The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County Presents

Grammy Award Winner
ANGELIQUE KIDJO

African songstress returns to the Arsht with new tour featuring her greatest hits and new songs

“One of Africa’s most globally successful performers!” - Billboard Magazine

"The Beninese singer exudes such energy that the audience can’t help but get to its feet!” - Los Angeles Times

Part of the 2012-2013 Live at Knight Series

Friday, May 31, 2013 at 8:30 p.m.
Tickets: $35-$65*
John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall

As the latest addition to the Arsht Center’s inaugural Live at Knight Series, ANGELIQUE KIDJO will bring her unique blend of African and Western music to Miami for a night that celebrates the beauty of diversity, as well as the unity of cultures. Her lush sounds meld the rhythms of Africa with a soaring dramatic voice, creating an internationally-acclaimed repertoire of rich music and sweeping melodies. Her engagement at the Arsht Center will feature new songs and audience favorites such as “Agolo,” “Afirika,” and “Batonga” – all included in her first live album, Spirit Rising.

Spirit Rising was recorded in Boston when Kidjo partnered with Boston’s public television station, WGBH, for a captivating live concert featuring special guests Josh Groban, Dianne Reeves, Branford Marsalis, and Ezra Koenig (Vampire Weekend). The record features a collection of Kidjo originals and covers including the Curtis Mayfield classic “Move On Up.” The Boston Globe said of the performance, “The special captures the African singer in fierce form...Kidjo’s appeal cuts across not only genres, but also generations...Kidjo proves she can rattle the rafters.”

Born in the West African country of Benin, ANGELIQUE KIDJO is a critically acclaimed recording artist deemed “Africa’s premier diva” by TIME Magazine. Kidjo was included by the BBC in its list of “Africa’s Most Iconic Figures” and The Guardian has listed her as one of the “Top 100 Most Inspiring Women in the World.” In October 2011, Forbes listed Angelique as the
first woman in their list of the “40 Most Powerful Celebrities in Africa.” Kidjo’s 2008 album *Djin Djin* won the Grammy for “Best Contemporary World Music” album at the 50th Grammy Awards and the NAACP Image Award for “Outstanding World Album” in 2008, while her 2010 release *OYO* was nominated in the same category at the 53rd annual Grammy Awards ceremony. Kidjo’s internationally celebrated repertoire includes collaborations with artists including Carlos Santana, Peter Gabriel, Alicia Keys, Joss Stone, and more.

Known for her dynamic and uplifting music, she has translated her distinctive work in the arts to that of philanthropy; by promoting education for girls in Africa through her foundation, Batonga, and as a UNICEF Goodwill ambassador. Kidjo has participated in several global events including the first 46664 Concert in Cape Town hosted by Nelson Mandela, the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Concert in Oslo, and the 2010 FIFA World Cup Kick-Off Concert in Johannesburg.

**CALENDAR LISTING**

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*All programs, artists, ticket prices, availability, dates and times are subject to change without notice.*

Visit [www.arshtcenter.org](http://www.arshtcenter.org) for up-to-date information for details and schedules.

Additional high-resolution photos are available at [www.arshtcenter.org/press](http://www.arshtcenter.org/press).

*The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, as well as the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from local, state and national foundations, as well as private contributions to the Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation through corporate and individual giving, Visionary Society membership and the Encore Circle major gifts programs.*

**About the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County**

The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is one of the world’s leading performing arts organizations and venues. Made possible by Miami-Dade County’s largest ever public/private-sector partnership, the Center is home to the Florida Grand Opera, Miami City Ballet and New World Symphony, America’s Orchestral Academy. In addition, numerous South Florida arts organizations perform in its theaters regularly. Since opening in 2006, the Center has emerged as a leader in offering and presenting innovative programming that mirrors South Florida’s diversity, as a catalyst for development in Miami, and as a host of impactful community outreach and education programs.
Designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects, the venue is comprised of the 2,400-seat Sanford and Dolores Ziff Ballet Opera House, the 2,200-seat John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall, the black box Carnival Studio Theater, a restored Carnival Tower, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Studio, the Peacock Foundation, Inc. Education Center and the outdoor Parker and Vann Thomson Plaza for the Arts. Events impresario and restaurateur Barton G. Weiss brought his signature style to the Center in 2009 with PRELUDE BY BARTON G, a full-service upscale restaurant.

Visit www.arshtcenter.org for more information.