

HAPPENINGS

I'LL FOLLOW THE SUN

BEATLES ON THE BEACH FINDS A NEW HOME AND WELCOMES A SUPERSTAR HEADLINER

BY JUDY ALEXANDRA DIEDWARDO



GROUND ZERO BLUES CLUB MEDIA



» The music gods will smile upon Boca Raton March 12-15 for the sixth annual Beatles on the Beach classic rock festival, which will celebrate the sixty-second anniversary of the Beatles' arrival in America with a city-wide lineup of Beatles-themed events and interactive experiences.

While Beatles on the Beach has taken place in Delray Beach since it launched in 2019, festival producer Daniel Hartwell of United We Rock explains that the event's growth necessitated the move. "It was time to spread the love," he says. "Boca Raton is the ideal place—vibrant, creative, and full of heart, just like the music of the Beatles, which reflects the universal spirit of connection that music brings."

Headlining this year's celebration is

Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman and his internationally acclaimed Symphonic Blues Experience, which will take the Mizner Park Amphitheater stage March 14.

"I appreciate the opportunity to educate and share the blues tradition with younger audiences in a way that helps them truly understand the roots of this music," Freeman says.

In his Symphonic Blues Experience, Freeman narrates the history, culture, and legacy of the blues alongside cinematic visuals and live performances by artists from the Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, Mississippi, a venue he co-owns with business partner Eric Meier. For his Boca Raton concert, he will be accompanied by a 30-piece orchestra from the Palm Beach Symphony.

"It's a musical experience of American history rooted in the blues," Freeman adds. "The blues comes from the most basic, visceral expression of humanity. It's soulful music, and I'm a music lover."

Festival highlights will also include performances by top Beatles tribute bands, a Ringo Starr art exhibition featuring rare and exclusive works by members of the Beatles, and lively contests where fans can dress as their favorite Beatle, rock star, or icon from the 1960s and '70s for prizes and photo ops. The celebration continues with a Beatles-themed bar crawl complete with signature drinks at local hot spots. Proceeds from the weekend will benefit the United We Rock Foundation, supporting its mission to transform lives through the power of music. (beatlesonthebeach.com)

MORGAN FREEMAN (AT LEFT AND PICTURED BELOW WITH ERIC MEIER) AND HIS SYMPHONIC BLUES EXPERIENCE WILL HEADLINE THIS YEAR'S BEATLES ON THE BEACH.



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