

Neil Giraldo promises 'combination of a little bit from every record'

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speak. We actually went back to 1979. We're doing four songs from that first record; it's pretty amazing.

"We span the whole catalog. Sometimes, we change out songs; we put different ones in. We like to play things we have never played before. But still put in the things that you know, like 'Battlefield,' 'Heartbreaker,' all that stuff. So, it's going to be a combination of all that."

Benatar said, "The greatest part about doing this for so long is that you are at a place in your life where it all has to be fun, or there's no point. You know, you've done everything; you don't need any more money. It's not about that. You've done enough playing in your entire life. It's good. So, if you're going to go out there and play, you're going out there for the original reasons you went out - because you love it; and because it's fun - and it's still like that."

"I'm so grateful. Neil, too. We get out there and every day is a new day for me. I mean, I've sung some of these songs for 45 years, but sometimes, some of them, it doesn't matter at all. It's like the first day every time. So, you just have to be really grateful that that happens, and it's a new audience every night."

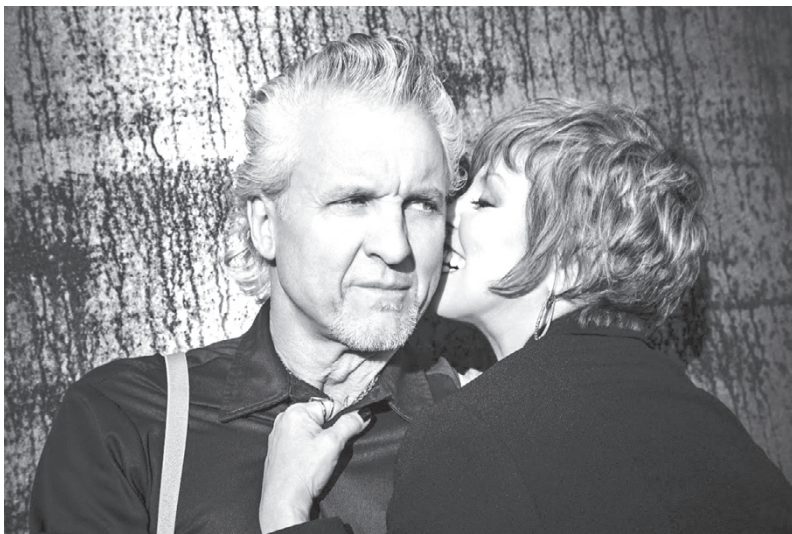
"The way that they're feeling, the way you're feeling, the point is we're having a great time."

"And it's really short (tour). This is like a soundcheck; it's six weeks. We usually go out for three or four months. You know that it's going to be over soon, so you're putting everything into it every single time you go out, because it's going to be over fast."

While concertgoers will be reminiscing about Artpark at this concert event, Benatar will spend some time reflecting, too - particularly on audience makeup. That is to say, she realizes - and relishes - her crowds are now comprised of generations of fans.

"It's probably the thing that you just can't wrap your head around the most," she said.

Benatar explained, "For me, understanding that the people that are there, that were 17 and 18 when the first record came out, are now in their 60s, or 50s, whatever, now; and then their kids are there, and they started bringing their kids when they were 12. So, now their kids are 30. And then, they're bringing their kids, and it's the original



Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo will perform Wednesday at Artpark in Lewiston. (Photos courtesy of High Rise PR)

people's grandchildren that they're bringing; they're 15.

"That part is really very overwhelming because, to be able to know that you were able to touch people's lives in all generations of their families like that, is amazing -

and something that never occurred to you at 26. ... It's just a part that is really wonderful and just hard to grasp."

Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo are online at <https://www.benatargiraldo.com>.



Artpark celebrates Puccini

On Sunday afternoon, Artpark & Company presented Puccini's Greatest: A Gala Opera Concert inside the Artpark Mainstage Theater. The gala event was part of Artpark & Company's 50th anniversary season.

Crafted by Michael Capasso, director of the New York City Opera, this performance was a tribute to the timeless works of Italian composer Giacomo Puccini, showcasing renditions of his most beloved arias. Audience members immersed themselves in captivating melodies of classics from La Bohème, Madama Butterfly, Tosca and Turandot, skillfully interpreted by three-time Grammy Award-winning soprano Latonia Moore, baritone Michael Chioldi, tenor Gregory Turay, soprano Kristin Sampson, tenor Dominick Valdés Chenes and soprano Tatev Baroyan.

Guided by Grammy Award-winning conductor Gil Rose, the mesmerizing journey through Puccini's repertoire was complemented by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Artpark Festival Chorus.



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