

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 at 8:00PM
UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER CONCERT HALL

LUMA THEATER

Marlin, President/Creative Director
LUMA Entertainment

PROGRAM

The Lumen Being
Lightening Bug Love
Dervish Whirling
Pocketful of Stars
Boogie 'Bots
Food Chain
Web of Confusion
Disc "O"
Parade of the Parasols
Soft Fireworks
Park your Spark
Raucous Rhythms
Aurora

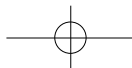
INTERMISSION

Can you hear me now?
Lances of Light
Rainbows
Circus of Circuits
Midnight Carnival
Planetary Processional
Giggle Rings
Mathematical Manipulative
The Warrior Way
Spherical Samba
Heart Beat
Released
From Whence We Came

Post-performance talk-back immediately following the performance

Please visit Luma Theater at www.lumatheater.com

Sponsored by:



The History of It All

In the early eighties Michael Marlin, was working in Las Vegas as a comic/juggler and took a friend of his on a camping trip into the Arizona desert. That night the marvels of the Milky Way unfolded for his friend, who had never seen it growing up in the vicinity of New York City. Marlin witnessed the impact of the stars and in a moment of play picked up a burning branch from the fire pit and brandished it about creating a storm of sparks that rose to meet the night sky. That started it all.

Marlin's first work was a piece that spoke to our loss of the night sky through our overuse of artificial lighting. Starlight which had traveled across the universe, traveling millions of light years, was being drowned out at the finish line by our city lights. The irony was thick because people wanted to chase away the dark and instead they chased away the lights.

FLASHBACK TO THE 70'S

Marlin ran away with the circus and spent a year tending a herd of six elephants at age 18. By age 19 Marlin started performing professionally and made his living solely on his work as a street juggler in Houston Texas.

Attending an audition he landed a place in the class of 1976 and attended Ringling's Clown College as an assistant teacher and student. From there Marlin toured the eastern seaboard with a Belly Dance Troupe performing for military bases and fraternal orders.

In 1977 Marlin made his first nationally televised appearance on Don Kirshner's *Rock Concert* and was introduced with, "We here at Rock Concert believe that our next performer will do for juggling what Doug Henning did for magic." Six months later Marlin was touring with Doug as the support act and was signed by a major Hollywood agency.

In 1978 he was scheduled to perform on the *Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson but fate had another plan as Marlin was, "bumped" by a Buffalo Chip and never got rescheduled. Marlin performed his one man comic/juggling show at over

350 universities in 35 states, headlined comedy clubs from LA to Atlanta, opened for a number of stars, created a series of award winning television commercials, was seen on national television in Holland, Spain, France, England and North America, but the brass ring eluded his grasp.

"It is a hard thing to walk away from what you are good at, but I was going nowhere." Before leaving his home in Los Angeles he sold most of his belongings and moved to Hawaii and helped a collective of jugglers form a community.

By 1987, he became a "Castaway" from the entertainment industry and the fast lane of LA by moving to the Big Island of Hawaii and living in an 'off the grid' tree house of his own making. It was an extreme contrast. The lights at night came from only the stars, the moon or the glowing volcano illuminating the horizon. Forays out onto lava flows to witness the power of the planet close up became a portal to the present for Marlin.

From 1991 to 1994 the work was entitled, "Laughing in the Light/Dancing in the Dark" and consisted of Marlin's comic juggling work in the first half and his newly explored work in the dark in the second half. In 1995 Marlin took the summer off to complete his book, "The Contemplative Navel" a collection of illustrations and philosophical funnies.

Word spread and Jules Fisher, (8 time Tony Winner for Lighting Design) invited Marlin to perform at his Broadway Lighting Master Class. He said, "LUMA has a lyrical mysticism that connects you with your own creativity—and it is always entertaining."

Since 1999 the show has appeared in theaters from California to Florida with shows in Japan, Italy, Scotland, Holland, India, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic. The future holds an opening of the work off-Broadway, scheduled for spring of 2007.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

STACIA SMITH

Originally from the Midwest, Stacia

Smith currently resides in Las Vegas. For the past year she has danced at Bally's hotel in the show "Jubilee." She also substitute teaches in the Las Vegas schools. Luma is the perfect opportunity for her to fulfill her passion for performing and traveling.

ALAN HOWARD

Believe it or not: Amusing audiences with his comedy while amazing them with his juggling, Alan Howard has been featured in casino revues, concert halls, colleges, cruise ships, comedy clubs, and apparently anyplace that starts with a "C." Alan's skills have won him championship medals from the International Jugglers Association, as well as applause and acclaim from audiences almost everywhere. ("Almost," because he hasn't been everywhere yet. But he's working on it.) Alan has performed across the U.S., including Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Reno, Lake Tahoe, New York, and even Cleveland. He has also worked in the Bahamas, Japan, and France, as well as aboard 50 different cruise ships throughout much of the world. Currently residing in Las Vegas, Alan Howard is the editor of JUGGLE magazine.

MATT REMINGTON

Matt is very happy to be a part of LUMA. He is a recent transplant to Las Vegas from Chicago where he had a long run with the Bailiwick Theatre as the Production Stage Manager in shows such as *Jenny Aloo*, *Naked Boys Singing*, *Dan Speaks* and the 18th Annual Directors Festival. Other stage management/directing credits include *Cabaret*, *Pippin*, *Diary of Anne Frank* and *Once on this Island*.

NOLAN CHRISTOPHER (Line/Dance Captain)

Nolan is excited to be a part of LUMA for another season. He is currently residing in Las Vegas and keeps his spare time active by performing in the Off-Broadway smash hit Tony and Tina's Wedding at the Rio Hotel and Casino. Nolan has also performed in numerous shows all over the States: Tommy Dijlas in Music Man, Harvey Johnson in Bye Bye Birdie, Emcee in Cabaret, Linus in You're A Goodman

Charlie Brown, and Herbert in the world premiere of Prairie Lights. Before moving to Vegas, Nolan performed/dance captain for two years with the Chicago production of Naked Boys Singing. Nolan is currently a member of AFTRA and the EMC program.

GEORG SCHANZ

An Actor, Dancer originally from Orange County CA. He began his career in high school where he found his love for the theater. Quickly making a turn to TV he appeared on the show The Wonder Years at age 15. From there he turned his talents to the field of Dance. Since he has danced his way around the world from Asia to Africa. Frequently performing at Disneyland California and Tokyo Disneyland in Japan. Georg joined the Luma Group last year and continues his career as a Dancer in various shows. He would like to thank his family and friends for all their support over the years.

SAMINA PETRILLO

Born into a family of entertainers, Samina started performing the age of 3 as dancer and comic. Raised in Las Vegas, she has worked in the industry all her life. She has graced the stage as a magician, singer, dancer, showgirl and skater in Japan, throughout the US, and Paris. "I joined LUMA, because it was fun and unlike anything I have ever done before."

MARK CLARK

From Canoga Park, Mark has appeared in 75+ stage productions over the past 26 years, and is proud to now be a member of the LUMA family. He has appeared in such roles as Bobby in "A Chorus Line", Annas in "Jesus Christ Superstar", Noah in "110 in the Shade", Joseph in "Joseph and the Tech. Dreamcoat", and Price in "Stalag 17". He has also performed at OPRYLAND U.S.A. in Nashville, Six Flags Magic Mtn., Universal Studios, Hollywood, and for Disney at the re-opening & Dedication of the El Capitan Theater, Hollywood. He has also traveled abroad, Singing & Dancing on Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines & a 9 month European Tour on Holland American Lines. Mark looks forward to LIGHTING up many more stages in the future with LUMA!!