

SPRING CONCERT 2023

MANILOW!

**SONGS THAT MAKE
THE WHOLE WORLD SING**

**DR. STAN HILL ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
KURT JORDAN PRINCIPAL ACCOMPANIST**

**SPECIAL GUESTS
MARINA MAC
BACK BEATS**

**APRIL 22 AT 7 PM
APRIL 23 AT 3 PM**

PALM SPRINGS CULTURAL CENTER



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Coachella Valley Men's Chorus

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WELCOME!



Welcome to Modern Men's Spring Concert, **MANILOW! Music That Makes the Whole World Sing**. On behalf of the Chorus and the Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your continued support of Modern Men.

When I first heard *Weekend in New England*, that's where I was living. So I could appreciate everything being described and lived through the song. We hope that this music brings back great memories for you as well.

We welcome you, we thank you and we are grateful that you are here, whether it is your first Modern Men concert or you have attended every single performance. We enjoy bringing you all types of music, and perhaps some songs you have never heard before.

We look forward to the next opportunity we have to entertain you and bring you diverse musical and artistic experiences!

Dennis Chase

Board President, Modern Men



OUR MISSION

Modern Men: Coachella Valley Men's Chorus promotes harmony through outstanding performances, entertains and empowers our audiences, and embraces diversity through community outreach.

To quote Barry Manilow: "No one person or material thing could ever come close to the feeling I get when the music is right." And whose music evokes more feelings than the music of Barry Manilow? His sound has been with us since we were kids and bring back memories so vivid and alive that we are transported to a moment filled with wonder and incredible nostalgia. So tonight we are utterly delighted to bring you that opportunity to swim in your ancient emotions that resonated when you first heard these tunes.

And to quote Fred Small in his poem *Everything Possible: The only measure of your words and your deeds is the love you leave behind when you're gone*. And aren't we thankful that Barry is still with us, still singing his wonderful songs, still bringing us great memories after decades of the wonder of his music. And who constantly gives us more words in his evocative lyrics and deeds than Barry Manilow? Speaking of deeds. Did you know the Manilow Music Project puts pianos in music rooms, instruments into kids' hands, and uniforms on their backs, nationwide? Over 10 million dollars have been invested in making music a part of our youth's lives and we owe that to Mr. Manilow.

And the thrills just keep on coming. Watch for announcements about our 2023-2024 season featuring a December Holiday performance called **Comfort and Joy** featuring Holiday celebrations from around the world. And then in April 2024 its **Modern Men's Greatest Hits** featuring, by popular demand, a reprise of our beloved Robert Seeley commission **MOMENTum** with orchestra. ACT II will feature music of our favorite selections from past concerts, chosen by our singers. I am sure that their favorites will be your favorites too.

And, the frosting on the cake, is how very much we appreciate your participation, support and love which you have so graciously bestowed on Modern Men over the years. We perform because you make it possible to perform, and so we are deeply appreciative to each and every one of you.

YOU are *Why We Sing!*



Dr. Stan Hill, PhD

Artistic Director

Modern Men: Coachella Valley Men's Chorus

Dr. Stan Hill ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Kurt Jordan PRINCIPAL ACCOMPANIST

TENOR 1

Brent Aronowitz
Dale Boss
Tom Burtch
Daniel Catalon*
LT Cousineau
Stephen Griffith
James Guthrie
Jim Kingslan
Mike Lukschu
Rich Meyers
Van Neel
Adam Ramirez#
Heath Richard
Dan Tempas
Paul Trombley+
Daniel Walthall
Justin Wicker#

TENOR 2

Stephane Brochet
Chris Burns
Larry Bye#
Chris Cochran
Kirk Dow
Richard Elander*
Gabe Evaristo
Ken Forney+
Gregg Glaviano
David Hubbard
Stephen Jaeger
Danny Kopelson#
Mitchell Laks#
Thompson Lange
Sal Lanza
Randy W. Lerner
Kevin Mason#
Mel McElree
David McFadden
Johnnie G. McKinley#
Ken Peek
Amarin (Niki) Ratanarat#
Michael Richerson
Armand J. Rouleau
Mark Schroepfer

