

## **HARRY CONNICK, JR.**

Harry Connick, Jr.'s career has exemplified excellence across multiple platforms in the entertainment world. He has received Grammy and Emmy awards as well as Tony nominations for his live and recorded musical performances, his achievements in film and television and his appearances on Broadway as both an actor and a composer.

The foundation of Connick's art is the music of his native New Orleans, where he began performing as a pianist and vocalist at the age of five. To honor his beloved hometown which turns 300 this year, Connick and his band have been performing in the US on his "A NEW ORLEANS TRICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION" tour.

Over the past three decades, Connick has established himself as a musician, singer and composer par excellence, a legendary live performer and a best-selling artist with millions of recordings sold around the world. Highlights of his music career include several multi-platinum recordings such as "When Harry Met Sally," "Blue Light, Red Light (Someone's There)", "When My Heart Finds Christmas," "Come By Me, and "Only You."

Connick has appeared in 19 films including *Dolphin Tale* with Morgan Freeman, *Hope Floats* with Sandra Bullock, *P.S. I Love You* with Hilary Swank, *Bug* with Ashley Judd, and *Copycat* with Sigourney Weaver, and on television (*American Idol*, *Will & Grace*, *South Pacific* and his Emmy Award winning concert specials). In the fall of 2016, he launched *Harry*, a national daytime television show featuring his touring band, which earned 11 Daytime Emmy nominations in its two seasons, including two nominations for best host, and a Critics' Choice nomination for best talk show. On Broadway, Connick received Tony nominations as both a lead actor in *The Pajama Game* and as a composer/lyricist for *Thou Shalt Not*.

Despite his busy career, Connick has always found the time to be charitable and has done some of his most important work in his efforts to help New Orleans rebuild after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He, along with friend Branford Marsalis, conceived of "Musicians' Village," a community in the Upper Ninth Ward of New Orleans. Musicians' Village provides homes for Katrina-displaced musicians and its focal point, the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, is an after-school teaching facility for children, a performance hall and recording studio for indigent musicians, and a gathering place for the community. For more information on this project, please visit [www.EllisMarsalisCenter.org](http://www.EllisMarsalisCenter.org).

Connick's honors, including induction into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame, Honorary Doctorates from Tulane and Loyola Universities and the Jefferson Award for Public Service, have not led Harry Connick, Jr. to slow his creative pace; they only confirm his determination to apply his talents in ways that prove inspirational to other artists and publicly spirited citizens.