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Arts Around Town

By: Susan Kalan

ARTS ROUNDUP

The Eric Mintel Quartet is celebrating its 25th anniversary on Friday at 8 p.m., at Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, with a program mix including originals written by Mintel, Dave Brubeck, and classic television show themes.

Joining Mintel, who plays piano, will be Nelson Hill on sax, Dave Mohn on drums, and Jack Hegyi on bass.

Mintel currently is hosting his own television show on TV 30 in Princeton, New Jersey, called "Talking Jazz with Eric Mintel." He said his guests will be musicians and people behind the scenes helping to bring jazz to the forefront of the public mindset. Episodes also can be seen on Mintel's Facebook page.

The quartet will resume touring with engagements in Georgia in April, South Carolina in July, and Wisconsin and the Midwest in December.





Also at the playhouse: Frank Ferrante brings his Groucho Marx show to Bucks County Playhouse beginning Wednesday and continuing through February 25. The actor-director-producer was discovered by Groucho's son, Arthur, when he (Ferrante) was a drama student at the University of Southern California. He originated the off-Broadway title role in "Groucho: A Life in

Revue"(written by Arthur), portraying the comedian from age 15 to 85.

Ferrante won 1987's New York's Theatre World Award and was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award. He reprised the role in London's West End and was nominated for the Laurence Olivier Award for comedy performance of the year.

Footnote: The Marx Brothers were known to spend much time in New Hope and Bucks County, where they would stay in George Kaufman's home, now the Barley Sheaf Bed and Breakfast, outside New Hope.

For further info: bcptheater.org