Daniel Taveras
Rob Thomas
Nathan Truesdell
Vince Urbani#
Jared Watson

BARITONE

Curtis Anderson
Allan Arnaboldi
Alexei Barnes+
Frank C. Cacciola
Paul D. Cain
Bill Ciffairy
Keith M. Cornell
Tom DeRemer#
Mark Duebner
Larry Dunlop
Donald Gardenier#
Brent Gettelfinger
Jim Gnaster
Peter Gordon
Ian Hartzel-Russell
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Jerry Hipps#
John Hunsaker
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Leave of Absence

BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Stan Hill ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Since joining Modern Men as Artistic Director in August, 2016, and in his 53rd year conducting, Dr. Stan Hill brings to Coachella Valley audiences his witty, humanistic and iconoclastic approach to choral music and conducting. Well known in choral circles nationally, Stan served for 11 years as Artistic Director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and then for 12 years as

Artistic Director of Minnesota's Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus before moving to Palm Springs in 2012. A dynamic conductor, arranger, clinician and vocal coach, Stan's career spans the entire spectrum of elementary, secondary, university, church and community choruses. He has conducted every configuration of vocal ensemble and chorus with every combination of instrumentation from small ensembles to full symphony orchestras. Dr. Hill has commissioned and premiered some of the most successful music in the gay men's chorus repertoire, including *NakedMan*, *Exile*, *ExtrABBAganza*, *Misbehavin'!*, *Metamorphosis*, *Through a Glass*, *Darkly*, *The Kushner Trilogy* and *MOMENTum*. Modern Men just released their first in-studio recording for our CD of that new commission, *MOMENTum*. He has produced 13 CDs, several videos, and has written countless arrangements for men's choruses. In 2012, Hill was honored with GALA Choruses' highest accolade: The Lifetime Achievement Award. In July 2016 Stan conducted the 20th Anniversary performance of *NakedMan* with over 350 singers and full orchestra for the opening Blockbuster Concert of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses conference in Denver. In October 2016 Stan was honored by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus with the title Conductor Laureate for the work he did to make SFGMC the extraordinary ensemble it is today, and for his tireless efforts for the chorus and community during the worst days of the AIDS pandemic. A native of Southern California, Stan earned his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music, both in conducting, from California State University, Fullerton, where he studied under noted choral directors Harold Decker and David Thorsen. He earned his PhD from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, completing his dissertation on Laryngeal Physiology. He is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the American Choral Directors Association.



Kurt Jordan PRINCIPAL ACCOMPANIST

Kurt developed an intense interest in learning the piano after having seen *The Phantom of the Opera* with his parents at age 10. He studied under the guidance of Joann Algier throughout middle and high school, during which time he discovered a love of music using multiple pianos. This passion was further explored at Azusa Pacific University while studying with Dr. Robert Sage. Kurt performed several recitals of material he arranged for two and three pianos, the recordings of which have received radio play in Los Angeles,

Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Boston, Austin and Beirut. In 2009, Kurt had the honor of performing the West Coast premiere of Alvin Curran's 75 hour long piano song cycle, *Inner Cities 1-13*, as well as the US premiere of movement 14 at Burning Man in 2013. Kurt graduated from Azusa Pacific University in 2010 with a BA in Music Theory and Composition. He is involved as the accompanist for many musical organizations in the Coachella Valley including: the Cathedral City High School Chamber Singers, College of the Desert and Green Room Theatre. Kurt is the Principal Accompanist for Modern Men and Desert Outreach Synagogue. Kurt has also composed several large-scale works for piano solo, a song cycle for piano and soprano and most recently, a piano sonata.



