

TOM WOPAT

BIOGRAPHY

All it takes is a phrase or two from Tom Wopat's warm, engaging baritone to trigger the desire to hear more. And the more one listens, the better it gets -- from the way he finds the heart of a song's story to his lyrical phrasing and his gently swinging, jazz-infused rhythms. Wopat's dynamic live show features songs from his critically acclaimed new album, "I've Got Your Number," in which he performs new arrangements of Great American songbook classics, as well as contemporary songs of Paul Simon, Bruce Springsteen, James Taylor and more.

At first glance, that could be viewed as a surprisingly diverse program of material from a performer who may be best known for his starring role in the '80s hit television series *The Dukes of Hazzard*. But his versatility was there from the beginning, and on full display in a career reaching from his television work of the '70s and '80s to high visibility Broadway roles in 1999's *Annie Get Your Gun* and 2008's *Catered Affair* (he received Tony Award nominations for both), as well as *Chicago*, *Forty-Second St.*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, and most recently the Tony-Award winning play *The Trip To Bountiful* starring Cicely Tyson.

But music is Wopat's main passion, and at a time when male vocal artists have been in fairly short supply, his singing is a welcome addition. "Performing these songs the way we do in *I've Got Your Number* is the most creative thing I do," Tom concludes. "It's extremely satisfying and fulfilling. And as long as it feels that way, I'm going to keep right on doing it."