

THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF GEORGE MICHAEL



RUCKUS
ENTERTAINMENT

CAST

Craig Winberry Lead vocals
Rory Phelan Lead vocals
Autumn Jones Lead and background vocals
Riccardo Gresino Music Director and keyboards
Collin Keller Guitars and background vocals
Aubrey Situmorany .. Bass guitars and background vocals
Sam Ruff. Drums

SYNOPSIS

The Life and Music of George Michael chronicles the amazing journey George Michael had with music and his fans. The show captures the performance and sound of George Michael with staging and lighting while telling his story through early music hits from Wham! and his illustrious solo career.

As one of the biggest international stars of our time, the show will have fans on their feet dancing and singing along to blockbuster hits including "Wake Me Up Before You Go Go," "Freedom," "Faith," "Careless Whisper," "Father Figure," and many more. Spanning a four decade career with over 115 million albums sold, The Life and Music of George Michael shows his rise to fame as a member of Wham! in the 80's. He went solo in 1987 with "Faith," one of the biggest albums of all time which included multiple number one hits.

Throughout George's career, he won two Grammy Awards, three Brit Awards, three American Music Awards and four MTV Video Music Awards. The show is produced by Ruckus Entertainment, the creators of The Simon & Garfunkel Story and other touring hits.

WHO'S WHO



CRAIG WINBERRY is thrilled to take the stage again in *The Life and Music of George Michael*. Theater credits include "Mamma Mia," *The Wild*

Party, *Thank You For Being A Friend*; *Golden Girls Musical Parody*, *Shooting Star*, and *The Gunfighter Meets His Match*. TV/Film appearances in *Full Frontal* with Samantha Bee, *Porch, Rockaway*, and features on *Billions* and *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*. Craig also wrote and starred in cabarets *Executive Order* and *Christmas Spirits: Neat Edition*. He's one half of the dance music duo *Basesuite* streaming on all platforms globally. When not on a stage or in the studio, Craig spends his time crafting culinary delights for friends and family, snuggling with his furry friend Bubbles and exploring his hometown, New York City. Connect with @craigwinberry on all social media.



RORY PHELAN - Rory trained at the D&B School of Performing Arts. He has appeared in theatre production such as: Ram Sweeney in *Heathers The Musical* (The

Other Palace); George Michael in *The Life & Music Of George Michael* (US Tour); Ram Sweeney in *Heathers*

The Musical (UK Tour); Drew in *Club Tropicana* (UK Tour); Ensemble as Sonny, Kenickie, Doody, Vince Fontaine, Teen Angel in *Grease* (UK & International Tour); Eddie in *Mamma Mia!* (Novello Theatre); Joey/ 1st cover Tony Manero in *Saturday Night Fever* (UK Tour) & Ensemble/1st cover Charlie in *Wag! The Musical* (Charing Cross Theatre).

Rory has also appeared on screen as Ram Sweeney in *Heathers: The Musical* (Village Roadshow/ Team Motion & Sound); Snapfish Commercial (Snapfish) Eddie in *Abba Christmas Special* (ITV) and Boy in *Beaver Falls Ident* (E4).



AUTUMN JONES

- Autumn is a soulful R&B singer-songwriter and an alumni of Berklee College of Music in Boston. She's had a busy few years along

with her band *The Smoke* releasing her debut EP "4.4.4.," winning a Tracks Music Award for her single *Bittersweet* and showcasing her music at venues like Boston City Winery, The Groove and Rockwood Music Hall in New York City. Notion Magazine described her work as having a "neo-soul-style with full and effusive vocals reminiscent of blues veteran Corrinne Bailey Ray."



**AUBREY
SITUMORANG** -

is an Indonesian bass player in Los Angeles, California. Aubrey has played for notable artists such as Bipolar Sunshine and SASAMI; Aubrey's recent performances include opening for Yeah Yeah Yeahs at the Huntington Bank Pavilion in Chicago, Illinois, and for Soccer Mommy at Outside Lands Festival in San Francisco, California both in the summer of 2023. Beyond her live performances, Aubrey also released her album *One Point One* which received a nomination for Best Jazz Album at Indonesia's highest music awards Anugerah Musik Indonesia 2022.



COLLIN KELLER

is an American guitarist, touring musician, songwriter, and producer from the heartland of the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Currently residing in Los Angeles, Collin is a Berklee College of Music graduate specializing in songwriting and performance. He has toured internationally including appearances on major festival stages and is credited as a songwriter having worked with global major-label artists.

Playful yet mesmerizing, his musical style reflects the heart of John Mayer, the energy of Jack Garratt, and the spirit of The Beatles. Notable past performances include Osheaga Festival, Switchyard Music Festival, and *The Life and Music of George Michael*, alongside

being nominated as 'Boston Pop Artist of The Year' 2018.



RICCARDO

GRESINO - is a professional piano and keyboard player & music director based in Los Angeles, CA. Born and raised in Italy,

he is well recognized for his outstanding sound-making abilities, competence, and trustworthiness. Known for his consistently utmost quality, Riccardo's artistry is proven in performances and recordings with established musicians such as Latin Grammy-nominated vocalist Rubel, Gianni Coscia (ECM Records), SESSI, Kenny Sharp, Anna Margo, AM Dandy, Tristan Simone, and more.

In a significant milestone, Riccardo became the music director and keyboard player for the *"The Life and Music of George Michael"* (US Tour 2022-2024,) showcasing his versatility and expertise. As a Recording Academy member and GRAMMY U Mentor, Riccardo Gresino continues to be an active member of the music industry and to inspire a new generation of musicians.



SAM RUFF is a drummer and music producer residing in Los Angeles. He holds two degrees from Berklee College of Music and has shared the stage

with artists such as Lee Ritenour, Wayne Brady, and many more.

ABOUT RUCKUS ENTERTAINMENT (Producers):

Ruckus Entertainment, based in Los Angeles and formed in 2022, brings together veteran entertainment producers Alison Spiriti, Justin Sudds, Dean Elliott and Ralph Schmidtke who are collectively responsible for producing over 100 touring productions seen by millions around the

world. Their burgeoning production company brings audiences world-class concerts and live events and is focused on celebrating the history and music behind iconic, globally recognized musical artists. Current productions include *The Simon & Garfunkel Story*, *The Life and Music of George Michael* and *The British Invasion*.