



THE KIMMEL CENTER  
ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
MERRIAM THEATER

**Tweet It!**

Join @JohnnyShowcase for a family-friendly, funky dance party during the #JohnnyShortcakeShow at the @KimmelCenter 1/27 & 1/28. More info @ kimmelcenter.org

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**PHILADELPHIA FUNK ROCKER DAVID SWEENY  
CREATES FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY IN NEWLY  
COMMISSIONED WORLD PREMIERE  
*THE JOHNNY SHORTCAKE SHOW*  
ON THE KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS  
JANUARY 27 & 28, 2018**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, November 27, 2017) — Philadelphia's premier soul crooner David Sweeney will take audiences on a magical, musical journey during *The Johnny Shortcake Show* in the SEI Innovation Studio on Saturday, January 27, 2018 and Sunday, January 28, 2018. This family-friendly performance is a funky dance party, featuring unforgettable songs for young and old alike, with original music by David Sweeney, Michael Baker, and Ross Bellenoit, with direction by Brad Wrenn. *The Johnny Shortcake Show* is a designated BYO performance.

"David Sweeney first won our hearts when he participated in the 2015-16 Kimmel Center Theater Residency," said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. "Well-known in Philadelphia as his alter-ego Johnny Showcase, we are so excited to welcome him back to the Kimmel Center and introduce our littlest music lovers to his latest musical persona – Mr. Shortcake!"

*The Johnny Shortcake Show* is a charming children's musical that is fun for the whole family. Themed around celebrating silliness, the show features soul music for children, teaches important life lessons, and feels like one big disco party. With fun, engaging, and relatable songs such as "Cupcake Tuesday,"

“Brushing your Teeth,” and “Grandma’s Whiskers,” the show truly celebrates childhood in a way that will have parents grooving and laughing along.

Johnny Shortcake is a captivating kid-centric personality of David Sweeny, who has made a name for himself in the Philadelphia music and arts scene under his other charismatic persona – Johnny Showcase. He’s described as equal parts Andy Kaufman and Prince. Carrying the torch of funk-rock pioneers, Johnny Showcase has gained a massive following and become something of a funky Philly folk hero legend. In 2016, Johnny and Philadelphia folk rocker Ross Bellenoit embarked on their latest mission to create a musical for kids, and with that, Johnny Shortcake was born!

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: ***Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood: King For A Day!*** (January 5 & 6, 2018, Merriam Theater); ***Mr. Popper’s Penguins*** (February 10, 2018, Merriam Theater); ***Wild Kratts*** (April 22, 2018, Merriam Theater); ***The Sound of Music*** (April 24-29, 2018, Merriam Theater); and ***Paw Patrol Live! The Great Pirate Adventure*** (May 4-6, 2018, Merriam Theater).

## THE JOHNNY SHORTCAKE SHOW

### SEI Innovation Studio

*January 27, 2018 11:00 a.m.*

*January 27, 2018 2:00 p.m.*

*January 28, 2018 11:00 a.m.*

*January 28, 2018 2:00 p.m.*

### Tickets

Tickets are on sale now and start at \$10.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at [kimmelcenter.org](http://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 [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org) for more information.

*This is a designated BYO performance. Acceptable forms of BYO are 6-pack of beer and/or 750ml bottles of wine only; no liquor or open containers are permitted. Limit of one (1) 750ml bottle of wine OR one (1) six-pack of beer per two patrons. Corkscrews and rolling coolers are not permitted. Ice, cups and corking service available at venue at no cost. All BYO patrons are subject to lawful ID checks and bag checks at the manager’s discretion. Limited cabaret style tables available.*

## 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 2017-2018 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [kimmelcenter.org](http://kimmelcenter.org).

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For photography, please visit [www.kcpress.smugmug.com](http://www.kcpress.smugmug.com)