

**Attention: Calendar & Listing Editors**  
**Arts & Entertainment Editors**

**Media Contact: Joe Raiola**  
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**212-560-2552**

\*\*\*\*\***MEDIA ALERT**\*\*\*\*\*

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual John Lennon Tribute**  
**Features All-Star Lineup**  
**Biggest Event in Tribute's History**

**A Benefit for the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF)**  
**December 4, 2009, 7:30pm at Symphony Space, NYC**

**September 8, 2009 (New York, NY)** – Theatre Within will present its *29<sup>th</sup> Annual John Lennon Tribute* on Friday, December 4 at Symphony Space in New York City. Confirmed performers span nearly four generations, ranging from legendary vocalist, **Bettye LaVette**, to rising star **Nicole Atkins**, plus acclaimed artists, **Joan Osborne**, **David Bromberg**, **Dan Bern**, **Lucy Kaplansky**, **Sonya Kitchell**, **The Angel Band**, **The Kennedys**, **Rich Pagano** of **the Fab Faux**, web sensation **Chris Bliss**, and **Wendy Osserman Dance**.

Empowered by the overwhelming interest in the newly remastered Beatles catalogue and the debut of "Beatles: Rock Band," this year's Tribute will be the largest in its colorful history. The *Annual John Lennon Tribute*, the longest running event of its kind and the only ongoing Lennon Tribute show to have earned the support of Yoko Ono, was established in 1981 shortly after Lennon's death. Continuing in its tradition of raising money for children's charities, proceeds from this year's Tribute will support the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF.)

"It's tremendously gratifying to bring together such a talented and diverse group of performing artists to celebrate John Lennon," noted the Tribute's creator, Joe Raiola, who will be performing in the show himself for the 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. "I remember in the early days it was such a sad event, but over time it's transformed into a joyful celebration – not just of John, but of the ideals for a better world that meant so much to him."

Theatre Within recently launched **LennonTribute.org**, a robust website dedicated to the event, featuring performer photos, videos from past Tributes, updates and original exclusive content for John Lennon fans everywhere.

**ABOUT THEATRE WITHIN**

Theatre Within is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit Performing Arts Presenter dedicated to producing benefit shows for outstanding charities and important social causes. By promoting the performing arts as public service, Theatre Within brings artists together to make a positive difference in their communities and around the world. Theatre Within is inspired by the humanitarian efforts of George Harrison, John Lennon, Arlo Guthrie, Willie Nelson, Bono and countless other socially-conscious performers who have been the driving force behind charity events.

**ABOUT UMDF**

Founded in 1996, UMDF works to promote research and education for the diagnosis, treatment and cure of mitochondrial diseases and to provide support for affected individuals and families. Since its inception, the UMDF has funded more than \$6 million in research, making it the leading non-governmental contributor of grants focused solely on mitochondrial disease. The UMDF, based in Pittsburgh, PA., is a national organization, represented by 65 chapters, groups and ambassadors around the United States and thousands of members who participate in groups and as ambassadors around the world. For more information about mitochondrial disease, visit [UMDF.org](http://UMDF.org).

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**29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JOHN LENNON TRIBUTE**  
**MEDIA FACT SHEET**

**WHAT: 29<sup>th</sup> Annual John Lennon Tribute, A Benefit for UMDF**

**WHERE: Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway (at 95 Street)**

**WHEN: Friday, December 4, 2009 @ 7:30pm**

**WEBSITE: [LennonTribute.org](http://LennonTribute.org)**

**WHO:** The Angel Band  
Nicole Atkins  
Dan Bern  
Chris Bliss  
David Bromberg  
Lucy Kaplansky  
The Kennedys  
Bettye LaVette  
Joan Osborne  
Rich Pagano  
Joe Raiola  
Wendy Osserman Dance

**MEDIA KIT AVAILABLE AT: [LennonTribute.org](http://LennonTribute.org)**

**TICKETS: Tickets \$55, \$40, available online at [LennonTribute.org](http://LennonTribute.org), by phone at 212-864-5400 or at the Symphony Space box office.**

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