



THE KIMMEL CENTER  
ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
MERRIAM THEATER

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Grammy Award winner @BrianSetzer59 and his renowned 19-piece orchestra spread the holiday cheer across the @KimmelCenter Cultural Campus with the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Rocks! Tour on 11/24. More info @ Kimmelcenter.org

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**THE BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA  
KICKS OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT  
THE KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS WITH THE  
15TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS ROCKS! TOUR  
NOVEMBER 24, 2018**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, September 5, 2018) – Iconic guitarist, songwriter, vocalist and three-time Grammy® Award winner **Brian Setzer** and his 19-piece orchestra return to the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus, bringing a huge dose of retro holiday cheer with *The Brian Setzer Orchestra's 15th Anniversary Christmas Rocks! Tour*, on Saturday, November 24 at 8:00 p.m. The acclaimed holiday extravaganza, presented by SiriusXM, will showcase Setzer's trademark guitar work and vocal stylings combined with the orchestra's rocking big-band horn arrangements as they perform music from their four best-selling holiday albums, as well as original Brian Setzer hits.

"We are delighted to welcome the return of The Brian Setzer Orchestra to Philadelphia to kick off the holidays at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus," said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "This festive performance promises energized, dynamic tunes that will provide audiences with enough holiday cheer to last through the New Year!"

Consistently cited as one of the world's greatest living guitarist, Brian Setzer is known for taking chances with his innovative and daring musical styles. He is widely credited for resurrecting two forgotten genres, rockabilly and swing, and consequently reinventing them with his own blend of gunpowder and style. Throughout his decorated life, he has scored chart-topping hits, sold 13 million records, and

received the Orville H. Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award for his celebrated career as founder and leader of the Stray Cats, his 19-piece Brian Setzer Orchestra, and his work as a solo artist.

In addition to his musical feats, Brian Setzer appeared in the 1987 film *La Bamba*, portraying rockabilly pioneer Eddie Cochran, and earned the privilege of being one of the few musicians to be animated in an episode of *The Simpsons* in 2002. That same year, Setzer was personally requested to induct Chet Atkins into the 17th Annual Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Four years later, he had the honor to perform at the White House for the President of the United States. He has a best-selling, extensive line of elite Gretsch signature model guitars bearing his name, and in 2014, Setzer received the distinct honor of being asked by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. to donate a replica of his original 1959 Gretsch 6120 “Stray Cat” guitar, joining an elite collection of iconic treasures at the museums.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***An Evening with Pat Metheny*** (October 5, 2018, Merriam Theater), ***Kathy Griffin: Laugh Your Head Off World Tour*** (October 6, 2018, Merriam Theater), ***Black Violin*** (October 27, 2018, Merriam Theater), and ***Mannheim Steamroller Christmas by Chip Davis*** (December 1, 2018, Academy of Music).

### **THE BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA’S 15TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS ROCKS! TOUR**

**Academy of Music**

*November 24, 2018, 8:00 p.m.*

#### **Tickets**

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$39.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org), or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org) for more information.

#### **The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, the Kimmel Center’s mission is to operate a world-class performing arts center that engages and serves a broad audience through diverse programming, arts education, and community outreach. The Kimmel Center Campus is comprised of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, SEI Innovation Studio, and the Merck Arts Education Center), the Academy of Music (owned by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association), and the Merriam Theater. The Kimmel Center is also home to eight Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, The Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts is the region’s most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. TD Bank, America’s Most Convenient Bank, is the season sponsor of the Kimmel Center’s 2018-2019 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org).

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