A Few Ways to Sweeten Your Valentine's Day

Make the day sweeter with the Valentine's Dinner Cruise aboard the *Sanibel Harbour Princess*. (Opposite page) The Miami City Ballet Program includes the company premiere of *Bourrée Fantasque*.

Delight in a Dance

On that magic day, February 14, take someone special to see Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. The dance troupe is well-known for its "edgy, athletic, and breathtaking choreography as well as its eclectic repertoire." During the break, share a glass of wine at the cash bar. *Tickets are $55.*

On February 12-13, the Miami City Ballet Program II includes the company premiere of *Bourrée Fantasque*—a Balanchine masterwork in the French classical manner with stylish costumes and a full-cast final—along with Twyla Tharp's popular *Nine Sinatra Songs*, a variety of dances set to the music of Ol' Blue Eyes. The program closes with the haunting *La Valse,* a neo-romantic ballet choreographed by Balanchine in 1951.*Wine is available during the break. Tickets are $50, students $30.*

The Naples Philharmonic, 5833 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Naples, 239-597-1900, www.thephil.org

Enjoy Dinner and a Show

On February 11, be serenaded by Richie C and his nine-piece all-star orchestra at a special Valentine's Concert. Enjoy some of the old classics from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Elvis Presley, The Righteous Brothers, and more—all delivered with Richie C's powerful vocal style reminiscent of some of these world-class favorites. *Dinner at 6 p.m., showtime at 8 p.m., tickets range from $30 to $50 (dinner and a show or show only).*

From December 29 through February 16, the musical fable *Guys and Dolls* will be onstage at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. The story is about Nathan Detroit, the irrepressible gambler and operator of "The World's Largest Floating Crap Game." Some of the wonderful songs include "Luck Be a Lady," "I've Never Been in Love Before," "Sue Me," and "A Bushel and a Peck." *Tuesday through Sunday evening performances with selected matinees, ticket prices range from $25 to $52 (dinner and a show or show only).*

From January 17 through March 15, in the Off Broadway Palm Theatre (Broadway Palm's 90-seat general admission theater that showcases smaller-scale comedies and musical revues) enjoy the musical comedy *Monky Business,* about a group of fun-loving monks that hold a fundraiser to save their monastery. Expect plenty of singing, dancing, and vaudeville routines. *Tuesday through Sunday evening performances with selected matinees, tickets range from $23 to $44 (dinner and a show or show only).*

TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF SANIBEL HARBOUR PRINCESS

Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 1380 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, 239-278-4422, www.BroadwayPalm.com

Listen to Music

What's more romantic than the flawless sound coming from the St. Petersburg String Quartet, one of the world's leading string quartets, now in its twenty-first year? The ensemble has enthralled audiences around the world from Toronto to Tokyo to London and across the United States. *Thursday, February 14th, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Call for ticket prices.*

BIG ARTS, Sanibel, 239-395-0900, www.bigarts.org

Ride the Sweetheart Express

During Sweetheart Express Week, February 8–14, enjoy dinner, a romantic evening complete with strolling violinist, and a murder. Aboard the Seminole Gulf Railway train, a comical murder mystery will unfold before your eyes. Follow the clues and solve the crime and you may win a prize. The five-course dinner includes a fruit and cheese platter followed by soup, fresh rolls, garden salad, your choice of entrée, and dessert. Meals are prepared fresh on the train. Drink specials and a wine list are available for an extra fee. *Tickets range from $64-$74 (plus tax and gratuity).*

Seminole Gulf Railway, Fort Myers, 239-275-8487 or 800-SEM-GULF, www.semgulf.com

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CLASSICAL Afternoons
Nov. 18 Keith Calmes
Dec. 2 Roger Chase & Michiko Otaki
Dec. 16 Cleveland Int'l Piano Winner

DANCE
Jan. 26 Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
Feb. 23 Flamenco Vivo

CLASSICAL, JAZZ, POP & MORE
Nov. 24 The Tennessee Three
Dec. 15 Aaron Weinstein Jazz Trio
Dec. 29 Butch Thompson
Jan. 5 William Burding & Carol Chickering Burden
Jan. 10 Matt Haimovitz
Jan. 19 Louis Hayes
Jan. 24 Zephyros Winds
Jan. 27 Glenn Miller Orchestra
Feb. 2 Zukerman ChamberPlayers
Feb. 7 Ibis Camerata
Feb. 14 St. Petersburg String Quartet
Feb. 16 3 Swingin' Tenors
Feb. 29 Fred Hersch & Nancy King
Mar. 7 Deacon John & The Ivories
Mar. 14 Mr. Jack Daniel's Band
Mar. 29 The Whites