Tom McGillis SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

This season is Tom's fifth as the American Sign Language interpreter for Modern Men and is a freelance interpreter working throughout the Coachella Valley. Tom was the sign language interpreter for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus from 1988 until 2016. His other interpreting credits include *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Those Musclebound Cowboys of Snake Pit Gulch*, both at the Desert Rose Playhouse, *Forever Plaid* at the Paper Mill Playhouse (Millburn, NJ),

The Christmas Revels at Symphony Space in New York City, and several productions with the Very Special Arts Theater Company and at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, NJ. Tom has also voice interpreted signed performances, including *Progress* at the Hudson Guild Theater in New York City and Handstone Productions' *Anna and Danilo*. He is a graduate of the New York Society for the Deaf's interpreter training program and studied artistic interpreting at the Juilliard School in New York City. Tom has served on advisory boards and panels to help increase access, particularly in employment and the arts. He has presented workshops for the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) on issues in interpreting choral performances. Tom also has had a long career in human resources, serving most recently as Vice President, HR for an international marketing research company. He moved to Palm Springs from New York in 2016 with chorus member Donald Gardenier, his husband of 32 years.



Ron Wheeler PRODUCER

Ron has been involved in singing, acting and production since he was a child. He started in the world of theater as a child in productions for Junior University in San Bernardino performing in *The Wizard of Oz* and *Pinocchio*. As a teenager he became involved with San Bernardino Civic Light Opera learning from professionals in the back of the house as well as front of house. As an adult he has played many leading roles such as Harry Roat in *Wait Until Dark*, Garry Lejeune in *Noises Off*, Jed in *Fifth of July*, Charlie Brown in *You're a Good Man Charlie*

Brown, Mayor Shinn in *The Music Man*, the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*, Angie in *Gypsy* as well as credits for choreography and direction in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Gypsy*. Ron was previously the producer for the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus as well as Harmonic Voices. He has been the producer for Modern Men since 2016.



Marina Mac/Timothy McIntosh GUEST PERFORMER

After moving to Palm Springs in 2010, Tim fell in love with the Art of Drag and began performing under the alter ego Marina Mac. Tim is a recent two-time DTL Award recipient for professional makeup design and supporting actor as well as winner of *Desert Suns Ultimate Pride List* as "Best Drag Personality 2019."

Marina is the host of *Rapture Drag Show* at One Eleven Bar and host of *Filth* at Copa night club. Marina also has volunteered their time and talents for the last 11 years to their favorite organization, Safe Schools Desert Cities, helping LGBTQIA youth. You can hear Marina Mac on the radio every Thursday on 100.9 NRG for *What's Going On...With Marina Mac*. They love music and are truly grateful and excited to work alongside Modern Men.

one eleven

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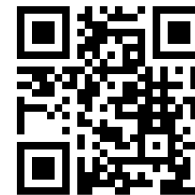
Ticket sales provide only a fraction of the income necessary to keep our beloved organization running. Our major expenses include staff salaries, hiring musicians, securing venues, marketing, and member expenses, such as tuxedos for those members who may not be able to afford a new suit.

Your generosity through a tax-deductible donation would help us "keep the lights on!" Please consider making a donation. You can use the QR code below or go to www.modernmen.org/support-us.

Donations can also be made by mail:

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Your generosity is what helps us promote harmony through outstanding performances, entertaining and empowering our audiences, and embracing diversity through our community outreach.



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PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Ron Wheeler
Rehearsal Accompanist	Kurt Jordan
ASL Interpreter	Tom McGillis
Projection Design	Mark Duebner Design
Sound Design	Props AV
Lighting Design	Peter B. Kostrobala
Lighting Assistant	Zoe Sanchez
Musical Staging	Mark Duebner
Spotlight Operator	Donald Gardenier
Projections Operator	Joe Vignali
Graphic Design/Program	Mark Duebner Design
Ad Sales	Jerald Miller (chair), Alexei Barnes, Richard Elander, Sal Lanza, David Pearson, Ted Scott
Front of House Manager	Salvatore Cagnina

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Modern Men is a proud member of GALA Choruses. GALA Choruses was incorporated in 1983 and leads the GLBT choral movement by cultivating the artistic development of 10,000 singers from more than 180 member choruses located throughout North America, Europe, South America, Africa and Australia.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The kindness and generosity of so many make the success of **MODERN MEN** possible. Our sincere appreciation to:

United Methodist Church of Palm Springs
Jane Voigts, Pastor; Pamela Hill, Office + Campus Coordinator

Palm Springs Cultural Center
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Desert Winds Freedom Band for the use of their stage platforms.

