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(Press photos available)



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“Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers featuring Edie Brickell” Coming to WEDU PBS

*Songs from Martin’s “The Crow” and “Rare Bird Alert” as well as his
Grammy-nominated collaboration with Edie Brickell “Love Has Come for You”
filmed at the Historic Fox Theater in Riverside, CA*



Steve Martin and Edie Brickell partner on a series of new songs that combine Martin’s inventive five-string banjo playing with Brickell’s heart-tugging vocals to create a playful and accessible collection of songs.

Tampa, FL — WEDU PBS turns the spotlight on **Steve Martin** and **The Steep Canyon Rangers**, featuring Edie Brickell, with their first-ever live concert performance to be broadcast on television. The evening captures their extraordinary performance at the historic Fox Performing Arts Center in Riverside California last fall.

The concert, which will be broadcast on WEDU PBS on **Thursday, March 20 at 9 p.m.**, features material from Martin and Brickell’s Grammy-nominated album *Love Has Come for You* (the title song won in the “American Roots Song” category), as well as music from Martin’s Grammy-nominated collaboration with The Steep Canyon Rangers, *Rare Bird Alert*, and his Grammy Award-winning album *The Crow: New Songs for the Five-String Banjo*. PBS viewers will be treated

to an evening of unique entertainment with Martin’s blend of comedy and bluegrass.

Steve Martin is now in the fifth decade of a varied and accomplished career as a comic, actor, musician, author and playwright. Recently honored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences with a Governor’s Award special Oscar, he is also a Grammy-winning, boundary-pushing bluegrass

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banjoist and songwriter.

Edie Brickell initially burst onto the national scene in the late 1980s fronting the New Bohemians, and has since carved out an iconoclastic solo career that's solidified her reputation as a uniquely compelling singer and a songwriter of rare insight. Although these new musical partners have already built widely-respected individual bodies of work, their inaugural collaboration is a creative milestone.

Backed by the virtuoso playing of the **Steep Canyon Rangers**, the songs on Martin and Brickell's new album combine Martin's inventive five-string banjo playing with Brickell's heart-tugging vocals to create a playful and accessible collection of songs.

"This is the kind of music that I've always wanted to make, but I never knew how until now," Brickell states, adding, "I just fell in love with all of these songs, because they all represent something that's true." The musical numbers, a mix of favorites from Martin's last two albums with the Steep Canyon Rangers as well as new tunes previously unreleased, include deeply evocative songs such as "When You Get to Asheville," "Remember Me This Way," "Fighter," as well as their double-Grammy nominated album's title song, "Love Has Come for You."

"I think that the goal of any collaboration should be to come up with something that each individual wouldn't have come up with on their own, and I think that we've done that here," says Martin.

Each tune offers resonant character studies, conveying a wealth of imagery, emotion and musical ideas. "The banjo can be so evocative when it's used sparingly, and that was in the back of my mind as we were writing," says Martin. "It's the way I've longed to play and hear the banjo, rather than it being present at every moment. In these songs, the point is to tell the story and get out of the way."

The Grammy Award-winning Steep Canyon Rangers (Mike Ashworth, Mike Guggino, Charles R. Humphrey III, Woody Platt, Nicky Sanders, Graham Sharp) were Martin's partners on his Grammy® nominated album *Rare Bird Alert* and they have toured together extensively.

Martin's debut album *The Crow: New Songs for the Five-String Banjo* won a Grammy for Best Bluegrass Album in 2009.

Song Listing

- Katie Mae
- Jubilation Day
- Get Along Stray Dog
- Yes She Did
- Love Has Come For You
- The Crow

- Fighter
- Sarah Jane and the Iron Mountain Baby
- Hunger
- Atheists Don't Have No Songs
- The Great Remember
- Sun's Gonna Shine
- When You Get to Asheville
- Pretty Little One
- Auden's Train
- The Dance at the Wedding
- Remember Me This Way
- Another Round / So Long Now
- Daddy Played the Banjo

Rounder Records released Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's inaugural duo effort "Love Has Come For You" last April.

Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers Featuring Edie Brickell was directed by David Horn. Producer: Mitch Owgang. For ***Great Performances***, Bill O'Donnell is series producer; David Horn is executive producer. ***Great Performances*** is funded by the Irene Diamond Fund, The Starr Foundation, The Agnes Varis Trust, and PBS.

Visit **WEDU PBS** online at <http://video.wedu.org> for additional information about this and other programs.

ABOUT WEDU PBS

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