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Iconic best-selling author, journalist, and social commentator, @FranLebowitz (Facebook) brings her sardonic take on American culture to @KimmelCC (Twitter)/@KimmelCulturalCampus (Facebook and Instagram) on 3/19. For more info, visit kimmelculturalcampus.org.

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**KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS
THE INSIGHTFULLY WITTY
FRAN LEBOWITZ
MARCH 19, 2022**

**“Hilarious...an unlikely and perhaps alarming combination
of Mary Hartman and Mary McCarthy.”
- THE NEW YORK TIMES**

**“Fran Lebowitz’s trademark is the sneer; she disapproves of virtually everything
except sleep, cigarette smoking, and good furniture.”
- THE PARIS REVIEW**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (January 13, 2022) – The Kimmel Cultural Campus presents cultural satirist and comedy icon **Fran Lebowitz** at its **Merriam Theater** on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. Lebowitz is known for her clever quips and observational humor on a range of topics, including gentrification, art, literature, politics, and even New York City. In a cultural landscape filled with endless pundits and talking heads, she stands out as one of our most insightful social commentators.

Described as the purveyor of urban cool, Lebowitz is a distinguished author, columnist, and actor. Her books *Metropolitan Life* and *Social Studies* – both of which are collections of essays – were bestsellers and were then collected in *The Fran Lebowitz Reader*, which has since been published in nine languages. Her essays and interviews offer her acerbic views on current events and the media, as well as pet peeves, including tourists, baggage-claim areas, after-shave lotion, adults who rollerskate, children who speak French, or anyone who is unduly tan. *The New York Times Book Review* calls Lebowitz an "important humorist in the classic tradition."

“We have a full lineup of comedic offerings for Philadelphians this season, from standup comedians like Hannah Gadsby, Whitney Cummings, and Lewis Black; to parodies like *Friends! The Musical Parody* and *That Golden Girls Show*,” said Frances Egler, senior director of programming and presentations on the Kimmel Cultural Campus. “Adding Lebowitz to the list, we recognize there is a reason why people say Lebowitz is the heir to Dorothy Parker; her sarcasm, witticisms, and insightful quips just beg to be seen live.”

Having worked odd jobs throughout her life, including taxi driving, belt peddling, and apartment cleaning, her big break came when she was hired by Andy Warhol as a columnist for *Interview*. Since 1997, she has been employed as a contributing editor and occasional columnist for *Vanity Fair*. Her acting credits include a recurring role on *Law & Order* and *The Wolf of Wall Street*. In 2010, Martin Scorsese released the documentary *Public Speaking*, which contained interviews and clips from prior speaking engagements and introduced Lebowitz to a whole new generation of audiences. This was followed up by another Scorsese-helmed Netflix docu-series *Pretend It's a City*, which chronicles Lebowitz as she shares stories about her life and the city's constant evolution.

Deeply committed to the health and safety of guests, artists, and staff and proudly certified by GBAC, the gold standard for infection prevention programs, the Kimmel Cultural Campus is requiring masks to be worn at all times for guests attending on-Campus events, as well as proof of vaccination for those over 5. Guests under 5 will be required to show a negative PCR test result or negative rapid test. Additional details below.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Cultural Campus include ***A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul*** (March 18, 2022, Merriam Theater), ***Arnetta Johnson*** (March 19, 2022, Perelman Theater), ***Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis*** (March 24, 2022, Academy of Music), and ***The Simon & Garfunkel Story*** (March 24 – 25, 2022, Merriam Theater), and ***Diana Krall*** (April 8, 2022, Academy of Music).

Tickets

Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or online at www.kimmelculturalcampus.org. In-person ticket sales can be conducted daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Academy of Music Box Office, located at 240 S. Broad Street. See www.kimmelculturalcampus.org for more information.

Fran Lebowitz

Kimmel Cultural Campus' Merriam Theater
March 19, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.

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Safe & Clean Commitment + Flexible Ticket Policy

The Kimmel Cultural Campus is proudly certified by the [Global Biorisk Advisory Council](#) – the gold standard for cleaning, disinfection, and infection prevention programs.

We will always put the safety of our guests, artists, and staff first, and we have worked closely with partners, producers, artists, guests and other performing arts centers around the nation to develop the most comprehensive plan to safely reopen our doors. We are committing to a healthy and clean environment with increased disinfection, enhanced ventilation, and will enforce recommended health authority guidelines, including masks and proof of vaccination.

Masks are required to be worn at all times when on the Kimmel Cultural Campus, except when actively consuming food or beverage in designated locations. Prolonged periods of mask removal are not permitted.

All attendees for public events must show proof of full vaccination at the time of entry, with valid photo ID and copy of vaccination card (physical or photo). Proof of negative COVID-19 tests will not be accepted, with the exception of children under the age of 5, effective January 17; children under 5 will be required to show a negative PCR test or negative rapid result. While rapid tests (taken within 48 hours of event) are accepted, and PCR tests are preferred (taken within 72 hours of event). Our position on vaccine mandates for children under the age of 5 may change as the larger population gets vaccinated.

This policy is subject to change based upon guidance from the CDC and local health authorities. For more information on our [Safe & Clean Commitment](#) and the most up-to-date information about our policies, please visit kimmelculturalcampus.org.

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KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1-million guests per year and includes Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, and SEI Innovation Studio), the Academy of Music, and the Merriam Theater – representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, 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, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is the proud Kimmel Cultural Campus Season Sponsor. Read Kimmel Cultural Campus' vision statement, world view, and mission statement [here](#). Learn more about our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and how it encompasses our mission, co-workers, and programs [here](#).

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