Mark Henkle and World Gym Palm Springs for the use of their large workout room for movement rehearsals.

Butch Zein, ASL coach

Mark Fearnow, Jim Gnaster, Jerald Miller, David Pearson and David Vianello for helping out, managing and securing our February all-day rehearsal at Del Webb-Rancho Mirage.

Michael Reno of the Del Webb Rancho Mirage Community for the use of his clavichord during our February all-day rehearsal.

Mitch Laks and Jerald Miller for securing and managing our April all-day rehearsal at the Four Seasons Clubhouse in Palm Springs.

Tom Jesse for purchasing the sheet music to *Very Strange Medley* when he was in the 7th grade.

Sal Lanza for coordinating the program content.

Rod Wood, photographer

Adrian Novak/Sky Recording, videographer

**Best of luck and
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SONGS THAT MAKE THE WHOLE WORLD SING

ACT ONE

*New York City Rhythm** _____ Barry Manilow & Marty Panzer

*Mandy/Could It Be Magic** _____ Scott English, Richard Kerr/
Barry Manilow, Adrienne Anderson

*Daybreak/I Can't Smile Without You** _____ Barry Manilow & Adrienne Anderson

I Am Your Child _____ Barry Manilow & Marty Panzer/arr. Alan Scott

All the Time _____ Barry Manilow & Marty Panzer/arr. Alan Scott
SATURDAY Richard Elander & Jim Gnaster, soloists
SUNDAY Sisounthone Sihapanya-Allen & Mark Duebner, soloists

It's a Miracle _____ Barry Manilow & Marty Panzer/arr. Chris Winslow

*Weekend in New England** _____ Randy Edelman

*Bandstand Boogie** _____ Charles Albertine & Les Elgert
Additional lyrics by Barry Manilow & Bruce Sussman

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

*Copacabana** _____ Barry Manilow, Jack Feldman & Bruce Sussman
Lola: Marina Mac
Tony: John Corr
Rico: Ted Scott

One Voice _____ Barry Manilow/arr. Karl Logue
SATURDAY Heath Richard, soloist; SUNDAY Paul Sherman, soloist

This One's for You _____ Barry Manilow & Marty Panzer/arr. Alan Scott
John Corr, soloist

When October Goes _____ Barry Manilow & Johnny Mercer
BACK BEATS: Gregg Glaviano (vocals), Rich Meyers (keyboard)

A Little Traveling Music, Please _____ Barry Manilow, Jack Feldman & Bruce Sussman
arr. Alan Scott

I Write the Songs _____ Bruce Johnston/arr. SK Hill
SATURDAY Dr. E. David Jansing, soloist; SUNDAY Jim Gnaster, soloist

A Very Strange Medley (VSM) _____ Barry Manilow/arr. Alan Scott
Brent Gettelfinger, Mike Lukschu, Ted Scott, Brent Gettelfinger, soloists

*Jump Shout Boogie** _____ Barry Manilow & Bruce Sussman

Why We Sing _____ Greg Gilpin

*Arrangements by Chad Weirick

THE BAND

Keyboard: Kurt Jordan Drums: Andy Fraga
Trumpet: Bob O'Donnell Percussion: Brad Vaughn
Trombone: Shelly Suminski Electric Bass: Mikael Jacobson
Alto Sax: Al Yankee

Musician contractor: Mari Mizutani

SONG DEDICATIONS

NEW YORK CITY RHYTHM

*Drew, this song makes me smile!
Memories of our life/lives back in NY.
XO
– Bill Ciffairy*

MANDY/COULD IT BE MAGIC

*Thanking Rosie Vacano for all her support!
– Tom Burtch & Neil Austin*

I AM YOUR CHILD

*I dedicate this beautiful song to my amazing parents, Dorothy and Ken Gnaster. I am eternally grateful for your love and support. I love and miss you beyond words. Until we meet again...I Am Your Child.
– Jim Gnaster*

