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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **SANDLER CENTER ANNOUNCES FIVE PERFORMANCES FOR THE 2017-2018 GREAT PERFORMANCE SERIES**

#### **TICKETS GO ON SALE THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 AT 10AM**

Virginia Beach, VA – Sandler Center for the Performing Arts announces five performances in its 2017-2018 Great Performance Series. The Great Performance Series will feature spectacular dance, jazz, and world music performances from famed artists.

Single tickets will go on sale Thursday, August 31 at 10am and will be available for purchase at the Sandler Center Box Office, over the phone at 877-YNotTix or online at Ynottix.com

Here are the five performances:

***Tango Fire- January 29, 2018***

Born in the back alleys of Buenos Aires, the tango is universally recognized as the language of lovers' passion, capturing the essence of desire with its dramatic music and sensuous, smoldering moves. The musicians and dancers of the internationally renowned Tango Fire have thrilled audiences around the globe in exhilarating shows that combine the rawness and sophistication of the art form while evoking the intoxicating passion of the Argentine night. The London Telegraph called a recent performance "one of the most stupendous and drop-dead sexy displays of tango—nay, of any type of dancing—that you are likely to see all year."

***Birdland All-Stars featuring Tommy Igoe – The Art of Jazz- February 13, 2018***

Since its opening in 1949, New York’s legendary Birdland club has been the home of the most influential jazz players on the planet, earning its nickname “The Jazz Corner of the World.” For the last 10 of those historic years, a highlight at the club has been the Birdland All-Stars—a collection of the finest New York jazz artists sitting in on sessions that sizzle and spark into the wee hours. Now audiences at the Sandler Center can sample that irrepressible vibe when the Birdland All-Stars drop in to play—and driving the rhythm is legendary drummer Tommy Igoe. Fans will hear all-new arrangements featuring the music of David Bowie, The Police, and Steely Dan, as well as fresh treatments of iconic compositions by Charlie Parker, Chick Corea and Herbie Hancock—a jazz lover’s dream set!

***TAO Drum Heart- February 22, 2018***

Think you know drumming? Try beating a thunderous sound from an 880-pound taiko drum, as costumed swordsman whirl around you. The artists of TAO: Drum Heart stage a spectacular display of musicianship and physical prowess, bare-chested as they leap and twirl to music from ancient Japan, Korea and Indonesia. Combining highly physical, large-scale drumming with dazzling costumes, precise choreography, and eye-popping visuals, the performers of TAO: Drum Heart will speed your pulse and incite your imagination.

***The Chieftains with Paddy Moloney- March 6, 2018***

No other ensemble so captures the music traditions of Ireland than the legendary Chieftains, and no other has done more to explore the Irish roots of music around the world. In their 56th year, the Chieftains are still led by their founder, the great Paddy Moloney, who weaves melodies on such traditional instruments as the tin whistle and the Uilleann pipes, and sets feet tapping with the Irish drum, the bodhrán. Celtic music lovers will find the perfect reason to start celebrating St. Patrick’s Day early when this six-time Grammy Award-winning ensemble comes to the Sandler Center!

***Maria Schneider Orchestra- April 6, 2018***

Maria Schneider’s music has been hailed by critics as “majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization.” Schneider’s first recording, *Evanescence*, was released in 1994 and caught the imagination of a worldwide jazz audience with the sheer audacity of its daring beauty. Since then, she has soared past the boundaries of jazz again and again, collaborating on stage and in recordings with diverse artists from Jazz at Lincoln Center to the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, winning Grammy Awards in multiple categories. With her 18-member collective, she scored a 2016 Grammy double whammy for a single with the late David Bowie, “Sue (Or In A Season of Crime),” and the critically acclaimed album *The Thompson Fields*.

For a complete list of upcoming Sandler Center events, please visit [sandlercenter.org](http://sandlercenter.org)

**About the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts**

The Sandler Center for the Performing Arts opened on Nov. 3, 2007, and is professionally managed by Spectra Venue Management ([spectraexperiences.com](http://spectraexperiences.com)), formally Global Spectrum. With its soaring glass façade revealing the magnificent lobby, the grand staircase, and glittering chandelier, Sandler Center beckons patrons from its location in the heart of Virginia Beach’s Town Center.

With 1,300 seats, the Sandler Center is an adaptable, acoustically superb space suited for virtually every kind of live performance. In addition to performances for audiences of all ages,

the Sandler Center enriches the life of the Virginia Beach community with arts education programs, including student matinees, in-school performances and master classes with renowned artists. To learn more about the Sandler Center, visit [www.sandlercenter.org](http://www.sandlercenter.org).

### **About Spectra**

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