

*Tenth Anniversary 2010*

**THE MARINA DEL REY SUMMER CONCERTS**

**present**

**JAMES DARREN**

**Saturday, July 31, 2010, 7:00 pm**

**Burton Chace Park - Marina del Rey**

Sponsors

Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Supervisor

The Department of Beaches and Harbors

The Ritz-Carlton Marina del Rey

KUSC Classical FM 91.5

**All Concerts Free to the Public**

## **James Darren**

**An accomplished actor, director and recording artist, James Darren enjoys a multi-faceted show business career that spans over five decades. With a notable career in films (“Gidget”, “The Guns of Navarone”) as well as television (“The Time Tunnel,” “T.J. Hooker,” “Star Trek: Deep Space Nine”), Darren re-emerged in 1999 as a recording star, reaffirming his incomparable talents as a singer.**

**Born in South Philadelphia as James Ercolani, a second-generation American of Italian descent, Darren cites his beloved grandmother as the greatest guiding light of his life and his career. By the age of 14, he knew he wanted a show business career, and he embarked on the road to stardom by singing in nightclubs in Philadelphia and South Jersey. By age 18, he was in New York, studying acting for several years with the legendary drama teacher Stella Adler.**

It was a chance introduction to Hollywood movie producer Joyce Selznick that led to Darren's seven-year contract with Columbia Pictures and his first big break: starring as the college student-surfer Moondoggie opposite Sandra Dee in the 1959 classic comedy hit, "Gidget." Two sequels would follow, and Darren was soon on Hollywood's short list of most sought-after young dramatic actors. He would make 20 films in all, including "The Guns of Navarone," "The Lively Set," "The Gene Krupa Story," "The Brothers Rico," "Gunman's Walk," "Let No Man Write My Epitaph," and "Diamond Head."

Darren's singing career encompasses an impressive roster of musical credits including 14 albums and five Top 10 singles, including the 1961 Grammy-nominated "Goodbye Cruel World," which held the No. 1 spot on the Billboard charts for six weeks. Throughout the early 60s, his recording career continued to skyrocket with subsequent Top 10 hits including "Her Royal Majesty," "Conscience," and "All." In 1976, he landed still another hit with "You Take My Breath Away" from the Oscar-winning film "Rocky."

Darren would also make his mark on the small screen, starring in several hit television series, including “The Time Tunnel,” “R.J. Hooker,” “Star Trek: Deep Space Nine” and “Melrose Place.” In 1987, the versatile entertainer began another phase of his career, this time as a highly in-demand director for television, whose credits include several “movies of the week,” and more than 50 television shows ranging from “Melrose Place” and “Beverly Hills 90210” to “Hunter” and “Walker, Texas Ranger.”

His portrayal of the hologram character Vic Fontaine, a swinging 60s Rat Pack crooner, on “Star Trek: Deep Space Nine” in 1993 reawakened Darren’s passion for his first love: singing. The tremendous reaction from the series’ fans clearly demonstrated the feeling was mutual. He was once again in the vocal spotlight in 1999, with the release of two Concord albums “This One’s From the Heart” and “Because of You.” Both releases celebrate the Great American Song Book and introduce the world to Darren’s lush vocals.

Because of his recordings, his concert appearances in Atlantic City and Las Vegas, as well as his concerts with world-renowned symphony orchestras across the United States, including the San Diego Symphony, the Dallas Symphony and the Iowa Symphony, the media has also taken notice of James Darren the singer. The San Diego Union-Tribune called him a “compendium of coolness, a wizard of with-it-ness.” The Chicago Sun-Times said “Darren is as smooth as silk.”

Actor, director, recording artist – James Darren has made an indelible mark in the entertainment industry.

## Join Us

Please be with us on Saturday, August 14 when one of the founding figures of the Bossa Nova movement in Brazil, and in 1962, one of the first artists to bring Bossa Nova to New York’s Carnegie Hall, Oscar Castro-Neves, brings his genius as a guitarist, composer and arranger to The Marina del Rey Summer Concerts with *Oscar Castro-Neves and Friends*.

**Thursday, August 5 at 7 pm, the Marina del Rey Summer Symphony, conducted by Maestro Frank Fetta, presents a special tribute to The Beatles, with symphonic arrangements of some of their greatest hits and songs sung by The Christopher Brothers, a professional rock band formed by three brothers ages nine, twelve and fourteen. Also on the program, two of George Gershwin's most celebrated works for orchestra: "Porgy and Bess; Symphonic Picture," and American in Paris."**

### **Special Mention**

- **Yamaha is the official piano of the Marina del Rey Summer Concerts.**
- **Technical Director of the Marina del Rey Summer Concerts is James Ciancaglioni**
- **Chief Sound Engineer is Martyn Claes.**
- **Sound, power, backline, and lighting equipment provided by Auntie M Creative Consultants.**
- **Tents and stages provided by AAA Rents and Events, Van Nuys, California.**

- **Chairs are available for rent at the concert site. Call Hornblower Café at 310-823-8400 for advance rental orders.**
- **Hornblower Café in the Park is open for sunset dining on concert nights, offering a varied selection of food and beverages.**

## **Transportation**

**We offer two methods of transportation directly to and from the concert site. The WaterBus, operating from seven locations throughout Marina del Rey, serves concert-goers exclusively on Classical Thursdays from 5 pm to midnight. On Pop Saturdays the WaterBus operates from 11 am to midnight. \$1.00 per person, each way.**

**You can also catch a ride on land with the free Beach Shuttle, which runs shuttle service directly to and from Chace Park on concert nights.**

**You can download Marina del Rey WaterBus and Beach Shuttle brochures from the Beaches and Harbors website at [marinadelrey.lacounty.gov](http://marinadelrey.lacounty.gov).**

**County Parking Lot 4, 13500 Mindanao Way, West of Admiralty Way, and County Lot 5, Bali Way, West of Admiralty Way, are open on concert nights. Fees are as posted.**