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In honor of the Lobero Theatre's 150th Ovation Celebration

EARL MINNIS PRESENTS

A Free Community Block Party Event

Chubby Checker & The Wildcats

with special guests Glen Phillips, Spencer The Gardener, and La Boheme Dancers

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 3 PM – 8 PM

Santa Barbara, April 14, 2023 – In honor of the Lobero Theatre's 150th Ovation Celebration and Chubby Checker Twistin' America for 60 plus years, EARL MINNIS PRESENTS a Free Community Block Party Event, featuring Chubby Checker & The Wildcats, with special guests Glen Phillips, Spencer The Gardener, and La Boheme Dancers performing on the theater's esplanade on Saturday, May 20, 2023, 3 PM – 8 PM. The oldest continuously operating theater in California, and the fourth oldest performing arts theater in the country, the Lobero is known for helping to launch Hollywood legends, offering world-class jazz performances, and being the center for a robust program of regional performing arts.

To commemorate this historic milestone, the Lobero created the Ovation Celebration, featuring a variety of special events, including numerous well-known headliners in a setting hard to find elsewhere in the U.S. Chubby Checker, the unrivaled king of the early 60s rock & roll dance craze, is the only artist to have 5 albums in the Top 12 all at once. In addition, the legendary icon is the only artist to have a song to be #1 twice – "The Twist." The groundbreaking song also introduced the unique concept of "dancing apart to the beat."

Chubby's success continued for years with the release of one dance record after another, with "The Fly" and "Let's Twist Again," for which he won a GRAMMY® for the "Best Rock Performance." Over the next few years, endless songs incorporating "The Twist" into its name sprang up, such as "Peppermint Twist," "Twist and Shout," and "Twistin' the Night Away." In addition, each new song inspired a new dance involving dancing apart, such as "The Jerk," "The Hully Gully," "The Boogaloo," and "The Shake." At the forefront was Chubby with "The Fly," "The Pony," and "The Hucklebuck." Thereafter, even more hit records followed. To this day, the rock & roll legend continues to delight audiences of all ages.

The celebration's festivities also include performances by several local guest artists – Glen Phillips, Spencer The Gardener, and La Boheme Dancers. Songwriter/lyricist/singer/guitarist Glen Phillips, best known as the frontman and primary songwriter for alternative rock band Toad the Wet Sprocket, has also forged an extensive solo career full of eclectic collaborations and side projects. Starting out in the 80's with his iconic band The Tan, Spencer Barnitz (aka Spencer The Gardener) was part of a burgeoning music scene that put Santa Barbara on the musical map. From local fame to traveling the world, the artist epitomizes Santa Barbara's laid-back lifestyle, filled with surf, sun, music, and even tango. La Boheme Dancers, known as Santa Barbara's number one award-winning community dance group, will be spreading the joy of dance, creativity, and artistic expression with a fun, intriguing vibe and dazzling costumes. Come twist the night away! For more information, visit <https://www.lobero.org/events/chubby-checker/>.

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Calendar Editors, please note:

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Come twist the night away! Join us for a Free Community Block Party Event, in honor of the Lobero's 150th Ovation Celebration, featuring Headliner Chubby Checker & The Wildcats, with special guests Glen Phillips, Spencer The Gardener, and La Boheme Dancers performing on the theater's esplanade on Saturday, May 20, 3 PM – 8 PM. For more information, visit <https://www.lobero.org/events/chubby-checker/>.

Lobero Theatre, 33 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101