ONSTAGE
Jan. 16 & 17 "Oleanna"
Feb. 20 "Vivien Leigh: The Last Press Conference"
Mar. 6 "I am My Own Wife"
Mar. 19 "C. Jenkinson IS J. Robert Oppenheimer"

Other Programs
Oct. 10 Bobby Harrison & Jerry Jackson
Dec. 8 The Nutcracker
Dec. 9 Messiah & More
Feb. 13 Love Letters
Mar. 30 Collected Stories
Feb. 19 Kathryn Fuller

Southwest Florida Symphony
Nov. 11 Chamber 1
Jan. 6 Chamber 2
Mar. 9 Chamber 3
Apr. 6 Chamber 4

CALL 239-395-0900
BIG ARTS Film Society offer a Festival of Films every Monday evening and Wednesday matinees. Call us for information regarding ongoing Art Exhibits and workshops.
BIGARTS.ORG
900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, 33957

(Above) Treat yourself to a luxurious spa treatment aboard the *Sanibel Harbour Princess*. (Below) Watch David Copperfield perform incredible feats of magic.

Watch Someone Disappear

On February 15-16, David Copperfield's *An Intimate Evening of Grand Illusion* comes to the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall. David Copperfied has been hailed as the greatest illusionist of our time, having elevated magic to new heights. Some of his most amazing feats have included making the Statue of Liberty disappear, walking through the Great Wall of China, and making audience members disappear and re-appear. *Two performances each night, tickets range from $45-$65. Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, 8099 College Pkwy., Fort Myers, 239-481-4849, www.bbmannpah.com*

Send a Singing Telegram

A small group or quartet from the Spirit of the Gulf Chorus of Sweet Adelines will personally deliver a singing Valentine to your spouse, sweetheart, grandparent, or friend. What better way to say "I love you," or "I'm thinking of you." Along with the song, the recipient also receives a card and a flower on February 14. (Alternate dates are available.) *Singing Valentines, $45.*

Spirit of the Gulf, 239-218-2999, info@spiritofthegulf.com, www.spiritofthegulf.com/greeting_chords.htm

TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF SANIBEL HARBOUR PRINCESS

Nathan Detroit gets ready to roll during the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre's presentation of *Guys and Dolls*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BROADWAY PALM DINNER THEATRE

Take a Dinner Cruise

The *Sanibel Harbour Princess*, Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa's own private luxury yacht, offers a romantic Valentine's Dinner Cruise complete with champagne, a scrumptious gourmet buffet with delectable desserts, and the opportunity to watch the sun set across the water. For an extra fee, enjoy a romantic treatment at the ship's onboard spa. *Valentine's Dinner Cruise. Call for schedule and prices.*

Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa, 239-466-2128, https://sanibel-resort.com

Watch a Play

On February 15, it's opening night for *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at the Florida Repertory Theatre. This classic show takes audiences back to the "zany days of Ancient Rome." With music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, this comedy will have audience members wanting to get out their togas and sing along. (Through March 16.) *Performances are 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 2 p.m. matinee Wednesday and Sunday. First two Saturdays have matinee performances while the first Sunday of the opening weekend has an evening performance at 7 p.m. Call for tickets, times, and prices.*

The Florida Repertory Theatre, Fort Myers, 239-332-4488, www.floridarep.org

ALLIANCE for the ARTS

10091 Mc Gregor Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33919
239-939-2787 www.artinlee.org

What's Happening Here in January & Feburary!

In the Frizzell Gallery:

Transmissions
A Juried Art Show
November 30 - January 9

Florida's Seminole Indians: A Photographic Journey with the" White Medicine Man"
January 18 - February 29

Hanging by a Thread
March 7 - April 4
Polly Matsumoto & Michelle Sales.

W. Stanley Hanson, the "White Medicine Man" of the Seminole Indians

In the Foulds Theatre:

The Last Five Years
Theater Guild of Southwest Florida
December 8 - January 27

Cracker at the Ritz & Sandy Bottoms and the Jimmie Buffet
Compton & Bennett
January 28 - February 24

Journals
Chamber Music Society of Southwest Florida
January 28 & February 25, 2008

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