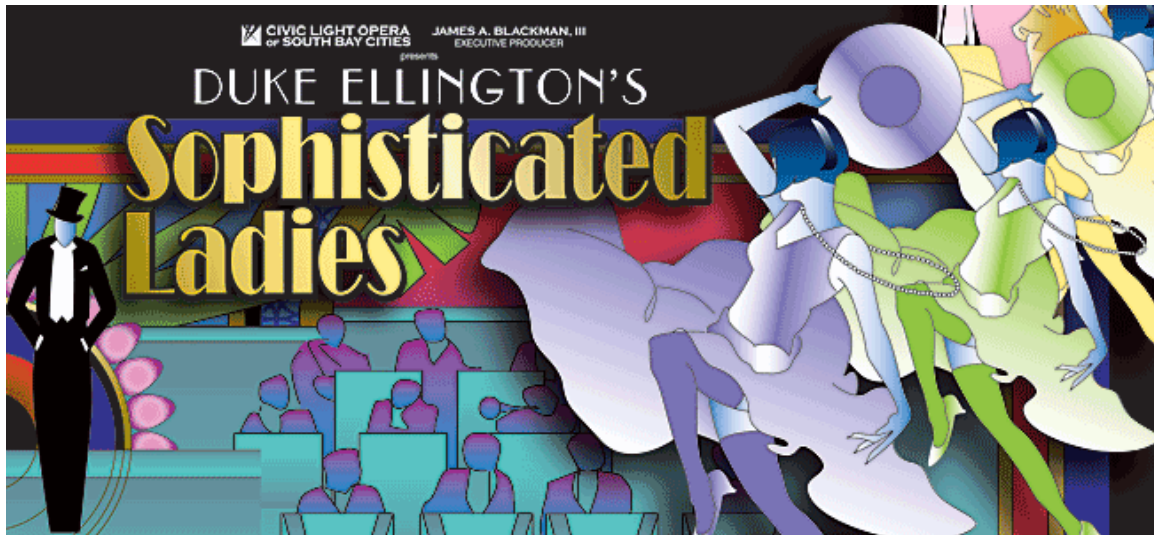


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JANUARY 25, 2007  
FORREST & ASSOCIATES

818.760-0964 or 818.693.0964



JAMES A. BLACKMAN AND THE  
CIVIC LIGHT OPERA OF SOUTH BAY CITIES  
PROUDLY PRESENT  
DUKE ELLINGTON'S  
**SOPHISTICATED LADIES**  
February 14 to March 4, 2007 at the  
Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center

The hit musical extravaganza Duke Ellington's ***Sophisticated Ladies*** journeys back to the beginning of one of America's greatest eras – the Jazz Age. This all new production will be directed and choreographed by Cheryl Baxter, with musical direction by Steven Smith, and presented at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center by Executive Director James A. Blackman and the Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities. ***Sophisticated Ladies*** will preview on Feb. 14, 15, and 16, with the Gala Press Opening Saturday, February 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40-60 and are available at [www.civiclighthouse.com](http://www.civiclighthouse.com).

***Sophisticated Ladies*** debuted on Broadway on March 1, 1981, with Gregory Hines, Judith Jamison, Hinton Battle (who won the 1981 Tony Award), Phyllis Hyman (in her Broadway debut), P.J. Benjamin, and Terri Klausner. The cutting-

edge, all black musical preceded the now classic hit *Dreamgirls* by nine months. "Ladies" won two Tony awards and played 775 performances. The original concept and musical staging was by Donald McKayle.

Famous songs from ***Sophisticated Ladies*** include: *Hit Me With A Hot Note, It Don't Mean a Thing, Don't Get Around Much Anymore, Take the "A" Train, I'm Beginning to See the Light, I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good*, and many more.

The Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities is the largest producing civic light opera in all of Southern California. Tickets are available on line at [www.civiclighthouse.com](http://www.civiclighthouse.com) or by calling 310-372-4477.

### CALENDAR LISTING

## *Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies*

Executive Director: James A. Blackman  
Director/Choreographer: Cheryl Baxter  
Musical Director: Steven Smith  
Associate Producer: Stephanie Coltrin  
Associate Producer: Christopher Beyries  
Set Designer: Christopher Beyries  
Lighting Designer: Steven Young  
Sound Designer: John Feinstein

#### Cast:

Eugene Fleming as the Racanteur  
Lacy Phillips as the Jazzbo  
Carol Hatchett as the Daneuse  
Angela Teek as the Chanteuse  
Jeffrey Williams as the Danseur  
Misty Cotton as the Soubrette  
Rob Thompson as the Hipster

#### *Sophisticated Ladies and Gentlemen*

Dionne Figgins, Kaci Wilson, Travis Davidson, Ohmar Griffin, Kimberly Hoey, Jim Morrison and Chad Seib

Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center is located at the corner of Aviation and Manhattan Blvds.

**SOPHISTICATED LADIES**

**Previews: Wednesday, February 14 to Friday, February 16 at 8 P.M.**

**Gala Press Opening: Saturday, February 17 at 8 P.M.**

**Closes: Sunday, March 4 at 7 P.M.**

**Regular Schedule: Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 P.M.**

**Saturday Matinees: 2 P.M. February 24 & March 3**

**Sunday Matinees: 2 P.M. February 18, February 25 & March 4**

**Tickets: \$60, \$55, \$50 Weekends & Matinees**

**\$55, \$50, \$45 Weeknights (Tue – Thu)**

**\$50, \$45, \$40 Previews**

**CALL: 310-372-4477 for Tickets and Information**

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*818-693-0964 Cell*  
*Phone 818-760-0964*  
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