

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEINER RETURNS TO THE CONCERT STAGE

contact: **JOHNNY STEINER**

phone: **614-679-0907**

email: johnnysteiner@att.net

web: www.johnnysteiner.com

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For over two decades Johnny Steiner has serenaded central Ohio, and every summer since 1999 has presented a public concert in Westerville.

On September 25 and 26, Steiner will present a concert of music from the Great American Songbook and golden age of pop music. The concert is titled **YES!**, and this time around, Johnny has a lot to sing about. "When the pandemic hit, we all just stopped. We had to. Theaters went dark, concert halls closed their doors, cruise ships docked. And singers were told that the thing they love to do - not to mention the way they make their living - was suddenly unsafe and could harm others. It was really devastating."

Steiner used much of the pandemic shutdown time to reflect and regroup, but also connected with other performers using technology. "This thing we've gone through - and are still going through - is shared experience. A world wide shared experience. Everyone on the planet has been touched by it. I would see on social media singers everywhere finding new and creative ways to engage people. I was so inspired by the way music 'found a way.'"

Steiner's planned program for **YES!** includes well known and much loved songs, many with a message of hope. "I think people are craving **levity, positivity, and some artistic inspiration.** Songs like *Feeling Good* and *New York New York* are so optimistic. Something we all want right now. We need it."

Steiner will reference the pandemic financials woes (the depression era hit *I Can't Give You Anything But Love*), feeling isolated (Johnny Cash's *I Still Miss Someone*), seeing friends for the first time in a long time (Broadway's *Hello, Dolly!*), and being grateful for the things we sometimes take for granted (Louis Armstrong's *What A Wonderful World*).

Audiences have come to expect humor and comedy songs from Steiner, and he's happy to oblige. "I have some really funny things in my 'bag of tricks.' I can **hardly wait to connect with people from my own concert stage again.** It's time to laugh and love and celebrate life!"

Backing up Steiner on **YES!** are a trio of Columbus musicians - Collin Richardson on piano, Paul Baker on bass, and Dave Villock on drums.

YES! will be held in Uptown Westerville at Church of the Messiah on Saturday, September 25 and Sunday, September 26. 2pm showtime both days. Admission is \$15 at the door. General seating, no pre-sale. The venue is handicap-accessible.

Attached is jpeg of the **YES!** poster.

Additional photos and information are available upon request.