*Mom, Dad, & Aunt Rose, thanks for making me the person I am today.
– Bill Ciffairy*

ALL THE TIME

*This is dedicated to every different child, teenager, and adult who needs to believe in themselves and celebrate finding their future.
– Jack Alexander*

IT'S A MIRACLE

*For Marvin – my personal miracle!
– Larry Dunlop*

JUMP SHOUT BOOGIE

*To all my dancing Modern Men. Thanks for your trust and hard work in making the opening and closing numbers of each Act SO MUCH FUN!
– Mark Duebner*

COPACABANA

*Dedicated to Mrs. Brown, north of Havana, have a banana!
– Dave Jansing*

ONE VOICE

*This is dedicated to Robert (Bob) Seeley, the founding Artistic Director of Modern Men: Coachella Valley Men's Chorus. His "One Voice" has composed the following major commissioned works over many years: NakedMan, Only Human, Lay of the Land, Exile, To A Dancing Star, Metamorphosis, Brave Souls and Dreamers, Song of My Family, The Promise, and, most recently, MOMENTum! Bob, good health as we sing this song and concert to years of dedication to the Gay Choral movement.
– David Pearson*

WHEN OCTOBER GOES

*To my husband Dan for his endless patience while we're away rehearsing.
– Gregg Glaviano*

*To my husband Al for his endless patience while we're away rehearsing.
– Rich Meyers*

A LITTLE TRAVELING MUSIC, PLEASE

*I dedicate this song to my love, Curtis, who lives in Tucson. Curtis and I have been traveling a lot back and forth lately from Tucson to Cathedral City. Every time I sing this song, I think of you Curtis. Love you, Sweet Bear!
– Your Honey Bear, David McFadden*

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*"Now when I look out through your eyes, I am young again, even though I'm very old."
– Stan Hill*

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*Thanks, Barry, for the awesome jingle!
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*In memory of John & Elizabeth Carson, Roseanne & Robert Carson.
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8:30 - 9pm | New member auditions

