



**For immediate release**

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## **The Liverpool Shuffle and Spontaneous Fantasia: Encore Performances at Vanderbilt Planetarium**

***April 11 and 18 – Two Shows Each Evening***

CENTERPORT, NY (March 4, 2015) – Two live shows that played to enthusiastic audiences in the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum’s Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium return in April for encore performances.

The next concert by **The Liverpool Shuffle**, a popular Beatles tribute band, is set for Saturday, April 11, at 6:30 and 9:00 p.m.

The Liverpool Shuffle will play an hour of classic Beatles songs, accompanied by an intriguing montage of 1960s images on the Planetarium dome. This immersive, full-dome experience includes clips of the first American television appearance of The Beatles, on *The Ed Sullivan Show* in 1964. On the stage, as The Liverpool Shuffle sings “I Want to Hold Your Hand,” on the Planetarium dome above them, The Beatles, in a muted video clip, appear to be lip-synching their own song. The montage also includes news clips of the era, psychedelic imagery and other pop-cultural moments.



**The Liverpool Shuffle**

Tickets: \$25/\$20 Members; \$15 age 15 and under. Purchase tickets at [www.vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org).

Check out The Liverpool Shuffle in performance:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWISUQ5vj8A>

***Spontaneous Fantasia*** will be performed again on Saturday, April 18, at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. The one-hour show features J-Walt, a performer, interactive designer, filmmaker, graphic artist, composer, and co-winner of an Oscar for Technical Achievement in 2006. He will travel from his home base in California for the Vanderbilt performances and for shows in Boston.



**J-Walt creates trees on the screen**

Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$12 for seniors (62 and older) and children under 12. Purchase tickets at [www.vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org).

J-Walt uses computer interfaces to create *Spontaneous Fantasia*. The animation in this clip was created in real-time during shows. The landscapes, dancing figures, animated geometries, sea creatures and original music are all part of J-Walt's performance repertoire:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Kz6g0RXiBE&index=4&list=UUknB5GZZPhVXrLJyHl148Fw>

### **About The Liverpool Shuffle**

Joe Refano, who formed the group in 2003, describes its act as “authentic live Beatles music performed by professional Beatlemaniacs. The Beatles created the greatest popular music in history, and we play it just the way it is.”

The four musician-singers are veterans of the New York music scene with a combined 125 years of experience. Refano has played bass with Peter Noone and Herman’s Hermits (2002-2007) and with the Mickey (The Monkees) Dolenz Band (2008).

In recent years, The Liverpool Shuffle has performed all over the tri-state region, including at B.B. King’s in New York City, the Jones Beach Bandshell, and the New York World’s Fair 50th anniversary celebration, and at many public and private events.

Freddy G (Giovanelli) – vocals-bass, guitars and bass – worked as Sir Paul McCartney’s guitar tech and road-crew member (1988-1991). Giovanelli has worked for many years as a musical tech expert with the Sam Ash parent company Samson. Jamie Bateman (vocals, guitars and harmonica) and Brian James (vocals and drums) also have played with other Beatles tribute bands.

### **About J-Walt and Spontaneous Fantasia**

The virtual-reality performances of John Adamczyk, known as J-Walt – comprise a new art form that combines aspects of animation, dance, music and theater.

J-Walt has been at the forefront of interactive art for more than two decades, has greatly expanded the uses of computer animation, and has performed for audiences in Canada, Europe and the United States. J-Walt draws improvised virtual realities as part of his unique one-man show, using two new computer interfaces. One is the Razer Hydra, a two-handed wand interface for drawing figures and navigating a three-dimensional space. The other is the Anitar (animation guitar), his new invention for drawing in space.

In 2006, J-Walt shared with two colleagues a Technical Achievement Award at the Oscars for the design and development of the Aerohead motion-control camera head and the J-Viz Pre-Visualization system. He received a Themed Entertainment Award in 2003 for a digital puppetry attraction, one of his many digital puppet projects. He also has produced location-based video games for Sony. J-Walt was a founding member of Disney’s VR studio, which created a state-of-the-art, virtual-reality experience for Disney’s EPCOT center in 1995.

## MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM INFORMATION

### Winter Hours – Museum and Mansion

**Through April 12:** Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays: 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. (Last mansion tour begins at 4:00.) *The Museum and Mansion are closed Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.* (Planetarium is open Friday nights.)

### Winter Hours – Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium

**Through April 12:** Daytime shows Tuesday at 2:00 and on Saturday and Sunday at 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00. Evening shows Friday and Saturday at 8:00 and 9:00. *The Planetarium is closed Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Thursday.*

**Observatory** – Year-round viewing of the night sky (weather permitting), Friday only, 9:00-10:00 (free with show ticket; \$3.00 without show ticket)

## Planetarium Show Schedule – Winter 2015

### Through March 31

#### Tuesday

**2:00 – Dynamic Earth: Exploring Earth’s Climate Engine – NEW!**

#### Friday Night

8:00 – Long Island Skies

9:00 – Musical Space Journey

#### Saturday and Sunday

12:00 – One World, One Sky

1:00 – Earth, Moon, and Sun

**2:00 – Dynamic Earth: Exploring Earth’s Climate Engine – NEW!**

3:00 – Black Holes

4:00 – Stars: Powerhouses of the Universe

#### Saturday Night

8:00 – Black Holes

9:00 - Classic Rock ‘n’ Light

### Museum Admission

General museum admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students with ID and seniors (62 and older), and \$3 for children 12 and under. General admission includes estate-grounds access to the Marine Museum, Memorial Wing natural-history and ethnographic-artifact galleries, Nursery Wing, Habitat Room, Egyptian mummy and Stoll Wing animal-habitat dioramas. For a mansion tour, add \$5 per ticket. (A video tour of the mansion is available on request.)

### Mansion Tours

Guided tours of the Vanderbilt Mansion – listed on the National Register of Historic Places – are available Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday at 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00.

### Planetarium Admission

During the day, visitors to the Planetarium pay general museum admission (\$7 for adults, \$6 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$3 for children 12 and under), plus \$5 each for a Planetarium show. Since the museum is closed in the evening, no general museum admission is

charged – visitors pay only for Planetarium show tickets: \$9 for adults, \$8 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$7 for children 12 and under.

### **Vanderbilt Observatory**

Night-sky viewing on Friday (weather permitting), 9:00-10:00 p.m. Observation is free to visitors with a planetarium show ticket, \$3.00 for those without a show ticket.

### **Location and Website**

The Vanderbilt Museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY. Directions and updated details on programs and events are available at [www.vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org). For information, call 631-854-5579.

### **Images**

Available upon request. Call Patrick Keeffe at 631-854-5562.

### **The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum**

The Vanderbilt—a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park—is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. This mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and build upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural-history and ethnographic-artifact collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures and scientific knowledge.

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