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NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER ANNOUNCES A NIGHT OUT

WITH FAMED DRAG PERFORMER KATYA SMIRNOFF-SKY AND

SPECIAL GUESTS JESSE CORTEZ, AMANDA KING, AND JOE WICHT

San Francisco, CA (June 9, 2020) – On June 30, New Conservatory Theatre Center throws an unforgettable glittering drag performance in ***A Night OUT with Katya***, a benefit show on [Give OUT Day](#) starring San Francisco favorite **Katya Smirnoff-Skyy** and featuring cabaret stars **Jesse Cortez, Amanda King, Joe Wicht**.

Join us for a special evening of songs, stories, and strong cocktails with Katya Smirnoff-Skyy as she performs live from your favorite basement - the first performance held at NCTC since closing our doors in March, to raise funds for NCTC on Give OUT Day, the only national day of giving for the LGBTQ+ community. Pour yourself a drink and join the virtual audience of Russia's (self-proclaimed) Greatest Mezzo-Soprano Understudy, turned Countess, turned Macy's cosmetic counter lady as she celebrates her 15 year anniversary at NCTC.

Throughout Pride Month and until Give OUT Day on June 30, NCTC will be accepting contributions at giveoutday.org/nctcsf. During this special performance, audience members will have the opportunity to support NCTC on this day of giving to help maintain this artistic home for the LGBTQ+ community. Each donation brings NCTC closer to winning an extra, and much-needed, grant prize for having the greatest number of donors, which our generous giving family has secured for 2 years running.

As Katya Smirnoff-Skyy, **J. Conrad Frank** has appeared in various theatrical runs and nightclubs including sold out Shows at the RRazz room, The Eureka Theater, Trannyshack, and monthly shows at San Francisco's Premiere piano bar, Martuni's. Named "Best Drag Act" in 2008 by the San Francisco Bay Guardian and "Best Actor" in a musical Bay Area Theater Critics Association for "Katya, a Holiday Spectacular 2009." He is also a frequent performer on the NCTC stage, most recently appearing in 2018's *Red Scare on Sunset*.

Jesse Cortez is a proud alumnus of SFGMC. His first theater show in the Bay Area was NCTC's production of *Dirty Little Showtunes* in 2013. Jesse's most recent productions include *Sister Act* (Broadway by the Bay), *The View Upstairs* (NCTC) and *Sweeney Todd* (Hillbarn Theater). He is also a regular patron of Martuni's and recently performed his own cabaret show there, titled "Songs from a New Generation". See more pictures and links to his social media at www.jessecortezmusic.com

With the sound and soul of a classic chanteuse, it's no surprise that **Amanda King** showcases a catalog of music gems from the 1930s, 40s, and 50s, embodying many of the figures who make up the vivid tapestry that is American Popular Music and Jazz. Possessing a smoothness of voice and surety of style, she has been hailed by *New York Times* critic Stephen Holden as one of the nightclub world's "exceptional rising talents." Combining the best of the jazz and cabaret worlds by focusing on the words, the music, and the swing, Amanda masterfully interprets the music she adores and performs.

Joe Wicht is a local musician and composer. While most frequently seen and heard at Martuni's where he hosts Piano Bar 101 (on Mondays) and Sing-Along Saturdays, he also co-produces the Cabaret Showcase Showdown and is a fervent champion of new and emerging cabaret artists in the Bay Area.

New Conservatory Theatre Center has been San Francisco's premier LGBTQ+ performing arts institution and **progressive arts education** conservatory since 1981. NCTC is renowned for its diverse range of innovative, **high-quality productions**, touring productions and shows for young audiences; its foundational **anti-bullying work** with youth and educators through YouthAware; and its commitment to developing **new plays** to continue expanding the canon of Queer and Allied dramatic work.

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FACT SHEET

WHAT: *A Night OUT with Katya*

WHERE: www.nctcsf.org/A-Night-OUT-with-Katya

Early giving is open now: donations accepted at giveoutday.org/nctcsf

WHEN: June 30 at 6pm PT