



**NSO BIG BAND PRESENTS
'A TRIBUTE TO FRANK SINATRA'**

***Big Band, Guest Musicians & Vocalists performing
at Emirates Palace Abu Dhabi & The MusicHall,
Jumeirah Zabeel Saray, Fri 5 & Sat 6 Oct***

Abu Dhabi, UAE. 2 September 2018 - The [NSO Big Band](#) is performing a special tribute to the most popular and influential crooner of the 20th century, Frank Sinatra.

Fans of Ol' Blue Eyes can enjoy gala concerts on Friday 5 October at the Emirates Palace Hotel Auditorium on Abu Dhabi Corniche, and Saturday 6 October at The MusicHall at Jumeirah Zabeel Saray Hotel on Dubai's Palm Jumeirah.

NSO's Music Director Andrew Berryman will lead the 17-piece big band, with guest musicians and vocalists, through a myriad of Sinatra hits, from swing numbers - *Come Fly with me, The Lady is a Tramp, The Best is Yet to Come* - romantic ballads - *My Funny Valentine, I've Got you Under my Skin* - to favourites - *New York, New York*, and his signature *My Way*.

NSO is welcoming guest musicians, Lead Trumpet Virtuoso [Ryan Quigley](#) and Leading London Jazz Trombonist [Trevor Mires](#), as well as guest vocalists, [Ciaran Fox](#) and [Cara Jane Roberts](#).

NSO Founder & Executive Director, Mrs. Janet Hassouneh, said: "We are so pleased to present the NSO Big Band and showcase our virtuoso brass section for this two-city show series.

“I’m sure our regular NSO audience will enjoy the first concerts of our new season, where the international guest musicians and vocalists will give an added cachet to an exciting evening of wonderful jazz and swing standards.”

[Ryan Quigley](#), from Derry in Northern Ireland, began playing trumpet at the age of 11, brought up on a diet of Miles Davis, John Coltrane and Maynard Ferguson. He has recorded and toured with Quincey Jones, Aretha Franklin, Michel Legrand, and Randy Brecker, has appeared as lead trumpet with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the Manchester Camerata and the Ulster Orchestra, as well as recording dozens of jingles, TV themes and movie soundtracks. In addition to performing, Ryan is a tutor and one of the directors of the Big Band at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama.

[Trevor Mires](#) is a professional trombonist, composer, writer and arranger at the forefront of the London music scene for the past 10 years. He currently works as trombonist/arranger for Tom Jones, as a member/writer for legendary jazz funk group Incognito, and touring/performing with former Oasis front man, Noel Gallagher. Trevor has toured with Randy Brecker and James Morrison, performed with George Benson, Chaka Khan and Michael Bublé, and recorded with Pat Metheny, Toots Theilman and David Sanborn.

Irish-born singer [Ciaran Fox](#) is one of the most sought-after swing and jazz vocalists in the Middle East and performs at some of Dubai’s hottest venues. Often compared to Michael Bublé, Ciaran was influenced by his parents’ love of Country & Western, but developed a love of jazz in his teens, citing Sinatra, Martin and Bennett for their suave style and cool musicality. His big break came as resident performer in Portugal’s top Vilamoura resort, going on to work in the UK and South Africa, before arriving in Dubai in late

2011.

Vocalist [Cara Jane Roberts](#) began her career in her native UK at the age of eight when she appeared in her first professional production as the lead in *Bugsy Malone* at the Winter Gardens Theatre in Blackpool. After college she appeared in several musical productions, going on to become a presenter/MC and vocalist for a variety of events in the UAE.

NSO Big Band's Tribute to Frank Sinatra is sponsored by Burjeel Day Hospital, Reem Island, Abu Dhabi as Presenting Sponsor, in addition to Platinum Sponsors [Gulf Capital](#) and [Gas & Equipment Factory \(GEF\)](#), with Sponsors [Abu Dhabi Classic FM](#), Abu Dhabi media hub [twofour54](#) and [Emirates Palace Hotel](#).

