

## **CHICAGO'S LANDMARK STAGE** AUDITORIUM THEATRE EST. 1889

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### "AMERICA'S GOT TALENT" FINALIST BRANDEN JAMES MAKES AUDITORIUM THEATRE DEBUT SEPTEMBER 24 WITH ON STAGE WITH...BRANDEN JAMES

# On Stage With... Creates an Intimate and Unforgettable Performance with Both James and the Audience on the Historic Auditorium Stage

CHICAGO, IL – The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University presents *On Stage With…Branden James*, an intimate cabaret performance by the "America's Got Talent" finalist. After gracing some of the world's most renowned stages, classically trained singer **Branden James** makes his return to Chicago this fall, **Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m**. on the Auditorium Theatre's historic stage, 50 E. Congress Parkway. Ticket prices are \$75 and \$50, and are available online at <u>AuditoriumTheatre.org</u> by calling (312) 341-2300 or in-person at the Auditorium Theatre's Box Office, 50 E. Congress Parkway. Subscriptions to the Auditorium Theatre's 2015-16 Season and discounted tickets for groups of 10 or more are also on sale.

"'Made in Chicago' is our unique series in which the Auditorium Theatre showcases the tremendous artists of Chicago. And in our intimate 'On the Stage with...' series, the audience shares the historic stage with Branden James for this one night only event. Branden's incredible voice and diverse repertoire mixed with the theatre's near perfect acoustics will certainly be unforgettable," said Auditorium Theatre Executive Director **Brett Batterson**.

Part of the Auditorium Theatre's "Made in Chicago" Music Series, this unique concert experience offers Auditorium audiences the opportunity to sit on the National Historic Landmark stage while enjoying the music of classic crossover artist **Branden James** in this distinctive setting. The "America's Got Talent" finalist performs alongside Australian cellist and Musical Director **James Clark**, as well as singer and YouTube sensation, **Jess Godwin**, bringing a varied repertory of music to this up-close-and-personal cabaret performance. James and company perform an evening of classical, Broadway, operatic pop, and Top 40.

*On Stage With…Branden James* is made possible in part through the generosity of **Dr. Paul M. Lisnek.** 

#### Branden James

Originally from California, James trained at The San Francisco Conservatory of Music and went on to continue his studies in New York City. He has performed with some of the country's most renowned operas as a soloist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, The Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center and with Los Angeles Opera. In 2007 he performed before Pope Benedict XVI at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, Rome and has appeared on stages in over 20 countries and five continents.

In 2013, James was discovered in Chicago by NBC's hit TV series "America's Got Talent" and went on to become a finalist during the show's eighth season. James appeared as a soloist on The 12 Tenors' second full-length album, *I Believe*, and sang the part of The Magi on Decca Records' *The Gift of The Magi* – an opera composed by award winner David Conte.

### ABOUT THE AUDITORIUM THEATRE OF ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

**The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University**, located at 50 E. Congress Pkwy, is an Illinois, not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community and educational programming to Chicago, and to the continued restoration and preservation of the National Historic Landmark Auditorium Theatre. In September of 2014, the Auditorium Theatre was awarded the inaugural **Fifth Star Award** by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. On December 9, 2014, the Auditorium Theatre celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a proclamation from the City of Chicago declaring it "**Auditorium Theatre Day**."

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The Auditorium Theatre is generously supported by the **MacArthur Foundation**, the **Illinois Arts Council**, the **Sage Foundation**, and the **Palmer House Hilton**. For more information about programming, volunteer and donor opportunities or theatre tours, call (312) 341-2310 or visit <u>AuditoriumTheatre.org</u>.

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