

PLAYBILL

Bing Crosby Theater



Gala Dedication featuring Kathryn Crosby

Thursday, December 7, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Sponsor's Reception
with Kathryn Crosby

Friday, December 8, 2006

12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Bing Crosby Film Festival

On the large screen:

Going My Way

Road to Morocco

White Christmas

FREE Admission

7:00 p.m.

The Bing Crosby Theater Dedication

8:00 p.m.

Kathryn Crosby in "My Life With Bing"



Kathryn Crosby

A stunning beauty who performed opposite stars like Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Jimmy Stewart, Kathryn was an accomplished actress and vocalist by the time she married Bing Crosby in 1957. In their twenty years together, they raised three children—Harry, Nathaniel and Mary Frances—and frequently shared the stage for popular Christmas specials.

Since then, Kathryn has appeared in stage productions, authored several books on her life with Bing, and is in constant demand as a vocal performer.

Currently, she leads the crusade to increase public awareness of trigeminal neuralgia, a painfully debilitating disease affecting the facial nerves.

Kathryn is generously donating her performance to help create a Bing Crosby legacy in his hometown.

**For more information visit:
www.mettheater.com**

A WING-DING *for* THE BING

A Gala Dedication & Film Festival

featuring

Kathryn Crosby

Friday, December 8, 2006

Theater dedication 7:00 p.m.

Cabaret performance 8:00 p.m.



Bing Crosby

THEATER



Photo Courtesy of The MAC

Be a part of history

Built in 1915 by local developer August Paulsen, the Clemmer Theater was considered state-of-the-art in its day, seating nearly 800 patrons. The theater represents a turning point in mass entertainment, when vaudeville was relinquishing top billing to silent films and the era of lavishly embellished movie palaces was about to begin. Designed by noted theater architect Edwin W.

Houghton, the Clemmer embodied the restrained Neoclassicism of these traditional movie houses. It would come to be known as the State Theater in later years. Inland Northwest residents lined the streets in anticipation to see *Gone With the Wind*, *Casablanca*, *The Godfather*, and thousands of other first-run movies. After it fell into disrepair along with many historic theaters, the State was purchased in 1988 by Metropolitan Mortgage and Securities of Spokane, renamed the Met, and restored to its original elegance.

But even more significant to Spokane, the theater was where Harry Lillis "Bing" Crosby literally invented his professional act before he and his performing partner Al Rinker moved on to greatness in Hollywood and beyond. Billing themselves as *The Musicaladers* and later as *The Three Harmony Aces*, Crosby and Rinker performed in the Clemmer from May to October 1925, developing and honing the act that would bring them later fame. Reconnecting the Crosby name with this cultural jewel is a fitting tribute to the legacy of the Crosby contribution to American popular culture and the ties to his hometown of Spokane.

The theater presently is the venue for many special events, including the Spokane International Film Festival, Spokane Ballet, Spokane String Quartet, Allegro Baroque & Beyond, and numerous other groups. The newly christened Bing Crosby Theater will be a Spokane treasure for years to come thanks in part to your help. All proceeds from Wing-Ding for the Bing ticket sales and your donations will go towards paying for the design, manufacturing and installation of the new theater sign, to cover expenses associated with the show, and to establish the Bing Crosby Theater Foundation. By purchasing a ticket or donating in other ways you will help preserve and enhance this priceless treasure of a theater, and ensure the name of Bing Crosby carries over from generation to generation.



Bing's "Musicaladers"

Ticket Prices & Special Benefits:

\$100

- Premier Seating (limited tickets available)
- Kathryn Crosby's autobiography
- Special book signing with Kathryn Crosby, Davenport Hotel

\$45

- Seating in lower section of upper balcony
- Book signing with Kathryn Crosby concluding the event

\$25

- Seating in upper section of balcony
- Book signing with Kathryn Crosby concluding the event

Opportunities To Show Your Support

The Bing Crosby Theater Foundation will promote the use of Bing Crosby's name in conjunction with events held at the Bing Crosby Theater. You can help create this foundation by donating any amount you can share.

Special Categories of donation:

\$1,000

- **Two tickets** with premier seating
- **Invitation** to attend exclusive reception with Kathryn Crosby
- **"My Life with Bing"** and **"My Last Years with Bing,"** signed by Kathryn Crosby at the reception

\$10,000

- **Your name** or company's name inscribed in gold ring around the base of the cupola in the lobby of Bing Crosby Theater
- **Two tickets** with premier seating
- **Invitation** to attend exclusive reception with Kathryn Crosby
- **"My Life with Bing"** and **"My Last Years with Bing,"** signed by Kathryn Crosby at the reception

Tickets available at the Met, 901 W. Sprague, at all TicketsWest locations, or charge by phone 325-SEAT (outside of Spokane 1-800-325-SEAT), or online at WWW.TICKETSWEST.COM. For show information only, phone 325-SHOW. Convenience fees may apply.

Photo Courtesy of Gonzaga University Archives