Both concerts will start at 7.30pm and tickets are available online now on [Ticketmaster](#):

Emirates Palace: Platinum AED375; Gold AED275; Silver AED175; Balcony AED125

The MusicHall: VIP AED500; Platinum 375; Gold AED275; Silver AED175; Bronze AED150; Regular AED125; Balcony AED125

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About NSO www.nsouae.org

NSO comprises the NSO Symphony Orchestra, the NSO Chamber Orchestra, the NSO Symphonic Pops Orchestra, the NSO Opera & Chorus and the NSO Music Agency. More than 100 musicians of some 20 nationalities, who live in six of the seven emirates, make up the various formations of NSO and are professional musicians and musical educators who have performed regularly for their own national orchestras.

NSO performs numerous major symphonic and operatic works, as well as a more popular classical and music theatre repertoire. Every concert endeavours to feature musical contributions from the UAE, whether a composer, solo singer or musician, such as a pianist or *Oud* player. NSO presents concerts throughout the year for the general public and is regularly called upon to perform for private,

corporate and government events. NSO also outsources, through its NSO Music Agency, smaller groups such as the NSO Symphonic Brass, the NSO Big Band, the NSO String Quartet, the NSO Jazz Ensemble, the NSO Three Tenors and the NSO Three Sopranos. NSO is the official supplier for Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi's 'Arts for Health' programme, providing musicians for inspiring live music performances for patients and their families.

Entrepreneur and former Opera Singer Janet Hassouneh founded NSO in 2011 to meet the region's cultural aspirations. Originally from the USA, where she obtained her master's in musical performance, she has worked in the music business in the UAE for the past 30 years, performing, teaching and organising music theatre and opera concerts featuring international guest artists from New York and London. Numerous performances were staged for charitable causes, under the auspices of the UAE authorities. NSO UAE was formed to reciprocate the government's hospitality.

About Burjeel Day Surgery Center

<http://www.burjeeldaysurgery.com/>

Burjeel Day Surgery Center, Al Reem Island, Abu Dhabi, is the largest day surgery center in the Middle East. The center has been designed to offer holistic wellbeing to our guests and combines the best of conventional medicine and alternative therapies. The facility has all the core medical, paramedical and support services provided by highly qualified and skilled professionals. It is the first of its kind in the region to offer both conventional and alternative therapies including Ayurveda and Chiropractic. With the aim to deliver a unique 'art of healing' experience, focusing on overall health and wellbeing across the entire medical spectrum, Burjeel Day Surgery Center extends warm and personalised care from our experienced medical professionals in a stress-free environment.

About Gulf Capital www.gulfcapital.com

Gulf Capital is one of the leading alternative asset management firms in the Middle East, investing across several asset classes including Private Equity, Private Debt and Real Estate. The Firm currently manages over AED14.7 billion (US\$4 billion) of assets across 10 funds and investment vehicles. Gulf Capital's mission is to grow capital and build value with world-class expertise and best practices to generate sustainable superior performance for all stakeholders. It invests its own capital alongside its fund investors' capital in all of the funds it launches. In addition to Private Equity, the company has also launched a Private Debt business, Gulf Credit Partners, which offers credit and mezzanine financing to meet the funding needs of fast-growing companies and to provide acquisition finance across the Middle East, North and Sub-Saharan

Africa. It is also involved in real estate development and investments across the Gulf region. With its private equity, private debt and real estate initiatives, Gulf Capital is today one of the largest and most diversified alternative asset managers in the Middle East. The Firm has received numerous Middle East and international awards, including “Best Private Equity Firm”, “Best SMEs Credit Fund”, “Best Alternative Asset Management Firm” and “Best Private Debt Provider in the Middle East.

About twofour54 www.twofour54.com

twofour54, home to Abu Dhabi’s media and entertainment industry, aims to cultivate Abu Dhabi’s media free zone and provide products and services to attract local, regional and international media businesses to the emirate. Tasked with enabling a new generation of creative leaders and building Abu Dhabi as the Middle East’s leading hub for content creation, twofour54 provides world-class production facilities, talent development initiatives and training, and business support services for media companies.

Since establishment, twofour54 is home to more than 450 Arabic and international media and entertainment companies including Sky News Arabia, Image Nation, Ubisoft, CNN, Fox, Flash Entertainment, M&C Saatchi, and Flat6Labs, in addition to a pool of 600 bilingual talented freelancers.

twofour54 is operated under the ownership of Media Zone Authority–Abu Dhabi, a government entity.

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