

# FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES

## First Presbyterian Church

203 N. Almer St.  
Caro, Michigan 48723

989.673.6630  
www.carofirst.org

Friday, November 19, 2021  
12:00 p.m.



**Kevin Cole**  
piano

**Pick Yourself Up**

Kern / Fields

**Moon River / Crazy World**

Mancini / Mercer / Bricusse

**Gershwin Movie Medley**

G. Gershwin / I. Gershwin

Let's Call the Whole Thing Off  
They All Laughed  
Nice Work if You Can Get It

**Amazing Grace / My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

Newton / NEW BRITAIN  
Watts / SOUTHERN HARMONY

**Anything Goes Medley**

Porter

*All piano arrangements are by Kevin Cole.  
Kevin Cole is a Steinway Artist and plays Steinway pianos exclusively.*

“America’s Pianist,” **KEVIN COLE**, is an award-winning musical director, arranger, composer, vocalist, and archivist, garnering the praises of Harold Arlen, Irving Berlin, Marvin Hamlisch, E.Y. Harburg, Burton Lane, Hugh Martin, Stephen Sondheim, and members of the Jerome Kern and Gershwin families. Performing with over one hundred orchestras worldwide, Cole’s engagements have included sold-out performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, BBC Concert Orchestra at Royal Albert Hall, National Symphony at the Kennedy Center, San Francisco Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Philharmonia Orchestra (London), Hong Kong Philharmonic, Vietnam National Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Symphony, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra (Australia), and at the Ravinia Festival, the Wolf Trap, the Savannah Music Festival, the Castleton Festival, the Chautauqua Institute, and Carnegie Hall with Albany Symphony. Kevin was the featured soloist for the PBS special *Gershwin at One Symphony Place* with the Nashville Symphony. He was mentored by premier Gershwin and American Composers writer Edward Jablonski and songwriting legends Marvin Hamlisch and Hugh Martin. Kevin was the only pianist Hamlisch used for his Gershwin concerts from 2004 to 2012. Kevin Cole has shared the concert stage with Barbara Cook, Lorin Maazel, Audra McDonald, Sylvia McNair, William Warfield, and friend Marvin Hamlisch. His discography includes Gramophone Musical Album of the Year (1995), Gershwin's *Oh, Kay!*, with soprano Dawn Upshaw (Elektra/Nonesuch); *Cole Plays Gershwin, In The Words Of Ira-The Songs of Ira Gershwin*; and, his most recent acclaimed recording *Gershwin: Concerto in F* (Naxos), the first recording using the critical edition from the University of Michigan Gershwin Initiative. Cole has received accolades from the foremost critics in America.

“A piano genius [...] he reveals an understanding of harmony, rhythmic complexity and pure show-biz virtuosity that would have had Vladimir Horowitz smiling with envy,” wrote arts critic Andrew Patner.

“When Cole sits down at the piano, you would swear Gershwin himself was at work. [...] Cole stands as the best Gershwin pianist in America today,” stated Howard Reich of the *Chicago Tribune*.