to rock 'n' roll as a teenager and played in a series of bands from the mid-'60s on, varying in style from garage rock to power trio blues-rock. By the early '70s, he was trying his hand at being a folksy singer and songwriter in Greenwich Village. But when he was signed to Columbia Records in 1972, he brought into the studio many of the New Jersey-based musicians with whom he'd played over the years.

The result was *Greetings from Asbury Park, N.J.* (January 1973), which included "Blinded by the Light" that Manfred Mann's Earth Band turned into a number-one hit four years later. *The Wild, the Innocent & the E Street Shuffle* (September 1973) also received rave reviews.

The following year, Springsteen revised his backup group—dubbed the E Street Band—settling on a lineup that included saxophone player Clarence Clemons, second guitarist "Miami" Steve Van Zandt, organist Danny Federici, pianist Roy Bittan, bassist Garry Tallent, and drummer Max Weinberg. With this unit, he

barnstormed the country while working on his third and last chance with Columbia. Although his previous albums were critically well received, the sales did not match the acclaim.

By the time *Born to Run* (August 1975) was released, the critics and a significant cult audience were with him, and the title song became a Top 40 hit while the album reached the Top Ten. Springsteen returned with his fourth album, *Darkness on the Edge of Town* (June 1978), winning fans with an album that found the lost children of his early albums stuck in factory jobs, still longing for some escape. The album was a hit. Springsteen returned with the double album *The River* (October 1980), which topped the charts and featured his first Top Ten hit, "Hungry Heart."

Springsteen's next recording was the low-key album *Nebraska* (September 1982). But then came *Born in the U.S.A.* (June 1984) and a two-year international tour. The album threw off seven hit singles and sold more than 10 million copies, putting Springsteen in the pop hierarchy. After touring for more than a year, he released a five-LP/three-CD concert album, *Live/1975-85* (November 1986), which topped the charts.

Characteristically, Springsteen returned with a more introverted effort, *Tunnel of Love* (October 1987). After another marathon tour, in March 1992, he simultaneously released *Human Touch* and *Lucky Town*. The albums premiered near the top of the charts. In the fall, Springsteen taped an "MTV Unplugged" segment.

Springsteen continued to tour until July 1993. In the fall, he wrote and recorded "Streets of Philadelphia" for the soundtrack to the film *Philadelphia*. The song became a Top Ten hit in 1994, winning the Academy Award for Best Song and cleaning up at the Grammys the following year.

At the same time, he readied his *Greatest Hits* album (February 1995), reassembling the E Street Band to record a few new tracks. The album was an immediate best seller. Springsteen followed it with *The Ghost of Tom Joad* (November 1995), another low-key, near-acoustic effort, and embarked on a brief solo tour. In 1999, shortly after his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Springsteen reunited with the E Street Band and embarked on a world tour that lasted until mid-2000, its final dates resulting in the album *Live in New York City*.

Springsteen then made his first new full-length studio album since *Born in the U.S.A.* to feature the group as a whole, and his first album of new studio recordings since *The Ghost of Tom Joad*, *The Rising*, released in July 2002. It was followed by another successful tour and recording sessions for a new album, released as *Devils & Dust* in 2005. One year later, he released the first covers album of his career, a tribute to the songs of Pete Seeger titled *We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions*, which just won a Grammy for Best Traditional Folk Album.

William Ruhlman
All Music Guide
www.allmusic.com
with additional material

Bruce Springsteen Discography

<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>
1973	Greetings from Asbury Park, NJ
1973	The Wild, the Innocent & the E-Street Shuffle
1975	Born to Run
1978	Darkness on the Edge of Town
1980	The River
1982	Nebraska
1984	Born in the USA
1987	Tunnel of Love
1992	Human Touch
1992	Lucky Town
1993	Lucky Town Live
1993	In Concert/MTV Plugged (live)
1995	The Ghost of Tom Joad
2001	Live in New York City
2002	The Rising
2003	Maximum Bruce Springsteen
2005	Devils and Dust
2006	Hammersmith Odeon, London '75 (live)
2006	We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions
2006	The Classic Interviews



Leaders of the recording industry founded **Music for Youth – UJA-Federation of New York’s** initiative to support music education—in 1995. Since the beginning, its primary mission is to identify, fund, and lend the experience of its recording-industry professionals to innovative programs that make quality music-education programs available to underprivileged young people. To date, Music for Youth has given more than \$2.5 million in grants to more than 45 programs, thereby providing the gift of music education to many thousands of children.

Music for Youth would like to express its thanks to the performers, the sponsors, our audience, the donors, and, of course, to Bruce Springsteen for making tonight’s event possible. Everyone joining us tonight is encouraged to support Music for Youth and music education.

For more information about Music for Youth, call 1.212.836.1853
or visit our website at
www.ujafedny.org/musicforyouthdonate.

Charitable donations can be made online or by mail at:
UJA-Federation of New York/Music for Youth
130 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022

UJA-Federation of New York

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