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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
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.


**Song Listing**

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

WEDU PBS is West Central Florida’s primary PBS station and public media company reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of media platforms including: television programming, station’s website, wedu.org and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine Premiere, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU’s focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (ORC International’s DualFrame CARAVAN, January 2014). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU PBS, visit wedu.org, WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.