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DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER RETURNS TO THE SHELDON WITH THE MEMPHIS SOULPHONY

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents Dee Dee Bridgewater & the Memphis Soulphony, Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Over the course of a multifaceted career spanning four decades, Grammy and Tony Award-winning jazz giant Dee Dee Bridgewater has ascended to the upper echelon of vocalists, putting her unique spin on standards, as well as taking intrepid leaps of faith in re-envisioning jazz classics. Ever the fearless voyager, explorer, pioneer and keeper of tradition, Bridgewater most recently won the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album for *Eleanora Fagan (1915-1959): To Billie With Love From Dee Dee*.

Bridgewater's career has always bridged musical genres. She earned her first professional experience as a member of the legendary Thad Jones/Mel Louis Big Band, and throughout the '70s she performed with such jazz notables as Max Roach, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon and Dizzy Gillespie. After a foray into the pop world during the 1980s, she relocated to Paris and began to turn her attention back to jazz. Bridgewater began self-producing with her 1993 album *Keeping Tradition* (Polydor/Verve) and created DDB Records in 2006 when she signed with the Universal Music Group as a producer. Releasing a series of critically-acclaimed CDs, all but one, including her successful double Grammy Award-winning tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, *Dear Ella*, have received Grammy nominations. Bridgewater also pursued a parallel career in musical theater, winning a Tony Award for her role as Glinda in *The Wiz* in 1975. Having recently completed a run as the lead role of Billie Holiday in the off-Broadway production of *Lady Day*, her other theatrical credits include *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Black Ballad*, *Carmen*, *Cabaret* and the Off-Broadway and West End Productions of *Lady Day*. She is currently on tour worldwide in support of *Memphis...Yes, I'm Ready*, her new CD.

Single tickets are \$45 orchestra/\$40 balcony 1/\$30 balcony 2. Tickets are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon's website at TheSheldon.org, or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For a VIP concert experience, All-Access tickets are available by calling 314-533-9900, ext. 14. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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