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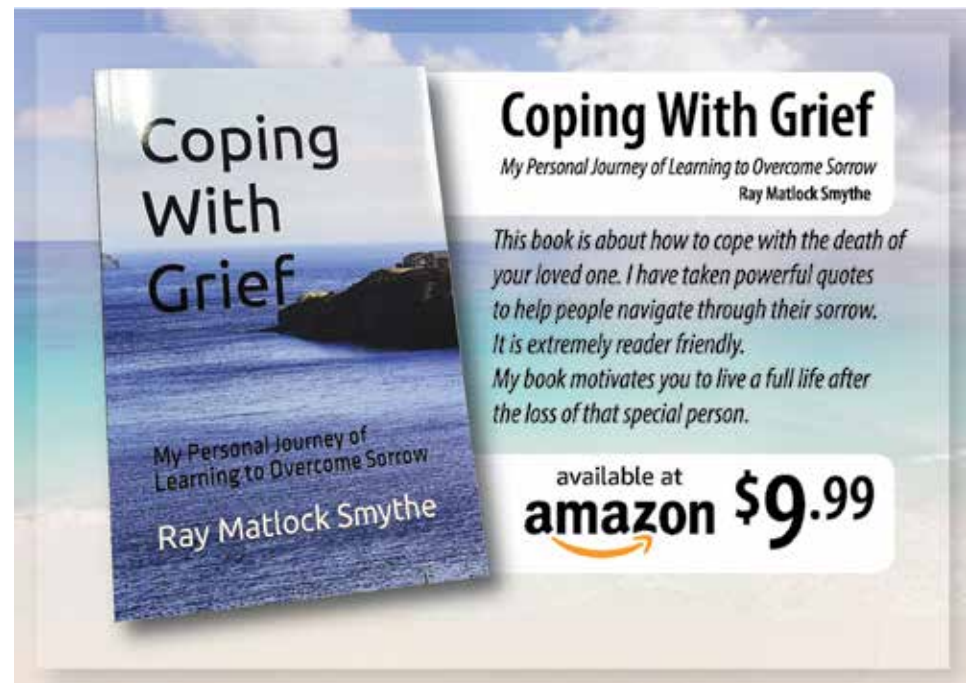
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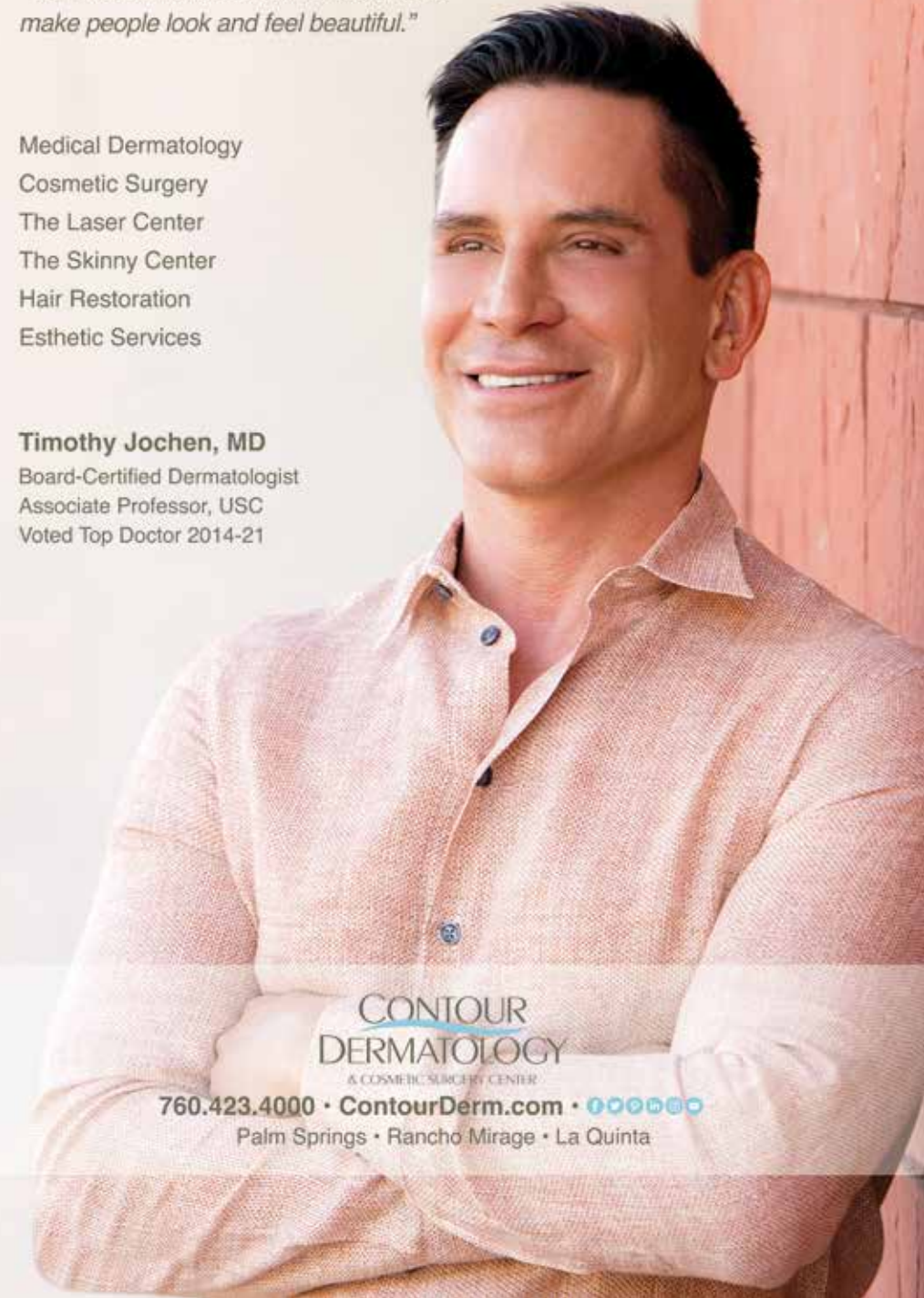
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