



# Drive-In

## BILLY MCGUIGAN'S

# POP ROCK

## ORCHESTRA

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Written, Produced and Directed by Billy McGuigan

Musical Direction by Matthew McGuigan

**Billy McGuigan** (Lead Vocals/Guitar/Keyboard) is the creator of several international touring productions including *Rave On! The Buddy Holly Experience*, *Yesterday and Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience*, and *Tara Vaughan's She Rocks: The Women of Rock* (Producer). Billy's shows have toured North America since 2003, selling out countless performances and breaking box office and attendance records in theaters across the country. Career highlights include performing with Buddy Holly's contemporaries, Tommy Allsup and Sonny West, and headlining Las Vegas with *Yesterday and Today*—considered to be the world's most innovative and interactive Beatles show.

Billy's love of music comes from directly from his father who introduced Billy to music at an early age. With an out-of-tune guitar and tattered chord books, Billy and his brothers spent countless hours at the dining room table with their dad learning to play and appreciate the music we all grew up listening to. Sadly, Billy's dad passed away in 1996 at age 42 after a short battle with leukemia. The McGuigan brothers turned to the music their father taught them as kids for healing, leading to the creation of Rave On Productions—whose mission is to create live concert experiences that connect audiences through memories and music.

Billy has won many awards for his work including a Spotlight Award for Best Actor in a Musical, an Omaha Entertainment and Arts Award for *Yesterday and Today*, a Midland Business Journal 40 under 40 award, and a CPACS Alumni Award for Excellence in Public Service, awarded by the Faculty and Staff at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Most recently, Billy started the Bill McGuigan Scholarship to provide financial assistance to students interested in pursuing careers in the arts. Billy dedicates this show to Cartney and Ciaran McGuigan and thanks them for their love and inspiration.

**Stan Harper** (Alto Sax/Keys/Vocals) is currently a member of Finest Hour, Bluehouse with the Rent to Own Horns, the Omaha Big Band and leads The Little Harper Big Band. He also performs in a small acousting group—Kettle of Hawks—with his wife Rene', a vocalist. Stan has performed alongside Connor Oberst of Bright Eyes, Steve Allen, Lou Rawls, The Supremes, The Temptations, The Four Tops, The Jim Widner Big Band, The Marcus Lewis Big Band, The Nebraska Jazz Orchestra, Bob Mintzer, Dave Pietro, Chip McNeal, Kim Richmond, Dave Scott, Tom Kubis, Scott Whitfield, Claudio Roditi, Wayne Bergeron, Billy McGuigan, Luigi Waites, Steve Raybine and many others. Most importantly, Stan is a proud papa to two amazing, beautiful girls, and two hip little grandchildren.

**Matthew McGuigan** (Vocals/Bass/Music Direction) is the bassist and musical director for Rave On Productions' touring shows, *Yesterday and Today*, *Rave On! The Buddy Holly Experience* and *Tara Vaughan's She Rocks: The Women of Rock*. Matthew is a graduate of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts in St. Petersburg, FL and has extensive theatrical credits including *West Side Story* (Tony), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Tommy) and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Musical Director). When he's not performing with Rave On! Productions, Matthew is the other half to the band Moses Prey. Moses Prey has released a full-length album ("A Paper Moon") and 2 EP's ("The Martyr" and "Breystory"). He dedicates this performance to his son, Lennon, and to the memory of his late father, Bill.

**Ryan McGuigan** (Vocals/Percussion) would first like to take this opportunity to say how much he enjoys getting to ROCK to the greatest music of all time with his brothers, Billy and Matthew. A graduate of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts in St Petersburg, FL, some of Ryan's favorite roles include Joey in *Tony n Tina's Wedding*, Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar* and a Theatre Arts Guild award-winning portrayal of Buddy in *The Last Session*. When Ryan isn't performing with *Yesterday and Today*, he tag teams with his brother, Matthew, in the power pop rock band Moses Prey. Ryan would like to dedicate his performance to his late wife, Kay J. McGuigan.

**Max Meyer** (Lead Guitar/Vocals) holds a Bachelors of Music Education degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, with his primary instrument during his studies being the classical guitar. As a dedicated music educator, Max has taught privately throughout Nebraska as well at the School of Rock in Omaha. He currently teaches at SNJ Studios and performs educational outreach with his classical guitar group, the Omaha Guitar Trio. Max joined Rave On Productions in 2016 and has been able to perform the music of Buddy Holly, The Beatles, and other rock 'n' roll legends in theaters and concert venues all over the country. Max's life and career revolve around all aspects of music in performing, teaching, and composing. He loves what he does and feels incredibly thankful for the support he has received!

**Darren Pettit** (Saxophone/Keys/Vocals) is the Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Composition at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). He received his bachelor of music degree in saxophone performance from UNO in 1995 and was awarded the Presser Scholarship and the Dean's Award from the College of Fine Arts. Dr. Pettit also received a full scholarship to the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music where he earned

a master of music degree in saxophone performance. He then received his DMA in jazz studies/composition at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he studied with Dr. Eric Richards. Dr. Pettit's duties at UNO include directing Jazz Combo I, coordinating both dual enrollment and music theory for the School of Music, teaching Music Fundamentals, Music Core Curriculum I & II, Jazz Arranging, Orchestration, Pedagogy of Music Theory, and Analysis for Performers. In 2003, Dr. Pettit co-founded both the Omaha Jazz Workshop and the Metropolitan Area Youth Jazz Orchestra. The Jazz Workshop has since become the UNO Jazz Camp featuring the Jim Widner Big Band and attracts over 100 students a year. Dr. Pettit has premiered original compositions in Shizouka, Japan, the Beijing Contemporary Music Academy, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, the University of Illinois, the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Regional Conference, the North American Saxophone Alliance Regional and National Conferences, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Mercer University in Georgia, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln & UNO. He has toured extensively throughout the United States as the music director for *Yesterday and Today* and *Rave On!*, and has performed with the Jim Widner Big Band, the Omaha Big Band, the Las Vegas Lab Band with Mike Gurcuillo, the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra, the Omaha Symphony, the Omaha Community Playhouse, Randy Brecker, Diane Schuur, Debbie Boone, Delbert McClinton, the Temptations, David Foster, Michael Buble, Frankie Valli and many others. Dr. Pettit is a D'Addario Artist/Clinician.

**Natalie Thomas** (Vocals) is an Omaha native fulfilling a life long dream of making music and sharing it with others. Natalie has received constant support from her friends and family while pursuing her musical career. She is a graduate of the Creighton University School of Nursing and is currently employed as an RN at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha. After singing back up vocals for Heidi Joy and the release of her 2008 album "Songstress", Natalie spends her free time with her music. She can be found performing around Omaha at local establishments with her acoustic trio or with her band, eNVy.

**Larell Ware** (Drums) was born and raised in Philadelphia before moving to Omaha to study percussion. Larell's 25 years of experience landed him the opportunity to tour internationally with several artists, and he is featured on studio recordings with internationally-recognized musicians. Most recently Larell was the drummer for NBC's *The Voice's* Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal where he performed a 27-city European tour with a live album release in Brussels, Belgium.

### Technical Staff

Social Media Manager, **Carly Frolio** | Audio Engineer, **Jay Hanson** | Production Manager, **Joe Kaspar**  
Guitar Technician, **Ciaran McGuigan** | Stage Manager, **Kate Whitecotton**